

# The Constitution of Canada: A Cornerstone of Nationhood

The Constitution of Canada is the supreme law of the land. It sets out the structure of the government, the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and the division of powers between the federal and provincial governments.



## The Constitution of Canada: A Contextual Analysis (Constitutional Systems of the World) by Glenn Beck

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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The Constitution is a living document that has evolved over time. It has been amended several times, most notably in 1982 when the Charter of Rights and Freedoms was added.

The Constitution is a complex document, but it is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand Canada's history, government, and society.

## A Brief History of the Constitution

The Constitution of Canada can be traced back to the British North America Act, which was passed by the British Parliament in 1867. This act created the Dominion of Canada, a self-governing colony within the British Empire.

The British North America Act was amended several times over the years, but it was not until 1982 that Canada became a fully independent nation. The Canada Act of 1982 patriated the Constitution and gave Canada the power to amend it without the approval of the British Parliament.

## **The Structure of the Constitution**

The Constitution of Canada is divided into four parts:

1. The Constitution Act, 1867
2. The Constitution Act, 1982
3. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms
4. Amending formulas

The Constitution Act, 1867 establishes the structure of the federal government. It sets out the powers of the federal government, the provincial governments, and the courts.

The Constitution Act, 1982 patriated the Constitution and added the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Charter guarantees certain fundamental rights and freedoms to all Canadians.

Amending formulas set out the process for amending the Constitution. The Constitution can be amended by a simple majority vote of the House of Commons and the Senate, or by unanimous consent of all the provinces.

## **The Principles of the Constitution**

The Constitution of Canada is based on several key principles, including:

- Parliamentary democracy
- Federalism
- Constitutional monarchy
- Rule of law
- Protection of minorities

Parliamentary democracy is a system of government in which the prime minister and cabinet are responsible to the elected legislature. In Canada, the prime minister and cabinet are responsible to the House of Commons.

Federalism is a system of government in which power is divided between a central government and several regional governments. In Canada, the federal government is responsible for matters such as foreign affairs, defense, and trade, while the provincial governments are responsible for matters such as education, healthcare, and social welfare.

Constitutional monarchy is a system of government in which the monarch is the head of state, but the real power lies with the elected government. In Canada, the monarch is the Queen of Canada, but the real power lies with the Prime Minister and cabinet.

Rule of law means that everyone is subject to the law, including the government. In Canada, the rule of law is upheld by the courts.

Protection of minorities means that the rights of minorities are protected by the Constitution. In Canada, the rights of minorities are protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

## **The Significance of the Constitution**

The Constitution of Canada is a vital document that has shaped the nation's history, government, and society. It is a living document that continues to evolve, and it will continue to play a vital role in Canada's future.

The Constitution of Canada is a testament to the values of democracy, freedom, and justice. It is a document that all Canadians should be proud of.

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To learn more about the Constitution of Canada, Free Download your copy today. The Constitution of Canada is available in bookstores and online.

When you Free Download your copy of The Constitution of Canada, you will receive a bonus gift: a free copy of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

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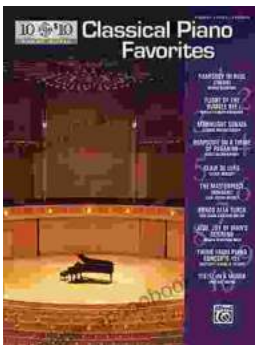
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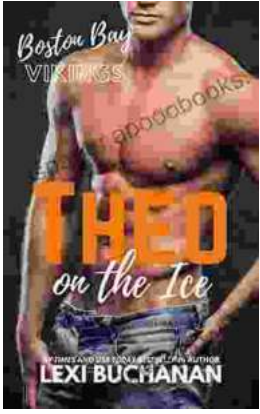
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