Assembling Canada

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a country – an event known as Confederation. With only four provinces, the country was much smaller than the one we know today.

Parliament was smaller back then, too: in 1867, there were only 72 senators and 180 members of Parliament (MPs). Today, the Senate has 105 seats, while the House of Commons has 338.

Test your knowledge of Canada and its Parliament by putting together these maps!

THEME 1 — DATE OF CONFEDERATION

Do you know when each province and territory became a part of Canada?

Fill in the correct abbreviation and year of Confederation for each of the provinces/territories on the map, using the hints for Theme 1 on page 4 of this activity.
Senate seats are divided according to Canada’s regions. In 1867, there were 24 for each of the two largest provinces, plus 24 for the east. As the country has grown and new provinces and territories have been created, more have been added.

Can you figure out how many Senate seats each province and territory has today?

Fill in the correct abbreviation and the number of seats for each of the provinces/territories on the map, using the hints for Theme 2 on page 4 of this activity.

- ON – Ontario
- QC – Quebec
- NU – Nunavut
- NS – Nova Scotia
- YT – Yukon
- AB – Alberta
- MB – Manitoba
- NB – New Brunswick
- BC – British Columbia
- SK – Saskatchewan
- NL – Newfoundland and Labrador
- NT – Northwest Territories
- PE – Prince Edward Island
Seats in the House of Commons are divided according to population: each member represents the people who live in a specific area, called a constituency. In 1867, the population of Canada was only 3.4 million people. Today, it has grown to more than 10 times that number!

How many members of Parliament are there from each province and territory today?

Fill in the correct abbreviation and the number of seats for each of the provinces/territories on the map, using the hints for Theme 3 on page 4 of this activity.

ON – Ontario  
QC – Quebec  
NU – Nunavut  
NS – Nova Scotia  
YT – Yukon  
AB – Alberta  
MB – Manitoba  
BC – British Columbia  
SK – Saskatchewan  
NL – Newfoundland and Labrador  
NT – Northwest Territories  
PE – Prince Edward Island