

WHAT DO CANADIAN CITIES DO?

With three levels of government in Canada it can be hard to keep track of who does what. The chart below summarizes the roles of cities, provinces and the federal government.

There are some roles that belong only to the federal government including: money and banking, international and interprovincial/territorial trade, airlines and railways, telecommunications and broadcasting, foreign affairs and international assistance, defence and veterans affairs, border security employment insurance and criminal law.

Roles and Responsibilities in Canada¹ Federal (F), Provincial (P), Municipal (M)			
	F	P	M
Aboriginal peoples	✓	✓	✓
Administration of justice		✓	✓
Agriculture	✓	✓	
Arts and culture facilities/events	✓	✓	✓
Bylaw Enforcement		✓	✓
Direct taxation	✓	✓	✓
Economic development	✓	✓	✓
Emergency medical services			✓
Emergency preparedness	✓	✓	✓
Environment	✓	✓	✓
Fire protection			✓
Health care *		✓	✓
Housing	✓	✓	✓
Hydro services		✓	✓
Immigration	✓	✓	✓
Indirect taxation	✓	✓	
Industry	✓	✓	✓
Municipal institutions		✓	✓
Municipal licensing (animal, building, business)			✓
Municipal planning			✓

¹ Adapted from "Our Cities, Our Future: Addressing the Fiscal Imbalance in Canada's Cities Today", Big City Mayor's Caucus, June 2006.

Roles and Responsibilities in Canada¹ Federal (F), Provincial (P), Municipal (M)			
	F	P	M
Municipal streets and roads			✓
Natural resources		✓	
Parking			✓
Parks and recreation			✓
Pensions/income support *	✓	✓	✓
Policing	✓	✓	✓
Post-secondary education, training and research	✓	✓	
Primary and secondary education		✓	✓
Public Health	✓	✓	✓
Public libraries			✓
Public transit			✓
Social assistance and social services		✓	✓
Transportation infrastructure	✓	✓	✓
Waste and recycling services			✓
Water and wastewater			✓
* provided by some municipalities			

Find out more - get involved

This guide is just one in a series on the City of Toronto. To see more guides and find other information about how to get involved with your city, please visit www.toronto.ca/involved.

311 Toronto

311 is the public information and referral service for the City of Toronto, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Staff will help you with information about services and programs and how to contact your City Councillor. Service is available on line at www.toronto.ca/311.

- Phone within Toronto city limits: 311
- Phone outside city limits: 416-392-CITY (2489)
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