

## **LESSON PLAN STRUCTURE TEMPLATE**

**Teacher Candidate:** Stephanie Taylor, Kara Hadwen, Payge Del Monte, and Meghan Sprague

**Subject:** Civics **Grade/Class:** 10 (Open)

**Date:** Tuesday, November, 17, 2015 **Time:** 9:00-10:15am

**Duration :** 7 minutes

**Lesson Topic :** Left Wing and Right Wing: Political Parties and their Positions

### **CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS:**

A1.6 Evaluate and synthesize their findings to formulate conclusions and/or make informed judgements or predictions about the issues, events, and/or developments they are investigating.

A1.7 Communicate their ideas, arguments, and conclusions using various formats and styles.

B1.4 Communicate their own position on some issues of civic importance at the local, national, and/or global level, explaining how their position is influenced by their beliefs/values.

B2.1 Identify the political parties in Canada and their position on the political spectrum, and explain how the beliefs/values that underpin them may affect their perspectives on and/or approaches to issues of civic importance.

### **SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS:**

**By the end of the lesson students should/will be able to:**

1. Understand the difference between left wing and right wing parties
2. Note which parties are left wing and which parties are right wing and why
3. Think critically about the parties and their positions and how it relates to their own beliefs and opinions
4. Apply one of the positions of the left-right wing spectrum to their beliefs and form an argument

### **LEARNING/TEACHING RESOURCES:**

Computer- YouTube video

Left Wing or Right Wing game and accessories – 3-5

Platforms of NDP, PC, and Liberals – 3 of each, total 9

Pens and paper

### **LESSON SEQUENCE**

#### **A) INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY**

Watch YouTube video of Left Wing vs Right Wing. Go over the main points from the video and have a mini question-answer discussion. Talk about bias and its effects. (5 min) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuNEFHK-Q-E>

#### **B) DEVELOPMENTAL STRATEGIES:**

### **Activity 1**

Split the class into groups (no more than 6 per group). Have them play the “Left Wing or Right Wing” game (instructions on the game board). Make sure students note their findings (what party/wing they side with). (15 min)

### **Activity 2**

Rearrange students into 3 large groups, based on where they ended in the game (left wing, left-centre, and right wing). If students do not agree with the outcomes of the game, they can choose a different group. Try to make groups as even as possible. Have groups read the platforms of the parties that associate with their side. Allow students to look up additional platform information with their cell phones. (15 min)

### **Activity 3**

With the groups, have a debate. Teacher acts as speaker and controls who speaks. Students can either open up the floor about topics they feel passionate about (abortion, tuition rates, minimum wage) or teacher can lead the debate based on topics brought up in the game or in the platforms. (20 min)

### **Activity 4**

Students return to their seats. Based on what they have learned, they write an unsent letter to whomever they choose (within reason) explaining why they now associate with a political wing (left, left-centre, right) and/or party. (10 min)

## **C) DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

Students prone to distraction will be paired with students who are not during the game. Students who require writing assistance can complete activities on a laptop and hand it in the next day. Additional assistance and instruction will be given as necessary. Students who are extremely shy and don’t actively participate in the debate can still voice their opinions in other activities.

### **D) CULMINATING ACTIVITY:**

Students will fold a piece of paper into 3 sections and complete a “What I Knew, What I Learned, and What I Want to Know” activity (students will label sections accordingly) (resembling the KWL strategy) before the end of class. (10 min)

### **E) ON-GOING ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION:**

Student participation in the debate can be assessed informally. Written activities will be collected and assessed to ensure learned knowledge is correct.

### **REFLECTION & SELF-EVALUATION:**

Use teacher candidate self-reflection prompt in day book.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES/IDEAS OR NEXT STEPS:**

Review the game and debate and build on left and right wing and the political parties during next class, based on feedback from the activity (what they want to know). Go over instructions for future essay (end of unit).

## How to Make a Political Spectrum Board Game

### Materials You Will Need:

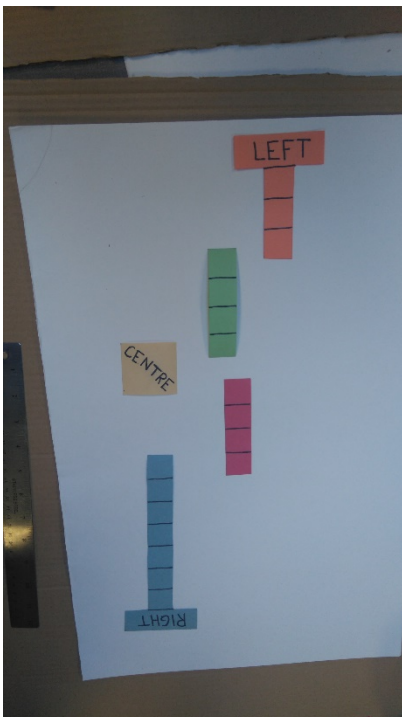
- Scissors
- Coloured construction paper (red, orange, blue, green and tan)
- Plain colour or white Bristol board
- Markers, pens or pencils
- Glue or tape
- Index cards
- Envelope
- Paper clips or game pieces
- List of possible questions
- Print outs of attached information sheets (Political Parties, Instructions and Play Cards)

### Instructions

#### Step One:

Fold and cut Bristol board widthwise.

Keep only one of these pieces.



#### Step Two:

On your construction paper outline and cut squares.

Red = 4 squares in "I" shape

Green = 4 squares in "I" shape

Orange = 4 squares in "T" shape with one long block forming top of "T"

Blue = 8 squares in "T" shape with one long block forming top of "T"

Tan = 1 square

Step Three:

In the long boxes in the blue and orange squares write **LEFT** in orange and **RIGHT** in blue

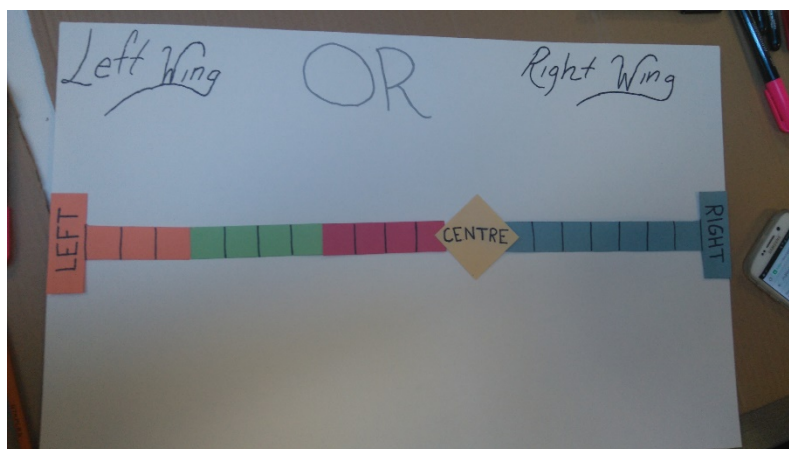
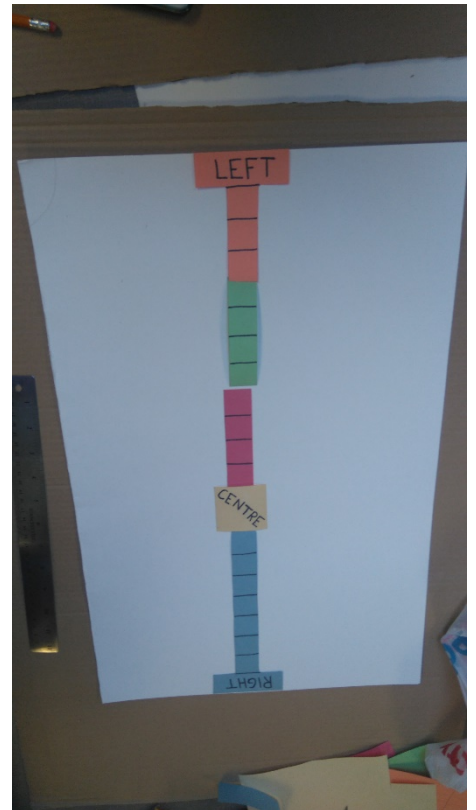
In the tan box write **CENTRE**

Step Four:

Align and glue or tape the coloured squares along the middle of Bristol board in the following sequence:

Orange – Green – Red – Tan – Blue

This is now the coloured spectrum.



Step Five:

Above your coloured spectrum write **Left Wing** or **Right Wing**.

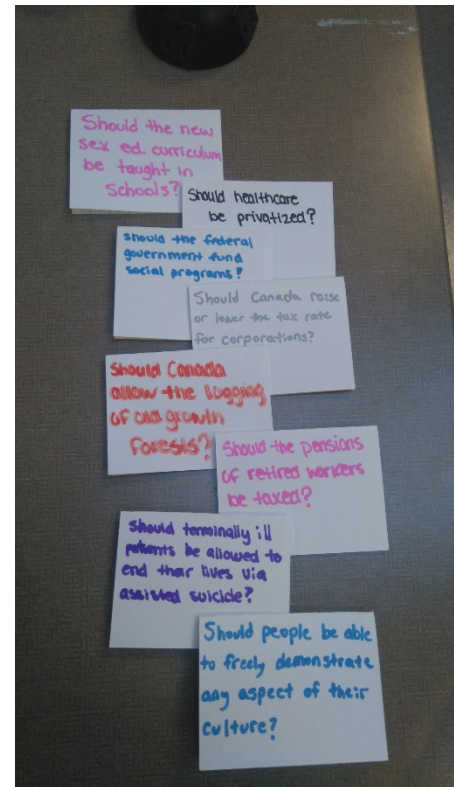
### Step Six:

Fold index cards in half widthwise.

### Step Seven:

On the outside of the folded index cards, write one of the questions found in the list of questions.

Do this for every index card and/or question from list.



### Step Eight:

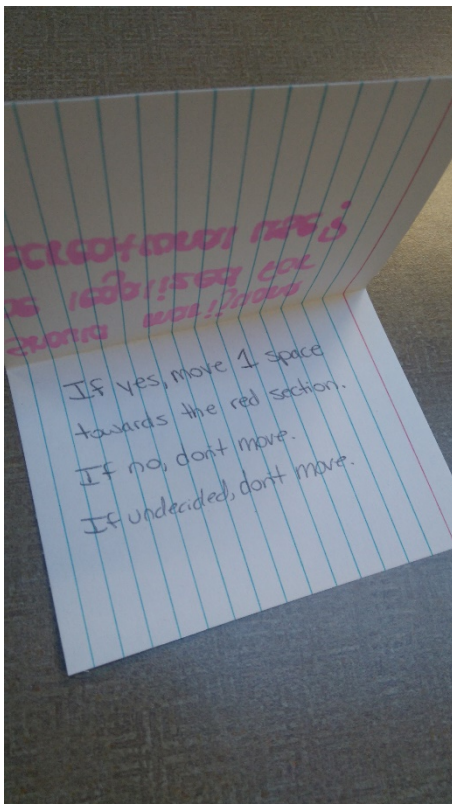
On the inside of the index cards write the movement instructions.

**However the Left Wing would answer, write "move one space to the left".**

**However the Right Wing would answer, write "move one space to the right".**

**If undecided, do not move.**

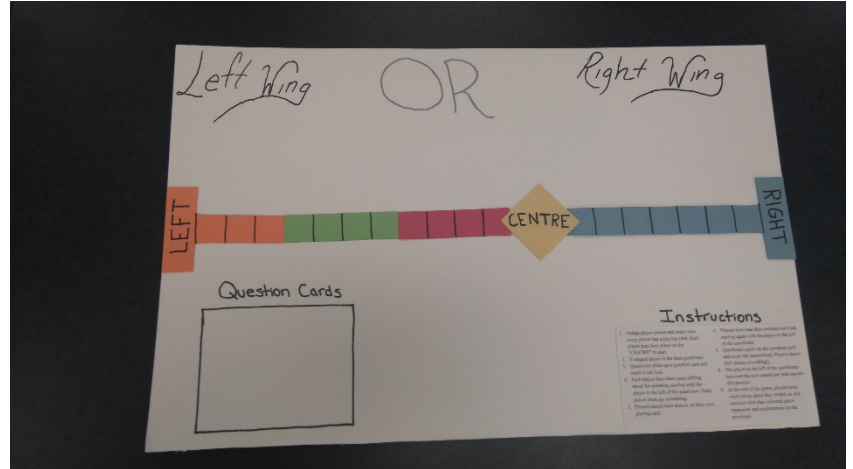
**Some movement instructions are more complex, such as the one shown here.**



### Step Nine:

On your Bristol board, below the coloured spectrum draw a square in the left hand corner with **QUESTION CARDS** written above.

This is where you will be placing the index cards once complete.



### Step Ten:

In the right hand corner of the Bristol board cut and glue or tape the instructions for playing the game

### Step Eleven:

Cut the Political Parties Handout into four sections based on the parties.

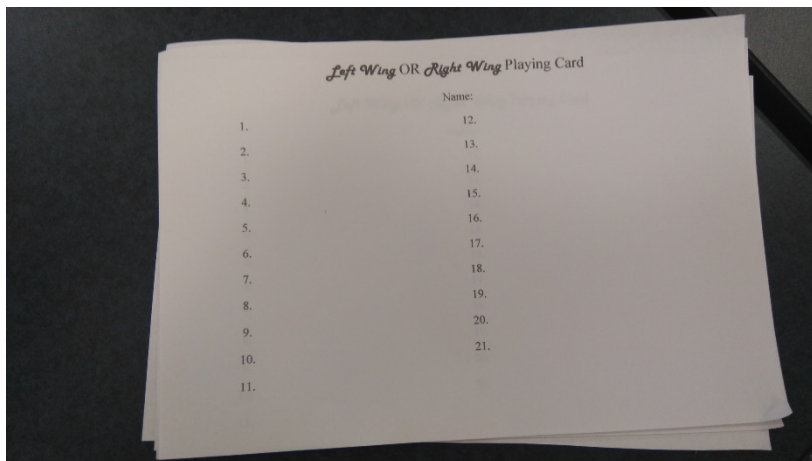
Blue: Conservative Party of Canada

Green: Green Party of Canada

Orange: New Democratic Party

Red: Liberal Party of Canada

Place these into the envelope. On envelope write **END OF GAME REVEAL** and **NO PEEKING** (optional).



### Step Twelve:

Cut the Playing Card handouts into separate sections for each of the players.

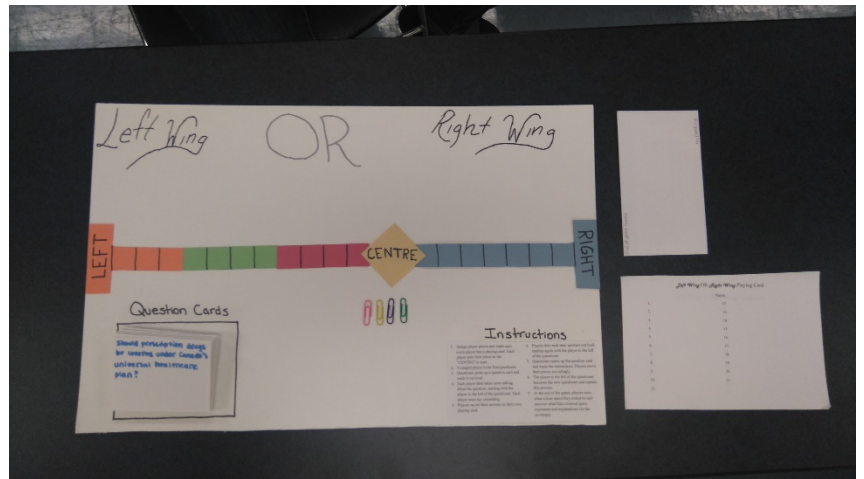
### Step Thirteen:

Setup game:

Setup game pieces. Handout out Game Cards.

Place envelope aside or beside question card box. Place question index cards in square.

Play.





# **New Democratic Party**

## **Invest in better health care, starting with:**

- Helping five million Canadians with 7,000 more doctors, nurses and nurse practitioners and other health professionals in community clinics.
- Lowering drug costs through a universal coverage plan.
- Supporting people as they age by expanding home care to 41,000 more seniors and providing funding for 5,000 more nursing home beds.
- Creating a youth mental health innovation fund to reduce wait times and improve access to care.
- Supporting caregivers by expanding the compassionate care benefit so people can take up to six months paid leave to care for seriously ill loved ones.

## **Help your family get ahead and make life more affordable, starting with:**

- Helping working moms and dads with one million quality childcare spaces at no more than \$15 a day.
- Giving parents an extra five weeks of parental leave.
- Cracking down on excessive ATM fees and ensuring Canadians can access a lowinterest credit card.
- Creating 40,000 jobs, co-op placements and internships for youth.

## **Kick-start the economy and build needed infrastructure, starting with:**

- Supporting innovation and investment in companies creating jobs in Canada, with an early focus on the aerospace, automotive, forestry and mining sectors.
- Creating jobs and building our economy with \$1.5 billion per year in new infrastructure funding to municipalities to fix roads, bridges and water treatment systems.
- Investing \$1.3 billion per year in a national strategy to improve transit and reduce gridlock.
- Boosting investment in tourism.
- Helping retrofit over 50,000 homes and apartment buildings.

## **Guarantee retirement security and provide help where it's needed most, starting with:**

- Securing a better retirement for all Canadians by expanding the CPP/QPP.
- Eliminating CEO stock option loopholes, and reinvesting the money to eliminate child poverty.
- Increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement to help lift 200,000 seniors out of poverty, and returning the retirement age from 67 to 65.
- Restoring home mail delivery.

- Creating an action plan to end violence against women, increasing shelter funding and launching an inquiry into murdered and missing Indigenous women.
- Ensuring youth participation in sports with funding to support low-income and disadvantaged youth.
- Taking action to close the pay gap between men and women.
- Fixing the Nutrition North food program, and investing in clean energy to get Northern communities off diesel.
- Providing support to train and hire 2,500 more front-line police officers, and investing in crime prevention and anti-gang programs for youth.

**Take leadership to build a better Canada, starting with:**

- Working with the provinces and territories, and recognizing their efforts already underway, to develop a pan-Canadian cap-and-trade program to stop climate change.
- Establishing a true Nation to Nation relationship with Indigenous communities, and closing the education gap for Indigenous youth.
- Bolstering food and rail safety regulations and enforcement.
- Investing \$454 million to give our veterans the respect and support they deserve.

# **Liberal Party of Canada**

## **Social infrastructure**

A Liberal government will provide almost \$20 billion over 10 years for social infrastructure — things like affordable housing, child care spaces, communities centres, and more. We'll help build things that make a positive difference in your life.

## **Green infrastructure**

We will invest nearly \$6 billion over the next 4 years and \$20 billion over 10 years in green infrastructure. This will create greener energy, cleaner land, and more good jobs for Canadians. Our plan invests in a stronger economy and a cleaner environment.

## **Canada Child Benefit**

Our plan provides middle class Canadian families more money to help raise their kids. A Liberal government will send families a tax-free, monthly Canada Child Benefit worth up to \$533 a month per child. 9/10 families will get more from the Liberal plan.

## **Middle class tax cut**

We're going to give a tax break to middle class Canadians by asking the wealthiest Canadians to pay a little more. Middle class Canadians could save up to \$670 per person each year, with a maximum benefit of nearly \$1350 for a couple.

## **We will engage with first-time voters and encourage more Canadians to vote.**

Every young person should be registered to vote when they turn 18. We will work with interested provinces and territories, and Elections Canada, to register young Canadians as a part of their high school or CEGEP curriculum.

To ensure that no young person loses the opportunity to vote, we will mandate Elections Canada to stay in contact with them if they change addresses after graduation.

## **We will deliver stronger national security oversight.**

At present, Parliament does not have oversight of our national security agencies, making Canada the sole nation among our Five Eyes allies whose elected officials cannot scrutinize security operations. This leaves the public uninformed and unrepresented on critical issues.

We will create an all-party committee to monitor and oversee the operations of every government department and agency with national security responsibilities.

## **We will give families more money to help with the high cost of raising their kids.**

We will cancel tax breaks and benefits for the wealthy – including the Universal Child Care Benefit – and introduce a new Canada Child Benefit to give Canadian families more money to raise their kids.

With the Canada Child Benefit, nine out of ten Canadian families will receive more than under Stephen Harper’s confusing collection of child benefit programs. For the typical family of four, that means an additional \$2,500 in help, tax-free, every year.

**We will also lift more Canadians – including children and seniors – out of poverty.**

We will introduce a new Canada Child Benefit. Tax-free, tied to income and delivered monthly, this benefit provides greater support to those who need help most: single-parent families and low-income families. It will lift 315,000 children out of poverty.

We will help to lift hundreds of thousands of seniors out of poverty by increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement for single low-income seniors by ten percent. This will give one million of our most vulnerable seniors – who are often women – almost \$1,000 more each year.

# **Conservative Party of Canada**

## **Balanced budget**

We balanced the budget last year – one year ahead of schedule – and already have a significant surplus for this year.

A balanced budget is the anchor of our low-tax plan to protect our fragile economy and help Canadian families.

We'll continue to make the right choices to keep our budget balanced and taxes low.

## **Lower taxes**

Our low-tax pledge is rooted in our record: Canadians know that we'll do what we say and that we'll manage taxpayer dollars responsibly.

We're prepared to go even further and entrench our low-tax plan in legislation.

Our "tax lock" legislation will back our low-tax commitment – to families, seniors, workers and small businesses – with the force of the law for the next four years.

## **More and better jobs**

Our number one priority is the economy – creating jobs and economic growth.

Canada has led the G-7 in job creation since 2006 because we've made the right choices.

We've created 1.3 million net new jobs since the depths of the global economic recession, and our plan will create another 1.3 million new, well-paying jobs by 2020.

## **Expanding trade**

Canada is a trading nation and we've made historic strides to open new markets for Canadian businesses and their workers.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership is the largest free trade deal in history. It provides almost 800 million new customers throughout the Asia-Pacific region for Canadian goods and services.

Membership in this agreement is a good deal for Canada, one that will create jobs and opportunities and protect our economy.

## **Family home**

Homeownership is a key way to support Canadian families. And we're helping more Canadians become homeowners by providing new support to buy and invest in their homes.

Now one in seven Canadian households owns their own homes – one of the highest rates in the industrialized world.

And, under our plan for affordable, responsible homeownership, we'll aim to add more than 700,000 new homeowners by 2020.

### **Supporting seniors**

Canadian seniors deserve our respect and gratitude for a lifetime of hard work in service to our families, our communities, and our country.

Our Government has lowered taxes and enhanced benefits to make life more affordable for Canadian seniors.

And, under our plan, single and widowed seniors will get new, major tax relief to help them live their later years in dignity and comfort.

*Left Wing* OR *Right Wing* Playing Card

Name:

- |     |     |
|-----|-----|
| 1.  | 12. |
| 2.  | 13. |
| 3.  | 14. |
| 4.  | 15. |
| 5.  | 16. |
| 6.  | 17. |
| 7.  | 18. |
| 8.  | 19. |
| 9.  | 20. |
| 10. | 21. |
| 11. |     |

*Left Wing* OR *Right Wing* Playing Card

Name:

- |     |     |
|-----|-----|
| 1.  | 12. |
| 2.  | 13. |
| 3.  | 14. |
| 4.  | 15. |
| 5.  | 16. |
| 6.  | 17. |
| 7.  | 18. |
| 8.  | 19. |
| 9.  | 20. |
| 10. | 21. |
| 11. |     |

## Instructions

1. Assign player pieces and make sure every player has a playing card. Each player puts their piece on the “CENTRE” to start.
2. Youngest player is the first questioner.
3. Questioner picks up a question card and reads it out loud.
4. Players record their answer on their own playing card.
5. Each player then takes turns talking about the question, starting with the player to the left of the questioner. Each player must say something.
6. Players then read their answers out loud, starting again with the player to the left of the questioner.
7. Questioner opens up the question card and reads the instructions. Players move their pieces accordingly.
8. The player to the left of the questioner becomes the new questioner and repeats this process.
9. At the end of the game, players note what colour space they ended on and uncover what that coloured space represents and explanations (in the envelope).

### Explanations for Envelope (End of Game)

#### **ORANGE:** New Democratic Party

- Known for being the most left wing on the spectrum
- Heavy emphasis on social consciousness. Government should fund and regulate social programs
- Government style: very involved and present in the day-to-day lives of citizens
- Equal chances; equal opportunities
- Youngest federal party in Canada

#### **GREEN:** Green Party of Canada

- Known for being left wing, falling in between New Democratic Party and Liberal Party of Canada
- Heavy emphasis on the environment
- Government style: very involved and present in the day –to-day lives of citizens
- Core values of ecological wisdom, social justice, and nonviolence
- Eliminate tuition rates across Canada

#### **RED:** Liberal Party of Canada

- Known for being left-centre, falling in between Green Party of Canada and Conservative Party of Canada
- Oldest federal party
- Individual freedom for present and future generations: political freedom, same-sex marriage, etc.
- National unity: actively work with other countries to solve problems

#### **BLUE:** Conservative Party of Canada

- Known for being the most right wing on the spectrum
- Government style: not as active in the day-to-day lives of citizens; freedom to make decisions (ex. businesses not as limited)
- Supporter of International Trade Agreements, such as NAFTA and TPP
- Government should not as heavily fund and regulate social programs



## Left Wing OR Right Wing Questions

- Should terminally ill patients be allowed to end their lives via assisted suicide?
- Should people be able to freely demonstrate any aspect of their culture?
- Should Canada allow the logging of old growth forests?
- Should the federal government subsidize the production and consumption of renewable energy sources?
- Should the pensions of retired workers be taxed?
- Should Canada raise or lower the tax rate for corporations?
- Should employment insurance be given to those who work seasonal jobs including tourism, fishery and farming?
- Should the federal government be able to monitor phone calls and emails?
- Should there be more or less gun control?
- Should prescription drugs be covered under Canada's universal healthcare plan?
- Should marijuana be legalized for recreational use?
- Should corporations, unions, and non-profit organizations be allowed to donate to political parties?
- Should Canadian soldiers be more involved in Iraq?
- Should the government enact a stricter immigration policy?
- Should abortion be legal?
- Should healthcare be privatized?
- Should same-sex marriage be legal?
- Should the federal government put a cap on university tuition rates?
- Should the federal government make wealthy citizens (top 1%) pay higher taxes?
- Should the federal government fund social programs?
- Should the new sexual education curriculum be taught in schools?

### Resources:

Most questions created by the use of <https://canada.isidewith.com/political-quiz>

Answers based on information provided by <https://canada.isidewith.com/political-quiz> and information and facts from the 2015 Canadian Federal Election.