In 1887, 21.49 p.c. of the population were eligible to vote, an increase of 2.89 p.c. over the 18.60 p.c. reported in 1882. This increase was attributed to the Franchise Act of 1885 "which broadened the franchise very considerably." (1895)

"... Any person proved to have illegally voted may be compelled by a Court of Law or Election Committee to disclose the name of the person for whom he has so voted. In case of a protest the ballots are not to be destroyed until it has been determined. Votes are to be given by ballots enclosed in envelopes, no voter being entitled to deposit more than one envelope in the box." (1872)

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## NOW

The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, the 23rd Governor General since Confederation, is Canada's first woman Governor General. She was appointed by Queen Elizabeth on December 23, 1983 and took office on May 14, 1984.

While the composition of the House of Commons is based on the principle of representation by population, Senate membership is based on the principle of equal regional representation.

The right to vote in a federal election is conferred upon all Canadian citizens who have reached age 18 and ordinarily live in the electoral district on the date fixed for the beginning of the enumeration at the election.