

Who Controls What?

A one-page responsibility map for the 5C Voting Framework. It is simplified on purpose: use it to ask better questions, then verify with official sources.

Issue	Federal	Provincial / territorial	Municipal / local	Often shared?
Immigration	Citizenship, PR, refugees, federal permits	Nominee streams, settlement partners	Local newcomer services	Yes
Health care	Canada Health Act, transfers, national agencies	Doctors, hospitals, insurance cards, wait lists	Local public-health delivery in some regions	Yes
Schools	Limited role except federal populations	Curriculum, funding, teachers, school boards	Trustee races and local board priorities	Mostly province
Housing	Mortgage rules, national funds, tax tools	Tenancy law, social housing, building rules	Zoning, permits, property tax, local supply	Yes
Roads and transit	National transport, airports, interprovincial rail	Highways, regional transit funding	Local roads, buses, parking, bike lanes	Yes
Taxes and benefits	Income tax, GST, federal benefits	Provincial tax, credits, social assistance	Property tax and user fees	Yes
Climate and environment	Criminal law, federal lands, national standards	Natural resources, land use, enforcement	Waste, local planning, buildings	Yes
Policing and courts	Criminal Code, RCMP, federal courts	Administration of justice, many police services	Police boards/bylaws in some cities	Yes
Garbage, parks, libraries	Usually not the main level	Funding/regulation in some cases	Daily service decisions	Mostly local

How to use the map

The 5C Control question	Before judging any promise, ask: does this level of government actually control the issue?
If the answer is shared	Ask what part they control, what budget pays for it, and which partner must cooperate.
Use official sources	Constitution Act, 1867 sections 91-95 and Canada.ca distribution-of-powers explain the legal frame.

Colour key in the article: federal = blue, provincial/territorial = green, municipal/local = red, shared = amber.