

Politics

Cabinet Government

When a government is elected, some of the representatives are chosen to be in the **cabinet**. These people are called **ministers** and are the most powerful people in political life.

The leader of the party that forms the federal government becomes the **Prime Minister**.

The leader of the party that forms the provincial government becomes the **Premier**.

Democracy in Action

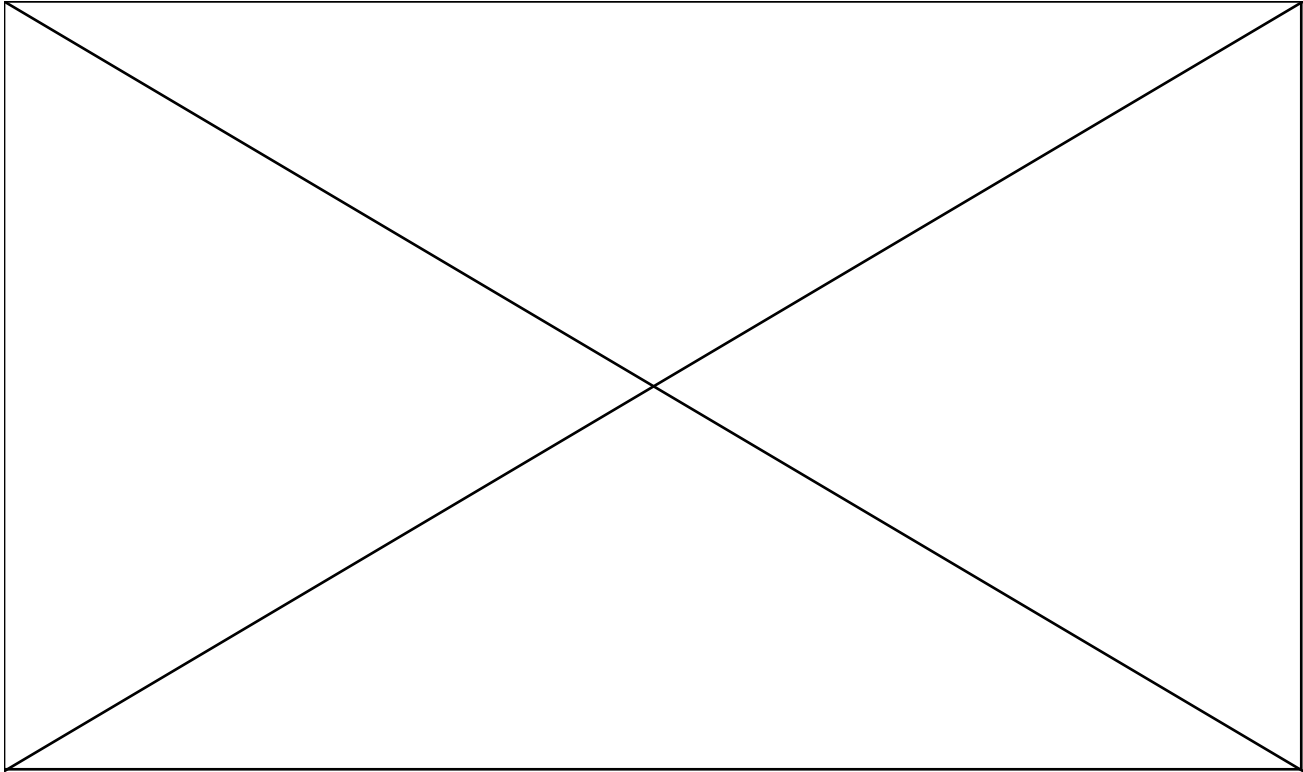
Voting is just one way to participate in government. Other ways of exercising our political power (making the government listen) are:

1. Political Activists

- People who use direct action such as protest marches, pamphlets and rallies to draw attention to a cause.
- Ex. Greenpeace.



Greenpeace

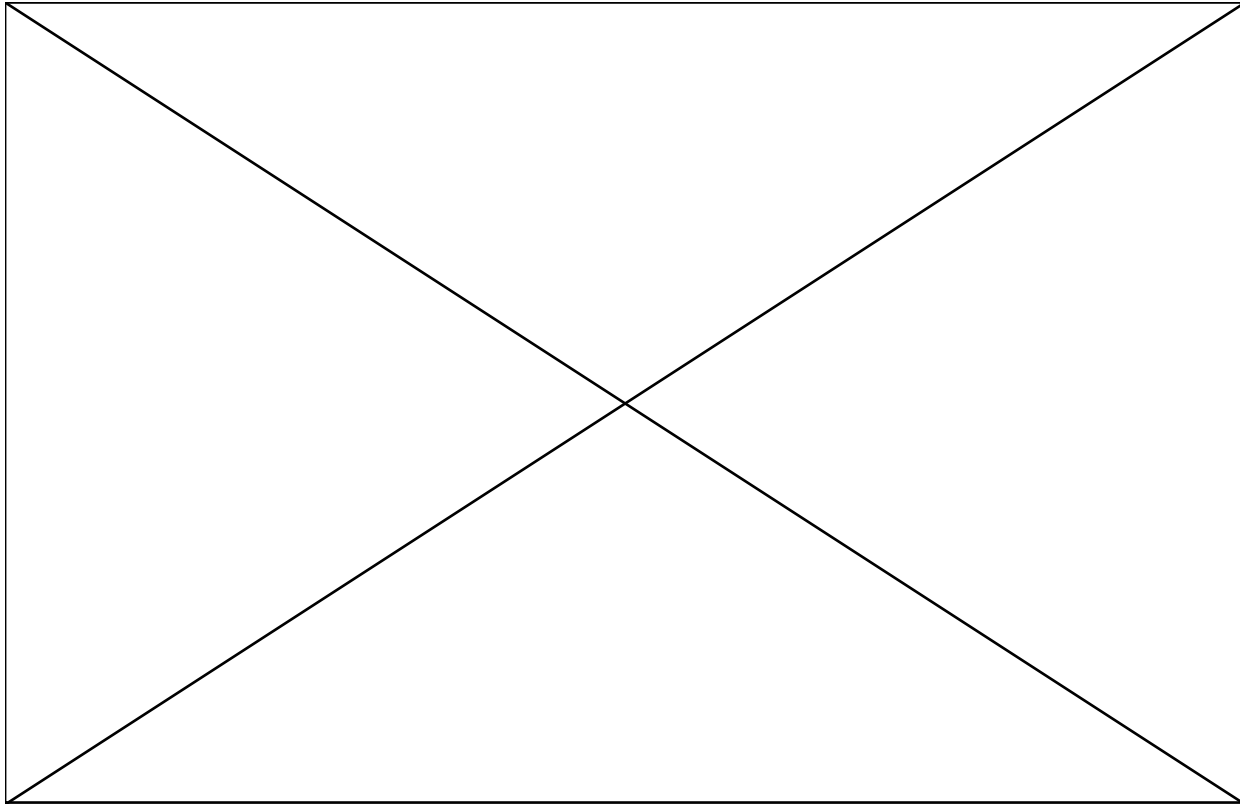


2. Media

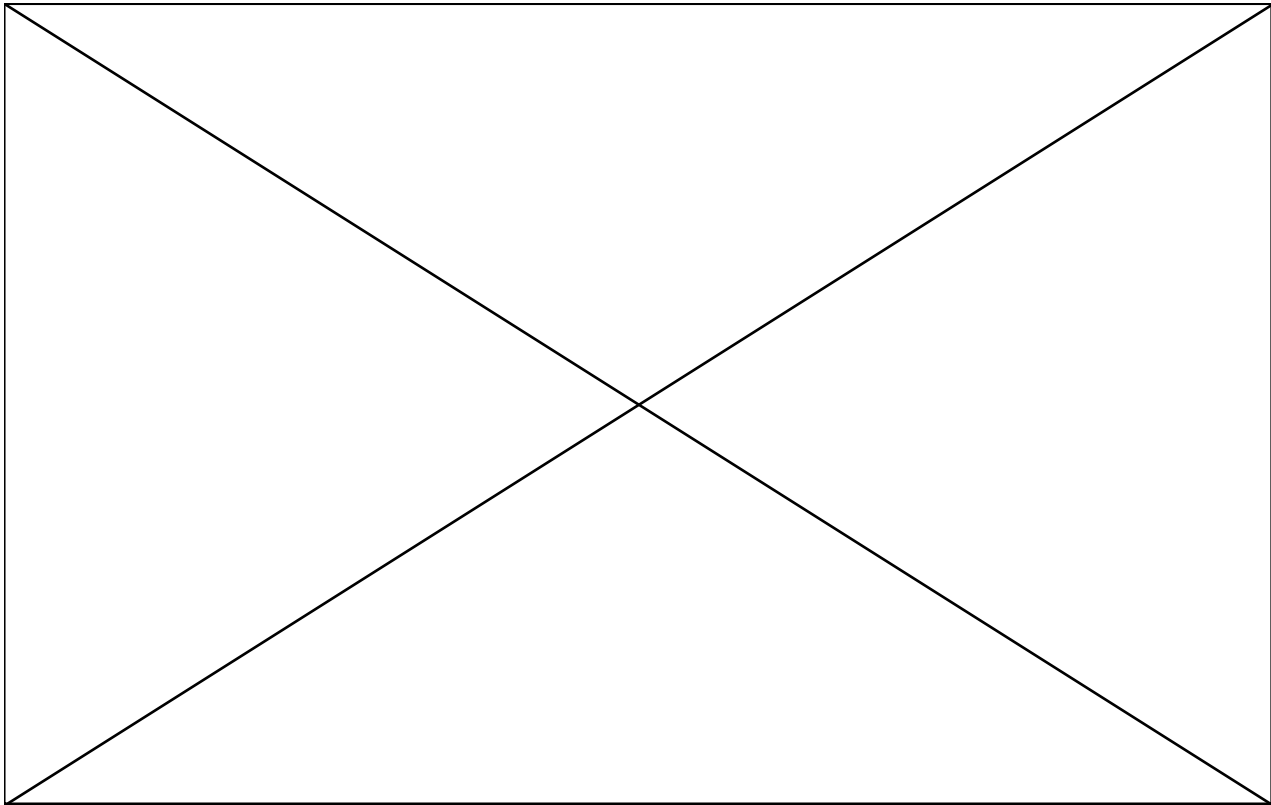
- The media (tv, radio, newspapers and now websites) reaches a large audience and can persuade many people to think one way or another.



Rick Mercer Rant on Voting



Rick Mercer Rant on Polling



3. Lobbyists

- People who try to persuade the government to support their cause by supplying them with information.
- Usually professionals paid to represent the views of others to politicians.



4. Labour Unions

- Non-governmental organizations and other groups who use various methods such as lobbying to represent the concerns of their members.



5. Court or Judicial System

- Gives people the power to challenge actions that threaten their rights.

