

Comparison of US and Canadian Political Systems

| | Canada | USA | Both |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| System | Parliamentary System (executive and legislative branch combined) | Presidential Democracy | Federal Republic (powers shared by federal and local govts) |
| Executive | Prime Minister (chosen by majority party of Parliament) British Monarch (symbolic head of state) | President (elected by electoral college) | Cabinet (appointed by Prime Minister/President) |
| Legislative | Senate (chosen by Prime Minister; similar number of Senators per region) | Senate (elected; two Senators per state) | House of Commons/House of Representatives (elected; number of members based on population) |
| Judicial | | | Supreme Court (life term/75 years; can be removed) |
| Elections | no elections for Monarch, Gov. General, or Senators elections for members of House of Commons (MPs) Members of majority party can remove PM at any time | elections for President, Senators, House of Representatives | |
| Checks on Powers | Parliament laws checked by Supreme Court Supreme court impeachment Constitution can be amended | President can be checked by Congress and Supreme Court Congress can be checked by President and Supreme Court Supreme Court can be impeached by Congress Constitution can be amended | both have checks and balances |