



Preparing for your visit to the Parliament Buildings Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

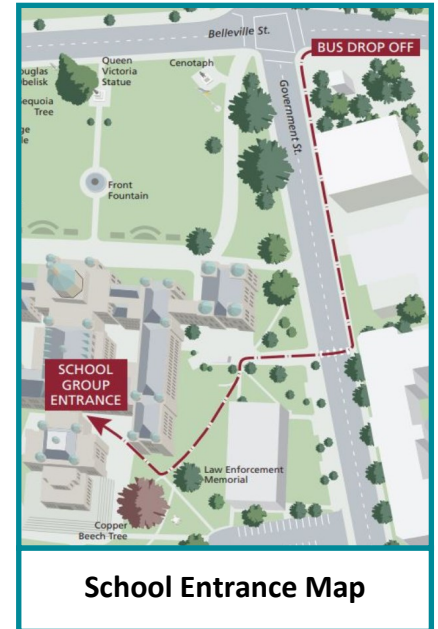
The following information will help you prepare for your tour of the Parliament Buildings. We hope that you will enjoy your visit!

Where to Arrive

Please arrive at the School Entrance 10 minutes before your tour. The School Entrance is located at the back of the Parliament Buildings (off of Government Street). Let us know if a member of your group would prefer to use an accessible entrance.

Groups arriving by bus are often dropped off in front of the Royal B.C. Museum. There is no public parking on the property. Please visit the [Transportation and Parking](#) page for more information.

Call 250-387-6668 if you are running late and we will do our best to reschedule your tour.



Tour Information

Plan to spend about one hour for a guided tour, or 1.5 hours if you are also booked to observe debates in the Public Gallery.



School Entrance

The focus of the tour is on the role of the Legislative Assembly, the provincial level of government, and the history of the Parliament Buildings. Please let your tour guide know if there is a topic of specific interest to your class and they will do their best to include that information on the tour.

Some of the rooms that are normally included on the guided tour will be closed if you visit on a day when the Legislative Assembly is meeting. Tours may also be cancelled at any time due to events on the Legislative Precinct.

We will notify your school's MLA of your visit and invite them to meet with your class. MLAs have busy schedules, so we cannot guarantee their availability.

If there is anything about your visit that we should know or if you have any questions, please email tours@leg.bc.ca.



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Observing Debates

School groups that have booked time in the **Public Gallery** will have up to 20 minutes to observe debates. Time in the gallery is limited to accommodate all of the school groups who wish to observe debates.

Students must pass through a metal detector before entering the Public Gallery. Phones, coats, and bags will be stored in a secure area while you are in the Public Gallery.

Question Period accounts for only 30 minutes of the Legislative Assembly's daily schedule. Most groups will not see Question Period, but will see the MLAs discussing **proposed legislation** or reviewing **finances**.

Other Information

We cannot store bags or backpacks during the tour.

Students, teachers, and parents are expected to remain with the tour at all times.

A quiet room is available for a student to relax if they are feeling overwhelmed during the visit. Please speak with your tour guide if a student in your class needs access.

Eating and drinking is not allowed inside, but there are many picnic tables outside.

Before Your Tour

Book an online **Virtual Classroom Session** for an introduction to the topics that will be covered on the guided tour.

Take a **virtual tour** and complete the **virtual scavenger hunt**.

Complete an activity from the **Activities and Resources for Teachers** page, including the **Calendar Conundrum** and **Library Statues** activities.

Watch videos on our **Learning Resources** page.

Find out more about your **school's MLA**.

After Your Tour

Book a **Virtual Classroom Session** to expand upon what you learned on tour.

Invite your **school's MLA** to visit your classroom, arrange a visit to their constituency office, or have the students send your MLA a letter/email.

Apply to the **B.C. Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy**.

Learn about **Parliamentary Committees** and **public consultations**.

Reach out to a local First Nation, municipal town hall, or your school's Member of Parliament to learn about other levels of government in Canada.