

Activity 2.1: My Federal Budget

PART ONE – EXPENDITURES:

1. The Government of Canada will spend more than \$300 billion this fiscal year. Imagine you were Canada's Minister of Finance and you had to determine the budget allocation for each expense category below. Write down your estimates as a percentage of the total in the left-hand column.

	Your % of the budget (or amount allocation)	Actual % of expenditures in the current federal budget
Elderly benefits		
Employment Insurance benefits		
Children's benefits		
Healthcare transfers		
Social transfers (post-secondary education, early childhood, daycare)		
Other government transfers (Equalization programs, Territorial financing)		
Other transfers (organizations, infrastructure, Indigenous peoples)		
Program expenses		
Interest on the debt		
TOTAL	100%	100%

2. What are the two expenditure areas where you would spend the most money, and why?

3. Afterwards, compare your allocation to your peers and to the actual breakdown of expenditures for this fiscal year.

PART TWO – REVENUE SOURCES:

1. This fiscal year, the Government of Canada will bring in approximately \$300 billion from various revenue sources. Imagine you were Canada’s Minister of Finance and you had to determine how much money should come from each main source. Write down your estimates as a percentage of the total in the left-hand column.

	Your % of the budget or breakdown	Actual % of revenues in the current federal budget
Personal income tax		
Corporate income tax		
Goods and Services Tax (GST)		
Other taxes		
Employment Insurance premiums		
Crown earnings		
TOTAL	100%	100%

2. Which two sources of revenues would you prioritize, and why?

3. Afterwards, compare your breakdown to your peers, as well as the federal government’s actual projection for this fiscal year.