

THE ROLE OF THE MP

Name: _____

As a group we will read “*FACT SHEET* – On the Job with a Member of Parliament”

After reading this as a class, each of us will individually read From Pages 7 & 8 in our Social Studies 11 – Student Workbooks (Under section II - THE CANADIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT read definitions 4 – Parliament and 5 – House of Commons)

After reading both items above, please define the following terms **using your own words** (on a separate piece of paper):

Constituency

Caucus

Question Period

Patronage

Cabinet

Senate

We will now discuss the various roles of Members of Parliament (MPs) as a class.

Your “*FACT SHEET: On the Job with a Member of Parliament*” mentions that “often Members must go against the wishes of their constituents or their own personal views to reach a consensus within the party.” Please consider this statement and answer the questions below.

- 1.) Why might this be necessary? (2 marks)
- 2.) Do you feel that a Member of Parliament’s main duty should be to their constituents or to their political party? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER. (3 marks)
- 3.) List as many arguments one might make for the side that you did not choose in question 2. (3 marks)