How Did Canada’s Democracy Come to Be?

**BNA Act (1867) – British North America Act**

* **Confederation**
* Our first **constitution**
* Created by **England** and **Canada** (so still a lot of British input)

**Statute of Westminster (1931)**

* British Law that gave its colonies **full legal freedom**
* Canada could **choose** to go to war with Britain
* Gave Canada more **autonomy** (create own laws and govern themselves)

**Charter of Rights and Freedoms (1982)**

* **Bill of Rights**
* Guarantees **political** and **civil** rights to Canadians
* With BNA Act = **Canada’s constitution**



**What Rights do we have as Canadian citizens?**

**-voting – freedom of speech – free healthcare – free education – travel in Canada – leave Canada – freedom of opinion – freedom of expression – need reasonable cause for arrest -**

**The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms**

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| **Democratic Rights****-keep Canada a democracy** | **Fundamental Freedoms** | **Mobility Rights****-can move around in Canada** |
| -right to vote-elections every 5 years-Parliament meets at least once a year | -speech - expression – opinion – to education (up to grade 12) -religion – - freedom of press (media)-freedom of peaceful assembly (protest) | - can enter, remain in, or leave Canada freely-work in any province |

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| **Legal Rights****-life, liberty, and protection** | **Equality Rights****-everyone equal under law** | **Official Language Rights****-English and French equal** | **Minority-language Education Rights****-Publics schools in both languages** |
| -know the reason for arrest-fair trial-right against unreasonable search and seizure | -no discrimination against race, religion, gender, age, mental/physical ability | -government has to be English and French-signs -labels  | -French and English schools available – where numbers are high enough |

**In each scenario, which section of the Charter has been violated?**