



## A new government and the knotty business of governing

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## Context

- A central theme in the 2025 election was the need for fundamental change.
- Successful governing depends on what you plan to do, but also how you organize and operate to achieve objectives.
- Key to efficient and effective governing is balance between:
  - the elected Government and Parliament;
  - PMO and cabinet;
  - the public service and the government's political staff, and;
  - authority and accountability.
- What's required isn't endless study or complex legislation, rather political leadership and public support
- Business-as-usual is not viable in a world of immense upheaval and Donald Trump.

## Considerations

- The agenda should have seven distinct parts. They are:
  1. *Reversing the centralization of power in PMO*
  2. *Focussing on a limited number of priorities*
  3. *Right-sizing government and delivering on core services*
  4. *Modernizing core government Institutions*
  5. *Sovereignty and security go hand-in-hand*
  6. *A strong economy needs effective economic policy*
  7. *Setting a credible fiscal anchor*
- Success will depend on something government controls – how it governs, how it organizes itself, and how it retools government institutions to be more efficient and effective.

## Questions

- Do you agree that balance is key to effective governing?
- What specific details are in each of the seven areas of focus?
- Do you believe re-sizing government is crucial?
- If so, what does that mean for the public service?
- What are the core policy challenges facing Canada?
- Do you see high public expectations as a challenge to governing?