

Boys/men	Girls/women

Professional basketball player

pink

Lawyer

Nerf gun

Nurse

ballet slippers

Elementary school teacher

Hockey skates

Welder

Lego

EA

Skipping rope

Dance instructor

XX chromosomes

Mechanic

XY chromosomes

Minecraft

Barbie

1. Explain your choices above. Are there any of these items that could equally belong in either the “boy” or “girl” category? Why/why not?
2. Can you think of any jobs that could not be done well by a man? How about a woman?
3. After reading the article about women’s voting rights in Canada, answer the following:
  - a. Were you surprised that women have not always been allowed to vote? Are you surprised at how recent the right to vote was finally gained by all Canadian women?
  - b. Offer an explanation of why men were not eager to share the right to vote with women.

In 1916, women had earned the vote in Manitoba. Eventually, other provinces extended the vote to women as well.

But federal elections were another story.

In 1917, Canada's federal electoral law stipulated that "idiots, madmen, criminals and judges" were not allowed to vote.

It didn't mention women, but they were still not allowed to vote in national elections.

Robert Borden was Prime Minister at the time. He wasn't big on the idea of women voting, but an election was coming in the fall of 1917 and Borden needed extra votes.

On September 20 of that year, Parliament passed the Wartime Elections Act.

It allowed women who were British subjects and who were wives, mothers and sisters of soldiers serving in the First World War to vote on behalf of their male relatives.

Women (mainly nurses) serving in the military could also vote.

On December 17, some 500,000 women voted for the first time in a federal election, which was won by Borden's coalition government.

In the spring of 1918, the government extended the right to vote to Canadian women 21 years of age and older - with Borden saying they would exert a good influence on public life.

However, most women of colour - including Chinese women, "Hindu" or East Indian women, Japanese women - weren't allowed to vote at the provincial and federal level until the late 1940s.

And under federal law, aboriginal women covered by the Indian Act couldn't vote for band councils until 1951, and couldn't vote in federal elections until 1960.

So, there you go - it wasn't until 1960 that ALL Canadian women finally had the right to vote.

<http://www.cbc.ca/strombo/news/women-the-right-to-vote-in-canada-an-important-clarification.html>