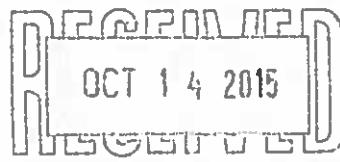


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What is good governance? It's many different things, for many different people. It could be good public services, or fairness. Some people may think it's healthcare, education, or civil rights. To me, however, good governance means respecting citizens, treating citizens fairly, and having an honest government.

Respecting citizens is very important. Citizens respect the government, so the government should respect the citizens. The government can respect the citizens by making services like ambulances free. I think that emergency services should be free of charge because they are necessary. The government can also respect citizens by giving back to the citizens. The government can do this by giving the tax money the citizens pay, back to the citizens for something like child care.

Treating all citizens fairly makes citizens want to comply with the government. The government can treat all citizens fairly by taxing people properly. Big companies should be taxed more than low-income and poor families. The government treats citizens fairly by giving everyone a chance to speak. All citizens' opinions should be treated the same way - matter how important a citizen is to anything like our economy or healthcare.

Honesty is the best policy, and the saying is no different when it comes to the government. An honest government is extremely important. All citizens should know what is going on in the government. They should also know that the information they are being told is truthful. Back in August, I watched the Maclean's Leaders Debate 2015. One topic was the economy. Steven Harper said Canada was in the 'best economy' in history. However, about a week later, I was on

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yahoo.com, and one of the headlines was "It's official, Canada is in Recession." This shows that Steven Harper would lie to defend his party. This is not good because we do not know if his party is telling the truth.

Good governance is necessary for a good country or province. Good governance includes respecting citizens, treating citizens fairly, and having an honest government. These traits are very important for governments to have. I think our government is competent and dependable.

By: Isaac Buckingham