Pressure groups and change

What can I do to make a difference and become a global citizen?
Key Question: How can Canadian citizens voice their opinions and influence the government?

Pressure Groups

-an organized group of people with common interests and concerns who attempt to influence decision makers.

Goal: To change government policy as they see fit
Hmmm..... What types of issues are pressure groups concerned with????

-pressure groups include organizations whose interests are:
  • Economic
  • Medical and health related
  • Environmental
  • Religious
  • Concerned with issues of equality
Hmmmm.... What is a lobbyist???

- when pressure groups become highly organized they are sometimes called lobby groups

- a lobbyist is a person who is affiliated with a pressure group who attempts to influence decision makers through direct persuasion, discussion, or persistent attention

Success: move airports and industries, establish parks and wildlife reserves, control pollution etc.
Hmmm..... How can you let your disapproval of government policies or practices be known??

-some activists who are concerned with social justice believe that it is sometimes necessary to use more forceful action to achieve their goals.

**Protest group:** when a group of activists come together at an event they have organized to promote a cause ie) rallies, parades, marches, sit ins, public demonstrations and road blockades
Something to Consider

- not only are you a citizen of your municipality, your province and your country, but you are also a global citizen.
Hmmmm..... What does it mean to be a global citizen???

- for some it means international trade and investment

- for some it means being responsible for our earth, its resources and citizens

- others see it as the responsibility to ensure that all peoples of the world can live in peace, enjoying an adequate quality of life.
Global Citizen according to Oxfam

-The global citizen is someone who:

-is aware of the wider world and has a sense of his or her own role as a world citizen
-respects and values diversity
-has an understanding of how the world works economically, politically, socially, culturally, technologically, and environmentally
-is outraged by social injustice
-participates in and contributes to the community at a range of levels from local to the global
-is willing to act to make the world a more equitable and sustainable place
-take responsibility for his or her own actions

Human Rights: Universal rights, based on what we generally believe to be right or wrong, which apply to all people, in all countries, at all times
Are you a global citizen????????????