Social Studies 11- The Interwar Years

**The Role of Women: The Persons Case**

Vocab:

**Suffragist-** someone who campaigns for or supports women’s right to vote

**Privy council**- highest British constitutional court- highest court in Canada until 1949

**Review** women’s changing roles during World War One. What new right(s) did women achieve?

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**Read The Role of Women on p.60.**

**Describe** women’s principal roles in Canadian society during the interwar years. What kinds of opportunities did women have?

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**Read The Persons Case**

**Discuss** with a partner what it meant that “women were not persons under the law.”

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In 1929, Emily Murphy and four other Alberta women nicknamed the “Famous Five” appealed the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on the Persons Case to the highest court at the time, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in Britain.

**Paraphrase** the decision of the Privy Council:

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**Paragraph Response:**

Consult your timeline on the evolution of women’s rights in Canada as you consider the following question:

**To what extent** have women achieved equality in Canada?

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