### HANDOUT 2.2: Highlights from the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*

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<th>HIGHLIGHTS</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
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| **FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS** | • You have the freedom to pray and worship in your own way, or not to pray or worship at all.  
• You have the freedom to shape your own opinions.  
• You have the freedom to express your opinions.  
• The media is free to report on anything in Canada.  
• You can hold rallies to express your disagreements.  
• You can choose your own friends. | You cannot be punished for your religious beliefs. |
| **VOTE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS** | • If you are a citizen and 18 years old, you can vote in elections.  
• If you are a citizen and 18 years old, you can compete for the job of a politician.  
• The rule that governments must have elections every five years or less.  
• The rule that elected governments must meet at least once every year. | You can run for political office and vote when you turn 18. |
| **MOBILITY RIGHTS** | • You can live and work in any province or territory in Canada.  
• You can leave and come back to Canada when you want. | You can visit another country and come back when you choose. |
| **LEGAL RIGHTS** | • If you are arrested, you must be told of your option to see a lawyer.  
• If needed, you must go to court in an amount of time that is considered fair.  
• You must be considered innocent until proven guilty. | You will receive a fair trial if you are accused of a crime. |
| **EQUALITY RIGHTS** | • You cannot be treated unfairly for many reasons. This includes your race, background, religion, gender, age, or mental or physical ability. | Your race cannot be used as a reason for not hiring you for a job. |
| **OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF CANADA** | • You can talk or write to the federal government in English or French. | You can send a letter to your Member of Parliament in English or French. |
| **MINORITY LANGUAGE EDUCATION RIGHTS** | • You may be able to go to school in English or French if you meet certain criteria. | You can attend a French high school in some English regions of Canada, if you went to a French elementary school. |