

**Women Members of the
Legislature of British Columbia**

Legislative Library of British Columbia

Women Members of the Legislature of British Columbia

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Alphabetical List

Name	Date of First Election (B) By-election
Arsens, Lydia Augusta (1906 - 1983)	June 9, 1953
Barnett, Donna (19?? -)	May 12, 2009
Black, Dawn (-)	May 12, 2009
Bond, Shirley (1956 -)	May 16, 2001
Boone, Lois Ruth (1947 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Brenzinger, Elayne (1951 -)	May 16, 2001
Brewin, Gretchen Mann (1938-)	Oct. 17, 1991
Brice, Susan	May 16, 2001
Brown, Buda Hosmer (1894 - 1962)	Sep. 19, 1956
Brown, Rosemary (1930 - 2003)	Aug. 30, 1972
Cadieux, Stephanie	May 12, 2009
Campbell, Avril Phaedra <u>Kim</u> (1947 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Chong, Ida (-)	May 28, 1996
Clark, Christina Joan "Christy" (1965 -)	May 28, 1996
Conroy, Katrine (-)	May 17, 2005
Copping, Barbara Elizabeth (1944-)	Oct. 17, 1991
Cull, Elizabeth (1952 -)	Dec. 13, 1989 (B)
Dailly, Eileen Elizabeth (1926 -)	Sep. 12, 1966
Dawson, Isabel Pearl (1917 - 1982)	Sep. 12, 1966
Edwards, Kathleen <u>Anne</u> (1935 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Elmore, Mable (-)	May 12, 2009
Gillespie, Evelyn Marie (1952 -)	May 28, 1996
Gran, Caroline Mary (1941 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Hagen, Anita Mae Joan (1931 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Haggen, Lois Mabel (1899 - 1994)	Sep. 19, 1956
Hammell, Susan Eileen (1945 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Hawkins, Satinder Kaur "Sindi" (1958 -)	May 28, 1996
Hobbs, Margaret Frances (1909 - 1997)	Sep. 4, 1962 (B)
Hodges, Nancy (1888 - 1969)	Oct. 21, 1941
Huntington, Vicky (19?? -)	May 12, 2009
Ilich, Olga (-)	May 17, 2005
James, Carole (-)	May 17, 2005
Jamieson, Laura Emma (1882 - 1964)	May 1, 1939 (B)
Johnston, Rita Margaret (1935 -)	May 5, 1983
Jordan, Patricia Jane (1930 - 1997)	Sep. 12, 1966
Karagianis, Maurine (-)	May 17, 2005
Kripps, Agnes (1925 -)	Aug. 27, 1969
Kwan, Jenny Wai Ching (1965 -)	May 28, 1996
Locke, Brenda Joy (1955 -)	May 16, 2001
Lord, Margaret Constance (1948 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
McCarthy, Grace Mary (1927 -)	Sep. 12, 1966
MacDiarmid, Margaret (-)	May 12, 2009
McGinn, Jenn (-)	Oct 29, 2008 (B)
McGregor, Catherine Elizabeth (1955 -)	May 28, 1996
MacInnis, Winona <u>Grace</u> (1905 - 1991)	Oct. 21, 1941
McIntyre, Joan (-)	May 17, 2005
McKinnon, Bonnie Jean (1940 -)	May 28, 1996
McMahon, Wendy (1951 -)	May 16, 2001
McNeil, Mary (-)	May 12, 2009
MacPhail, Joy Kathryn (1952 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Marzari, Darlene R. (1943 -)	Oct. 22, 1986
Mather, Camille Mildred (1912 -)	Sep. 12, 1960
Mungall, Michelle (-)	May 12, 2009
Murray, Joyce Catherine (1954 -)	May 16, 2001
O'Neill, Shannon Edith (1937 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Orr, Sheila (1945 -)	May 16, 2001
Pement, Jacquelynne (1946 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Polak, Mary (-)	May 17, 2005
Popham, Lana (-)	May 12, 2009
Priddy, Lynn-Ann <u>Penny</u> (1944 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Pullinger, Janis Margaret (1947 -)	Mar. 15, 1989 (B)
Reid, Judith Lynne (1954 -)	Dec. 14, 1998 (B)
Reid, Linda Amie Marie (1959 -)	Oct. 17, 1991
Roddick, Valerie Ann (1940 -)	Dec. 7, 1999 (B)
Rolston, Tilly Jean (1887 - 1953)	Oct. 21, 1941
Sahota, Patty Paul (1969 -)	May 16, 2001

Sanders, April Dawn (1953 -	May 28, 1996	
Sanford, Karen Elizabeth (1932 -)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Sawicki, Joan Marie (1945 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Smallwood, Joan Kathleen (1950 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Smith, Helen Douglas (1886? - 1955)	Nov. 2, 1933	
Smith, Mary Ellen (1862 - 1933)	Jan. 24, 1918	(B)
Steeves, Dorothy Gretchen (1891 - 1978)	July 14, 1934	(B)
Stephens, Mary <u>Lynn</u> (1941 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Stilwell, Moira (-)	May 12, 2009	
Taylor, Carole (-)	May 17, 2005	
Thorne, Diane (-)	May 17, 2005	
Thornthwaite, Jane Ann (-)	May 12, 2009	
Trevena, Claire (-)	May 17, 2005	
Trumper, Gillian (1936 -)	May 16, 2001	
Tyabji, Judeline Kim Mary "Judi" (1965 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Wallace, Barbara Brookman (1918 -)	Dec. 11, 1975	
Walsh, Erda Sieglinde	May 28, 1996	
Webster, Daisy (1911 -)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Whittred, Katherine Anne	May 28, 1996	
Yamamoto, Naomi (-)	May 12, 2009	
Young, Phyllis Florence (1925 - 1984)	Aug. 30, 1972	

Chronological List

Name	Date of First Election	(B) By-election
Smith, Mary Ellen (1862 - 1933)	Jan. 24, 1918	(B)
Smith, Helen Douglas (1886? - 1955)	Nov. 2, 1933	
Steeves, Dorothy Gretchen (1891 - 1978)	Jul. 14, 1934	(B)
Jamieson, Laura Emma (1882 - 1964)	May 1, 1939	(B)
Hodges, Nancy (1888 - 1969)	Oct. 21, 1941	
MacInnis, Winona <u>Grace</u> (1905 - 1991)	Oct. 21, 1941	
Rolston, Tilly Jean (1887 - 1953)	Oct. 21, 1941	
Arsens, Lydia Augusta (1906 - 1983)	Jun. 9, 1953	
Brown, Buda Hosmer (1894 - 1962)	Sep. 19, 1956	
Haggen, Lois Mabel (1899 - 1994)	Sep. 19, 1956	
Mather, Camille Mildred (1912 -)	Sep. 12, 1960	
Hobbs, Margaret Frances (1909 - 1997)	Sep. 4, 1962	(B)
Dailly, Eileen Elizabeth (1926 -)	Sep. 12, 1966	
Dawson, Isabel Pearl (1917 - 1982)	Sep. 12, 1966	
Jordan, Patricia Jane (1930 - 1997)	Sep. 12, 1966	
McCarthy, Grace Mary (1927 -)	Sep. 12, 1966	
Kripps, Agnes (1925 -)	Aug. 27, 1969	
Brown, Rosemary (1930 - 2003)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Sanford, Karen Elizabeth (1932 -)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Webster, Daisy (1911 - 2004)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Young, Phyllis Florence (1925 - 1984)	Aug. 30, 1972	
Wallace, Barbara Brookman (1918 -)	Dec. 11, 1975	
Johnston, Rita Margaret (1935 -)	May 5, 1983	
Boone, Lois Ruth (1947 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Campbell, Avril Phaedra <u>Kim</u> (1947 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Edwards, Kathleen <u>Anne</u> (1935 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Gran, Caroline Mary (1941 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Hagen, Anita Mae Joan (1931 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Marzari, Darlene R. (1943 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Smallwood, Joan Kathleen (1950 -)	Oct. 22, 1986	
Pullinger, Janis Margaret (1947 -)	Mar. 15, 1989	(B)
Cull, Elizabeth (1952 -)	Dec. 13, 1989	(B)
Brewin, Gretchen Mann (1938-)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Copping, Barbara Elizabeth (1944-)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Hammell, Susan Eileen (1945 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Lord, Margaret Constance (1948 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
MacPhail, Joy Kathryn (1952 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
O'Neill, Shannon Edith (1937 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Pement, Jacquelynne (1946 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Priddy, Lynn-Ann <u>Penny</u> (1944 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Reid, Linda Amie Marie (1959 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Sawicki, Joan Marie (1945 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Stephens, Mary <u>Lynn</u> (1941 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Tyabji, Judeline Kim Mary "Judi" (1965 -)	Oct. 17, 1991	
Chong, Ida (-)	May 28, 1996	
Clark, Christina Joan "Christy" (1965 -)	May 28, 1996	
Gillespie, Evelyn Marie (1952 -)	May 28, 1996	
Hawkins, Satinder Kaur "Sindi" (1958 -)	May 28, 1996	
Kwan, Jenny Wai Ching (1965 -)	May 28, 1996	
McGregor, Catherine Elizabeth (1955 -)	May 28, 1996	
McKinnon, Bonnie Jean (1940 -)	May 28, 1996	
Sanders, April Dawn (1953 -)	May 28, 1996	
Walsh, Erda Sieglinde (-)	May 28, 1996	
Whittred, Katherine Anne (-)	May 28, 1996	
Reid, Judith Lynne (1954 -)	Dec. 14, 1998	(B)
Roddick, Valerie Ann (1940 -)	Dec. 7, 1999	(B)
Bond, Shirley (1956 -)	May 16, 2001	
Brenzinger, Elayne (1951 -)	May 16, 2001	
Brice, Susan (-)	May 16, 2001	
Locke, Brenda Joy (1955 -)	May 16, 2001	
McMahon, Wendy (1951 -)	May 16, 2001	
Murray, Joyce Catherine (1954 -)	May 16, 2001	
Orr, Sheila (1945 -)	May 16, 2001	
Sahota, Patty Paul (1969 -)	May 16, 2001	
Trumper, Gillian (1936 -)	May 16, 2001	
Conroy, Katrine (-)	May 17, 2005	
Hammell, Sue (-)	May 17, 2005	

Ilich, Olga (-)	May 17, 2005	
James, Carole (-)	May 17, 2005	
Karagianis, Maurine (-)	May 17, 2005	
McIntyre, Joan (-)	May 17, 2005	
Polak, Mary (-)	May 17, 2005	
Taylor, Carole (-)	May 17, 2005	
Thorne, Diane (-)	May 17, 2005	
Trevena, Claire (-)	May 17, 2005	
McGinn, Jenn (-)	Oct 29, 2008	(B)
Barnett, Donna (19?? -)	May 12, 2009	
Black, Dawn (-)	May 12, 2009	
Cadieux, Stephanie	May 12, 2009	
Elmore, Mable (-)	May 12, 2009	
Huntington, Vicky (19?? -)	May 12, 2009	
MacDiarmid, Margaret (-)	May 12, 2009	
McNeil, Mary (-)	May 12, 2009	
Mungall, Michelle (-)	May 12, 2009	
Popham, Lana (-)	May 12, 2009	
Stilwell, Moira (-)	May 12, 2009	
Yamamoto, Naomi (-)	May 12, 2009	

Historical Firsts

First woman MLA in BC	Mary Ellen Smith	Jan. 24, 1918 (B)
First woman Independent MLA in BC	Mary Ellen Smith	Jan. 24, 1918 (B)
First woman to be elected Liberal MLA in BC	Mary Ellen Smith	Dec. 1, 1920
First woman cabinet minister without portfolio in the British Empire	Mary Ellen Smith	Mar. 24, 1921
First woman to act as Speaker in BC	Mary Ellen Smith	Feb. 22, 1928
First general election no women were elected since franchise extended to women in 1917		July 18, 1928.
First woman CCF MLA in BC	Dorothy Gretchen Steeves	July 14, 1934 (B)
First woman Conservative MLA in BC	Tilly Jean Rolston	Oct. 21, 1941
First woman BC MLA to run federally	Dorothy Gretchen Steeves	June 27, 1949
First woman elected Speaker in Commonwealth	Nancy Hodges	Feb. 14, 1950
First woman MLA to cross the floor in BC	Tilly Jean Rolston	Mar. 29, 1951
	(Mary Ellen Smith, who had been elected in 1918 as an Independent, ran as a Liberal in 1920, but did not apparently "cross the floor")	
First woman Social Credit MLA in BC	Tilly Jean Rolston (Joined the Social Credit Party)	May 2, 1952
	(Elected as a Social Credit member)	June 12, 1952
First woman cabinet minister with portfolio in Canada	Tilly Jean Rolston	Aug. 1, 1952
First woman BC MLA to die in office	Tilly Jean Rolston (She had lost the 1953 election but was still in the Cabinet.)	Oct. 12, 1953
	Buda Hosmer Brown (She was sitting as an elected Member and Cabinet Minister.)	Aug. 12, 1962
First woman BC MLA to become a Canadian Senator	Nancy Hodges	Nov. 5, 1953
First woman NDP MLA in BC	Margaret Frances Hobbs (The name of the CCF party was changed in 1960 to "New Party" and in 1961 to New Democratic Party. Some candidates ran as New Democratic Party-CCF to ensure that voters knew who they were.)	Sep. 4, 1962 (B)
First woman BC MLA to run federally and win	Winona Grace MacInnis	Nov. 8, 1965
First black woman elected to a provincial legislature in Canada	Rosemary Brown	Aug. 30, 1972

First woman to be acting President of the Executive Council in BC	Eileen Elizabeth Dailly	Sep. 26, 1972
First woman to be appointed Deputy Premier in BC	Grace Mary McCarthy	Dec. 22, 1975
First woman BC MLA to become a federal cabinet minister for Canada	Kim Campbell (Minister of State) (Minister of Justice) (Minister of Defence)	Jan. 30, 1989 Feb. 24, 1990 Jan. 4, 1993
First woman Premier in Canada	Rita Margaret Johnston	Apr. 2, 1991
First woman MLA of East Indian-Canadian descent	Judeline Kim Mary Tyabji	Oct. 17, 1991
First MLA to give birth while in office in British Columbia	Judeline Kim Mary Tyabji	Mar. 14, 1992
First woman BC MLA to become Prime Minister	Kim Campbell	June 13, 1993
First women MLAs of Chinese-Canadian descent	Ida Chong Jenny Wai Ching Kwan	May 28, 1996 May 28, 1996
First woman MLA subject to Recall petition (petition failed)	Evelyn Marie Gillespie	Feb. 12, 1998
First BC Cabinet Minister to give birth while in office	Christy Clark	Aug. 26, 2001
First woman Democratic Reform B.C. MLA in BC	Brenzinger, Elayne	Jan. 27, 2005
First openly lesbian BC MLA	McGinn, Jenn	Oct. 29, 2008 (B)
First woman MLA with a disability	Cadieux, Stephanie	May 12, 2009

Women Representation by Parliament

<u>Parliament</u>	<u>Election Date</u>	<u>No. of MLAs</u>	<u>No. of Women MLAs</u>	<u>Percentage of Women MLAs</u>
	(B) By-election (R) Resignation (S) Change in No. of Seats			
14	Sep. 14, 1916	47	0	0
	Jan. 24, 1918 (B)		1	2.12
15	Dec. 1, 1920	47	1	2.12
16	Jun. 20, 1924	48	1	2.08
17	Jul. 18, 1928	48	0	0
18	Nov. 2&27, 1933	47	1	2.12
	Feb. 28, 1934 (S)	48	1	2.08
	Jul. 14, 1934 (B)		2	4.17
19	Jun. 1, 1937	48	2	4.17
	May 1, 1939 (B)		3	6.25
20	Oct. 21, 1941	48	5	10.42
21	Oct. 25, 1945	48	2	4.17
22	Jun. 15, 1949	48	2	4.17
23	Jun. 12, 1952	48	3	6.25
24	Jun. 9, 1953	48	1	2.08
25	Sep. 19, 1956 (S)	52	2	3.85
26	Sep. 12, 1960	52	3	5.77
			2	3.85
	Sep. 4, 1962 (B)		3	5.77
27	Sep. 30, 1963	52	1	1.92
28	Sep. 12, 1966 (S)	55	4	7.27
29	Aug. 27, 1969	55	5	9.09
30	Aug. 30, 1972	55	6	10.91
31	Dec. 11, 1975	55	6	10.91
32	Apr. 7, 1983 (S)	57	6	10.53
33	Sep. 24, 1986	57	6	10.53

<u>Parliament</u>	<u>Election Date</u>	<u>No. of MLAs</u>	<u>No. of Women MLAs</u>	<u>Percentage of Women MLAs</u>
	(B) By-election (R) Resignation (S) Change in No. of Seats			
34	Sep. 19, 1991 (S)	69	9	13.04
	Oct. 22, 1988 (R)		8	11.59
	Mar. 15, 1989 (B)		9	13.04
	Dec. 13, 1989 (B)		10	14.49
35	Apr. 30, 1996	75	19	25.33
36	Apr. 18, 2001 (S)	75	20	26.66
	Dec. 14, 1998 (B)		21	28.00
	Dec. 7, 1999 (B)		22	29.33
37	Apr. 19, 2005	79	19	24.05
38		79	17	21.51
	Oct. 29, 2008 (B)		18	22.78
39	May 12, 2009 (S)	85	25	29.41