

The PEI Coalition For Women In Government has more information about Women and Politics in PEI, including its analysis of the 2006 Municipal Election Results.

**1921** Voting franchise extended to women

**1951** Ms. Hilda Ramsay from Indian River was the first female candidate to campaign for a seat in the provincial legislature. Ms. Ramsay offered as a candidate for the CCF Party in the Electoral District of Third Prince in the 26 April 1951 Provincial General Election. Ms. Ramsay listed her occupation on the ballot as a housewife. Ms. Ramsay was defeated by the liberal candidate, Frank L. MacNutt.

**1960** Dorothy Corrigan was elected Councillor in Ward No. 2 in the City of Charlottetown. Following eight years on council in 1968 she was elected as the first woman mayor for the City of Charlottetown serving as mayor from 1969 to 1972.

**1961** Margaret Mary MacDonald (PC) Member of Parliament, was elected to represent the Federal District of Kings County in the 29 May 1961 Federal By-Election.

**1962** Margaret Mary MacDonald (PC) Member of Parliament, was elected to represent the Federal District of Kings County in the 18 June 1962 Federal Election.

**1970** Jean Canfield (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of First Queens.

Jean Canfield became the Island's first elected female member of the Legislative Assembly in the 11 May 1970 Provincial General Election.

**1972** Jean Canfield (Lib.), Assemblyman for First Queens was appointed as the Island's first female Cabinet Minister. Appointed Minister without portfolio and responsible for the P.E.I. Housing Authority (10 October 1972 to 2 May 1974).

**1974** Catherine Callbeck (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of Fourth Prince in the 29 April 1974 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Health and Social Services (2 May 1974 to 27 April 1978).

Jean Canfield (Lib.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 29 April 1974 Provincial General Election.

**1978** Jean Canfield (Lib.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 24 April 1978 Provincial General Election.

**1979** Leone Bagnall (P.C.), Councillor, was elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 23 April 1979 Provincial General Election.

Marion Reid (P.C.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 23 April 1979 Provincial General Election.

1982 Leone Bagnall (P.C.), Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 27 September 1982 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Education (28 October 1982 to 2 May 1986).

Marion Reid (P.C.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 27 September 1982 Provincial General Election.

1983 Marion Reid (P.C.), Assemblyman, became the first female to hold the office of Speaker of the Provincial Legislative Assembly and was sworn in on 18 March 1983. (1983 1986).

1986 Leone Bagnall (P.C.), Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 23 April 1986 Provincial General Election.

Marion Reid (P.C.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 23 April 1986 Provincial General Election.

Betty Jean Brown (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of Third Queens in the 23 April 1986 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Education (2 May 1986 to 6 June 1989).

1987 Nancy Guptill (Lib.), Councillor, was elected to represent the District of Fifth Prince in the 14 September 1987 Provincial By-Election.

1988 Catherine Callbeck (Lib) Member of Parliament, was elected to represent the Federal District of Malpeque in the 21 November 1988 Federal Election.

1989 Leone Bagnall (P.C.), Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election.

Betty Jean Brown (Lib.), Assemblyman, was reelected to represent the District of Third Queens in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election.

Nancy Guptill, (Lib.) Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of Fifth Prince in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Tourism and Parks (6 June 1989 to 14 November 1991).

Libbe Hubley (Lib.), Councillor, was elected to represent the District of Fourth Prince in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election.

Roberta Hubley (Lib.), Councillor, was elected to represent the District of Third Kings in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Labour (22 June 1989 to 14 November 1991).

Rose Marie MacDonald (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of Fifth Kings in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election.

Marion Murphy (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 29 May 1989 Provincial General Election.

1990 Marion Reid was appointed as the first female Lieutenant Governor for Prince Edward Island on 16 August 1990.

Pat Mella, on 10 November 1990 became the first female Leader of a provincial political party, namely, The Progressive Conservative Party of Prince Edward Island (1990-1996).

1991 Nancy Guptill was appointed Minister of Labour (14 November 1991 to 5 April 1993).

Roberta Hubley was appointed Minister of Energy and Forestry (14 November 1991 to 15 April 1993).

1993 Catherine Callbeck (Lib.), became Leader of the Liberal Party making her the first female Premier for Prince Edward Island.

1993 Catherine Callbeck (Lib.), Councillor, was elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election. Catherine Callbeck became the first elected female Premier and President of Executive Council on 25 January 1993, in Prince Edward Island as well as the first elected female Premier in Canada.

Nancy Guptill (Lib.), Councillor, was reelected to represent the District of Fifth Prince in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election. On April 15, 1993, Nancy Guptill was sworn in as Speaker of the Provincial Legislative Assembly (1993-1996).

Libbe Hubley (Lib.), Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of Fourth Prince in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election. On 7 June 1993, Libbe Hubley became the Deputy Speaker of the Provincial Legislative Assembly (1993-1996)

Roberta Hubley (Lib.), Councillor, was re-elected to represent the District of Third Kings in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election.

Jeannie Lea (Lib.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of Sixth Queens in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister without Portfolio (15 April 1993 to 21 May 1996).

Pat Mella (P.C.), Assemblyman, was elected to represent the District of Third Queens in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election. Leader of the Official Opposition from 1993 to 1996.

Rose Marie MacDonald (Lib.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of Fifth Kings in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election.

Marion Murphy (Lib.), Assemblyman, was re-elected to represent the District of First Queens in the 29 March 1993 Provincial General Election.

1996 The General Election of 18 November 1996 was run under the new 27 single districts; thereby ending the 16 dual ridings which had been in existence since 1966.

Nancy Guptill (Lib.), was reelected to represent District No. 22 St. Eleanors-Summerside in the 18 November 1996 Provincial General Election. She resigned on 14 September 1999

Pat Mella (P.C.), was reelected to represent District No. 7 Glen Stewart-Bellevue Cove in the 18 November 1996 Provincial General Election. Appointed Provincial Treasurer (27 November 1996)

Mildred Dover (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 8 Tracadie-Fort Augustus in the 18 November 1996 Provincial General Election. Appointed Minister of Health and Social Services (27 November 1996).

Beth MacKenzie (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 18 Park Corner-Oyster Bed in the 18 November 1996 Provincial General Election.

2000 Pat Mella (P.C.), was reelected to represent District No. 7 Glen Stewart-Bellevue Cove in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election. Pat Mella was reappointed Provincial Treasurer (1 May 2000).

Mildred Dover (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 8 Tracadie-Fort Augustus in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election. Mildred Dover was sworn in as Speaker of the Provincial Legislative Assembly (11 May 2000).

Beth MacKenzie (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 18 Park Corner-Oyster Bed in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election.

Helen MacDonald (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 22 St. Eleanors-Summerside in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election.

Eva Rodgeron (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 25 West Point - Bloomfield in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election.

Gail Shea (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 27 Tignish-DeBlois in the 17 April 2000 Provincial General Election. Gail Shea was appointed Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs (1 May 2000).

2003 Mildred Dover (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 8 Tracadie-Fort Augustus in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election. Mildred Dover was sworn in as Minister of Education (9 October 2003 and in October 2004 she also became Attorney General, the first woman to be appointed to this position in Prince Edward Island).

Carolyn Bertram (LIB) was elected to represent District No. 17 Crapaud-Hazel Grove in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election.

Beth MacKenzie (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 18 Park Corner-Oyster Bed in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election.

Helen MacDonald (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 22 St. Eleanors Summerside in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election.

Eva Rodgerson (P.C.) was re-elected to represent District No. 25 West Point - Bloomfield in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election.

Gail Shea (P.C.) was elected to represent District No. 27 Tignish-DeBlois in the 29 September 2003 Provincial General Election. Gail Shea was appointed Minister of Transportation and Public Works (9 October 2003 to present).

2006 Olive Crane (P.C.) was elected to represent Morell-Fortune Bay District No. 2 on 20 March 2006 following the resignation of Kevin MacAdam (P.C.).

2007 Cynthia Dunsford (LIB) was elected to represent Stratford-Kinlock District No. 6 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election.

Olive Crane (P.C.) was elected to represent Morell-Mermaid District No. 7 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election.

Kathleen Casey (LIB) was elected to represent Charlottetown-Lewis Point District No. 14 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election. Kathleen Casey was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on 6 July 2007

Valerie Docherty (LIB) was elected to represent Kellys Cross-Cumberland District No. 17 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election. Valerie Docherty was appointed as Minister of Tourism, and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women on 12 June 2007.

Carolyn Bertram (LIB) was elected to represent Emerald-Rustico District No. 18 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election. Carolyn Bertram was appointed Minister of Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour on 12 June 2007. On 13 January 2010 Carolyn Bertram was appointed Minister of Health and Wellness.

Janice Sherry (LIB) was elected to represent Summerside-Wilmot District No. 21 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election. On 13 January 2010, Janice Sherry was appointed Minister of Community Services, Seniors and Labour.

Paula Biggar (LIB) was elected to represent Tyne Valley-Linkletter District No. 23 in the 28 May 2007 provincial general election. Paula Biggar was elected as Deputy Speaker on July 6, 2007.

2011 Olive Crane (P.C.) was elected to represent Morell-Mermaid District No. 7 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election.

Kathleen Casey (LIB) was elected to represent Charlottetown-Lewis Point District No. 14 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election.

Valerie Docherty (LIB) was elected to represent Kellys Cross-Cumberland District No. 17 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election. On 18 October 2011 Valerie Docherty was appointed as Minister of Community Services, Seniors and Labour and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women.

Carolyn Bertram (LIB) was elected to represent Emerald-Rustico District No. 18 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election. On November 1, 2011 Carolyn Bertram was acclaimed Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Janice Sherry (LIB) was re-elected to represent Summerside-Wilmot District No. 21 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election. On 18 October 2011 Janice Sherry was appointed Minister of Community Services, Seniors and Labour.

Paula Biggar (LIB) was elected to represent Tyne Valley-Linkletter District No. 23 in the 3 October 2011 provincial general election. On November 1, 2011 Paula Biggar returned to her post as Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

2015 Paula Biggar (LIB) was elected to represent Tyne Valley-Linkletter District No. 23 in the May 4, 2015 provincial general election. Paula Biggar was appointed to cabinet on May 20, 2015 as the Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Kathleen Casey (LIB) was re-elected to represent Charlottetown – Lewis Point District No 14 and appointed as Deputy Speaker of the House. Kathleen Casey announced her retirement at the end of this term and will not re-offer in the next provincial election.

Darlene Compton (PC) was elected to represent Belfast – Murray River District No. 4 in the May 4, 2015 provincial election. Darlene became the Opposition House Leader.

Tina Mundy (LIB) was elected to represent Summerside – St Eleanors District No. 22 in the May 4, 2015 Provincial election. On January 7, 2016, Tina Mundy was appointed to cabinet as Minister of Family and Human Services.

Janice Sherry (LIB) was re-elected to represent Summerside – Wilmot District No. 21 in the May 4, 2015 provincial election. Janice Sherry resigned in August of 2016 and brought a by-election to the district on October 17, 2016, with Chris Palmer (LIB) being elected to replace Janice Sherry.

2017 Hannah Bell (Green) was elected as the MLA for District 11: Charlottetown-Parkdale in a by-election on November 27, 2017. She also serves as the Green Party Finance Critic.

2019 The April 23, 2019 provincial general election found 6 women elected to the Legislative Assembly of PEI.

Darlene Compton (PC) was re-elected District 4 Belfast – Murray River.

Michele Beaton (G) was elected in District 5 Mermaid – Stratford.

Hannah Bell (G) was re-elected District 11 Charlottetown – Belvedere.

Karla Bernard (G) was elected in District 12 Charlottetown – Victoria Park.

Lynne Lund (G) was elected in District 21 Summerside – Wilmot.

Trish Altass (G) was elected to District 23 Summerside – South Drive.

2019 On May 9, 2019, Honourable Darlene Compton, was sworn in as Deputy Premier, Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for Status of Women

2019 July 15, a Deferred Election was held in District 9 Charlottetown-Hillsborough Park to complete the 2019 Provincial General Election. Natalie Jameson (Progressive Conservative) won the election with 43.7% of the vote, becoming the only elected PC to represent an urban district.

2020 February 21, 2020, MLA for District 9 Natalie Jameson was appointed to cabinet as Minister of Environment, Water and Climate, and Minister responsible for the Status of Women

2023 The Provincial General Election on April 3, 2023 found many women registered across all parties.  
Green Party of PEI - 11 of 25 candidates were women. 1 re-elected, Karla Bernard District 12  
Independents - 3 of the 4 Independent candidates were women  
Island Party of PEI - 6 of the 11 candidates were women, including their party leader; Ahava Kalnassy de Kalnas.  
Liberal Party of PEI - 11 of 25 candidates were women, including party leader Sharon Cameron. Following her defeat in District 17, Sharon Cameron resigned as PEI Liberal Leader.  
NDP - 12 of 27 candidates were women, including PEI NDP Party Leader Michele Neill.  
PC Party of PEI - 9 of 27 candidates were women. Darlene Compton Dist 4, and Natalie Jameson Dist 9 were re-elected. Newly elected women to the Legislative Assembly include: Jenn Redmond Dist 5, Jill Burridge Dist 6, Susie Dillon Dist 11 and Barb Ramsay Dist 22.



2023 The following elected women in the PC Government were given Ministerial appoints. May 9, 2023: -Swearing in of a new Cabinet by Her Honour, Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

District 5: Jenn Redmond - Minister of Workforce, Advanced Learning & Population

District 6: Jill Burrige - Minister of Finance

District 9: Natalie Jameson - Minister of Education & Early Years and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

District 22: Barb Ramsay - Minister of Social Development & Seniors

District 4: Darlene Compton: Elected as Speaker of the House

2023 July 20th, Karla Bernard, MLA for District 12 becomes Interim Leader of the Green Party of PEI

*Last updated 2020; Primary Source: [Elections PEI](#); Secondary Sources: Journals of the [Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island](#), [Parliamentary Guide](#), [Executive Council](#) Records.*