## **MANITOBA**

## AN EQUAL VOICE PROVINCE SNAPSHOT, 2025

Manitoba (Man.) has had one woman premier, and its legislature has not yet achieved gender parity by having women make up at least half of its MLAs. The Legislative Assembly of Manitoba seats 57 members, of which 19 are women and gender diverse people (33.3%). Man.'s last election took place in October 2023.



# **Population** 1,494,301



## **Female to Male**

49.4%:50.6%



## **GDP** \$70+ billion

## **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

B.C. has a unicameral legislature, with one chamber: the **the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**. As a parliamentary democracy, B.C. has 93 constituencies which are each represented by an elected **Member of the Legislative Assembly** (MLA).

The political party with the most elected MLAs forms government, and their leader becomes the head of government, called the **Premier**. The Premier selects MLAs to serve as Cabinet Ministers.

The Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba is appointed by the Governor General of Canada and represents the King, Canada's Head of State.

## **MILESTONES**

#### 1916

Man. was the first Canadian province or territory to allow women to vote and run for office.

#### 1920

Edith Rogers was the first woman MLA elected in Man.

### 1963

Thelma Forbes was the first woman Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Man.

### 1966

Thelma Forbes was the first woman named to Cabinet in Man.



# CURRENT EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION

(as of Mar 2025)

**Premier:** Wab Kinew (M)

Assumed Office: 18 Oct. 2023 Party:

New Democratic Party of Man.

18 Cabinet Members

7 women (38.9%): 10 men (55.6%):

1 non-binary person (5.6%)

# Notable portfolios currently held by women:

- Deputy Premier
- Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care
- Labour and Immigration
- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Education and Early Childhood

## **CURRENT LEGISLATURE**

(as of Sep 2025)

57 MLAs total

20 women (35.1%): 36 men (63.2%): 1

non-binary person (1.8%)

### **MLAS PER PARTY**

**B.C. New Democratic Party:** 34 MLAs 14 women (41.2%) : 19 men (55.9%) : 1 non-binary person (2.9%)

Progressive Conservative Party of Man: 21 MLAs - 5 women (23.8%): 16 men (76.2%)

Man. Liberal Party: 1 MLA

1 woman (100%) : 0 men (0%)

Independent MLAs: 1 man

## 1981

Pearl McGonigal was the first woman to be appointed Lieutenant Governor of Man.

#### 1984

Sharon Carstairs was the first woman to lead a Man. political party.

## 1989

Sharon Carstairs was the first woman Leader of the Opposition in Man.

### 2007

Flor Marcelino was the first woman of colour MLA elected in Man. In 2009, Marcelino was also the first woman of colour named to Cabinet in the province.

## 2009

Rosann Wowchuk was the first woman Minister of Finance in Man.

## 2021

Heather Stefanson was the first woman premier of Man

### 2021

Man.'s 2023 election saw a record number of women and gender diverse people win seats in the province's legislature, with 19 women and gender diverse MLAs out of 57 (33.3%). This is the highest proportion of women and gender diverse MLAs in Man.'s history

## **PAST PREMIERS**

(as of Mar 2025)

25 Premiers since 1870 1 women : 24 men

Heather Stefanson: 2 Nov. 2021

- 18 Oct. 2023



## LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

(as of Mar 2025)

26 Lieutenant Governors since 1870

3 women: 23 men

**Current Lieutenant Governor:** 

Anita R. Neville (W)

Equal Voice is a registered charity dedicated to improving gender representation in Canadian politics. As part of this mission, we have launched the Canada Snapshots series to highlight the current status of women's political representation in Canada, showing both how far we have come and how far we have left to go to achieve gender parity. For references, corrections or additional information, please contact Equal Voice at **info@equalvoice.ca**.