

## STÉPHANE DION

Stéphane Dion was Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs between 1996 and 2003, longer than any other Canadian since Confederation. In that capacity, he was instrumental in bringing countless federal-provincial negotiations to fruition and played a major role in the promotion of Canadian unity. As Minister also responsible for Official Languages, he crafted a renewal plan that was very well received in the community.

As Minister of the Environment from 2004 to 2005, he secured one of the greenest budgets in the history of Canada and contributed to the rescue of the Kyoto Protocol while chairing the UN Conference on Climate Change, held in Montreal in 2005.

In 2006, having been elected as Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada and having become Leader of the Official Opposition in the House of Commons, he proposed a visionary plan to make Canada richer, fairer and greener. Following the 2008 election, he retained his seat as Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent-Cartierville, a seat he has won seven times in a row since 1996.

Before entering politics, Stéphane Dion taught Political Science, first at Université de Moncton in 1984, then at Université de Montréal from 1984 to 1995. He has authored many publications.

Born in Quebec City, he studied at Université Laval before obtaining a Doctorate in Sociology from the Institut d'études politiques in Paris, France. He was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the Carlos III University of Madrid. He was the recipient of the 2011 Couchiching Award for Public Policy Leadership and sits on the External Advisory Board of the *Yale Climate and Energy Institute*.

At the present time, he chairs the Liberal Caucus Legislative Committee and acts as Liberal Critic for Intergovernmental Affairs and the Queen's Privy Council of Canada, Democratic Reform, Official Languages and La Francophonie. Additionally, he is the Liberal Representative on the Sub-Committee on Private Members Business.