

ELIZABETH MAY IS CANADA'S PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE YEAR

*As selected by Members of Parliament who participated in the
PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS survey*

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Ottawa – Elizabeth May, the Green Party Member of Parliament for Saanich – Gulf Islands, and the leader of the Green Party of Canada, has been named Canada's Parliamentarian of the Year by her House of Commons peers in the sixth annual survey of Canada's 305 sitting Members of Parliament (MPs). The study was conducted by Ipsos-Reid on behalf of *Maclean's* in partnership with the The Historica-Dominion Institute and *L'Actualité*, and is designed to honour the public service of Canada's parliamentarians.

Based on the scoring system outlined below May received 32 points to win Parliamentarian of the Year. The two runners-up for this award are Bob Rae (Liberal) at 31 points and Rodger Cuzner (Liberal) at 20 points.

The objective of the survey was to allow all MPs the opportunity to recognize and honour their peers across party lines for their performance in the House of Commons and in fulfilling their duties as Members of Parliament.

In addition to the parliamentarian of the year award, awards were given to members winning in each of six categories: hardest working; best orator; best at representing their constituents; most collegial; most knowledgeable about the issues of the day; and rising star.

The winners and runners-up within each category are identified in the table below.

<i>Parliamentarian of the year</i>	
May, Elizabeth (GREEN)	32 points
<i>First runner-up: Rae, Bob (LIB)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Cuzner, Rodger (LIB)</i>	
<i>Hardest Working</i>	
Duncan, Kirsty (LIB)	9 points
<i>First runner-up: Chow, Olivia (NDP)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Kenney, Jason (CP)</i>	
<i>Best Orator</i>	
Rae, Bob (LIB)	10 points
<i>First runner-up: Angus, Charlie (NDP)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Baird, John (CP)</i>	
<i>Most Collegial</i>	
Stoffer, Peter (NDP)	9 points
<i>First runner-up: Cuzner, Rodger (LIB)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Duncan, Kirsty (NDP)</i>	
<i>Most Knowledgeable</i>	
Harper, Stephen (CP)	5 points
<i>First runner-up: Julien, Peter (NDP)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Comartin, Joe (NDP)</i>	
<i>Best Represents Constituents</i>	
Ashton, Niki (NDP)	5 points
<i>First runner-up: Gallant, Cheryl (CP)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Hyer, Bruce (Ind)</i>	
<i>Rising Star</i>	
Rempel, Michelle (CP)	9 points
<i>First runner-up: Hsu, Ted (LIB)</i>	
<i>Second runner-up: Boulerice, Alexandre (NDP)</i>	

Methodology

There are 305 MPs currently sitting in the House of Commons and 209 MPs participated in the survey as indicated in the following table:

Party	Membership in House	Members Responding	Response Rate
Conservative Party of Canada	163	98	60%
New Democratic Party	100	77	77%
Liberal Party of Canada	35	31	89%
Bloc Quebecois	4	1	25%
Green Party	1	1	100%
Independent Conservative	1	1	0%
Independent	1	1	100%
Total	307	209	68%

Each MP was asked to name the first and second choice MPs within their own party and the first and second choice members outside of their party in seven categories, including: hardest working; best orator; best at representing constituents; most collegial; most knowledgeable about the issues of the day; rising star; and best overall. Please note that the determination of the best Member of Parliament was not based on responses to the “best overall” category alone, but was based on an aggregate scoring system (see below) that tallied the points members received across all categories.

To ensure that parties with more elected MPs or those parties with higher participation in the study would not dominate the selection process a scoring system was used. Members within each party were ranked on the basis of the votes they received both within and outside of their party. Within each category 30 points were allocated among the five members within each party receiving the greatest total number of votes with 15 points allocated for votes received within their party, and 15 points allocated for votes received outside of their party.



Points were awarded in proportion to the number of votes received. The winner within each category is awarded on the basis of the highest number of points. The winner of Parliamentarian of the Year was awarded on the basis of the highest number of total points across all categories. No member could win in more than one category; in cases where a member earned the highest number of points in more than a single category, the award was given in the category where the member earned the greatest number of points. In addition, a member had to receive at least 10 votes in total to be eligible to receive points. Ties were broken on the basis of total first place votes.

For members whose parties were not large enough to allow for within the party voting, a weighting scheme was added to account for their position based on out of party votes. The members total points for out of party votes was multiplied by the proportion of total points awarded for that category by all MPs (15 points) in order to arrive at the number of points that that MP receives for "inside the party". This method was used for the Bloc MPs, the Green Party and the two independent members. Based on this the additional points could not advance the MP more than one place in the ranking for that question.

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