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Jeanne Sauvé invested as Canada's twenty-third governor general

Jeanne Sauvé, former Cabinet minister, member of parliament and Speaker of the House of Commons, was invested May 14th as Canada's twenty-third governor general. She is the first woman to hold the position.

Mrs. Sauvé, 62, succeeds former Governor General Edward Schreyer who has been appointed Canada's High Commissioner to Australia.



Governor General Jeanne Sauvé and her husband Maurice travel from Parliament Hill to Government House in a horse-drawn landau.

In his remarks to the Senate chamber, Prime Minister Trudeau described the installation of the first woman governor general as a momentous event. He called her appointment a welcome evolution in society.

The time is appropriate, he said, because modern society is increasingly aware that women's qualities of mind and heart are every bit as valuable as men's, and a fresh approach is needed to establish a more humane society.

"The time is appropriate", he continued, "especially because, for some years now, outstanding women have been challenging and conquering old taboos. With skill and determination, they have won access to the highest positions in the land.

"By freeing themselves from the restrictions that circumscribed their situation, they have inspired us to shake off our old prejudices and practices."

The Prime Minister cited the various pioneers of women's rights, including Emily Murphy and Nellie McClung, and noted Mrs. Sauvé's own 'firsts' as Speaker of the Commons and governor general.

Unity, peace set as goals

In a speech delivered after her swearing-in as governor general, Mrs. Sauvé devoted most of her address to setting out the ideals she will commit herself to during her five-year term.

"I follow in the footsteps of the multitude of women who have served as the inspiration, and to a large degree, the artisans of this nation; those women by whose hands we have prospered and for whose spirit we have been praised," she said "In the days and weeks ahead, I will commit my efforts to the promotion of the ideals of unity, brotherhood and peace . . .

"Despite our varied ethnic and racial origins, we are Canadians determined to carry on the building of a great nation," she continued. "We must go beyond even this ambition and aspire to set an example for the world by a deep involvement in global reconstruction, a reconstruction whose final objective is peace.

"Peace is the ultimate goal from which we cannot digress as long as the world is inhabited by starving, mistreated people who are victims of the selfishness, indifference and even cruelty of others. Peace should be our rallying cry, our foremost cause and the most compelling objective of our common action.

"Our commitment to peace must govern our state of mind and determine our ap-

External Affairs Canada

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