
JEANNE SAUVÉ

HER EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

Madame Jeanne Sauvé, born in Prud'homme, Saskatchewan, April 26, 1922, received her secondary education from the Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire Convent in Ottawa, and subsequently attended the University of Ottawa. She was granted a diploma in French Civilisation from the Université de Paris in 1952.

From 1942 to 1947, Jeanne Sauvé was the National President of the Jeunesse Étudiante Catholique movement. In 1947, she founded the Fédération des mouvements de jeunesse du Québec and from 1948 to 1950, she studied Economics in London, England and taught French for the London City Council. In 1951 she worked as Assistant to the Director of the Youth Department of UNESCO in Paris.

Returning to Canada in 1952, she began a 20-year career as a freelance broadcaster and journalist with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and La Société Radio-Canada.

In 1972, Jeanne Sauvé was elected as a Liberal Member of Parliament for Ahuntsic (Montreal) and appointed Minister of State in charge of Science and Technology. She was re-elected in July 1974 and given the Environment portfolio; on December 5, 1975, she was appointed Minister of Communications, together with special responsibilities for Canada's relations with French-speaking countries.

She was again re-elected as a Member of Parliament for Laval-des-Rapides in May 1979, and as member of the Official Opposition, chaired the Committee on Culture and Communications and served as the Official Opposition Communications critic. Madame Sauvé was elected Speaker of the House of Commons in April 1980, a position which she held until January 14, 1984.

On December 23, 1983, the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé was appointed the 23rd Governor General; the first woman to hold the position. She was invested on May 14, 1984.

Madame Sauvé is married to the Honourable Maurice Sauvé and has one son, Jean-François, born July 30, 1959.

