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## Canada's new Secretary of State for External Affairs

Allan J. MacEachen, President of the Privy Council and Government House Leader since 1970, was appointed by Prime Minister Trudeau as Canada's new Secretary of State for External Affairs on August 8. He replaces Mitchell Sharp, who is now in Mr. MacEachen's former portfolio.

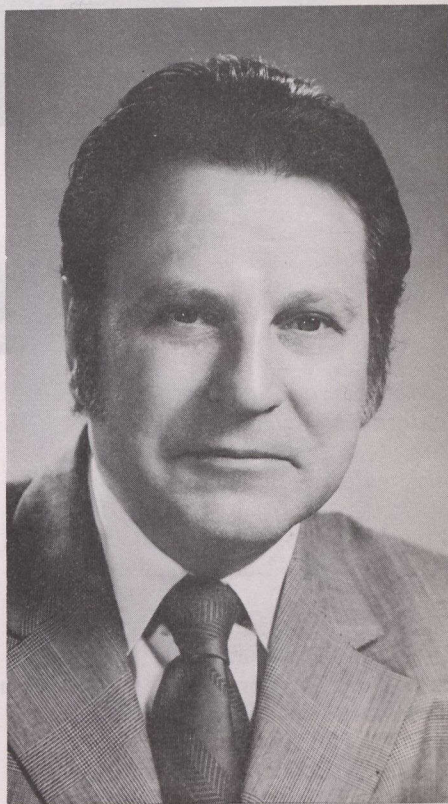


Photo John Evans

*Allan J. MacEachen, Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

Mr. MacEachen was born in Inverness, Nova Scotia on July 6, 1921, the son of Angus MacEachen and Annie Gillis.

Educated in Inverness schools, and at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S., where he received his B.A., he received an M.A. from the University of Toronto, and did post graduate studies in economics and industrial relations at the University of Chicago and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

He became professor of economics at St. F.X. at the age of 25, and from 1948 to 1951, he was head of the university's Department of Economics and

Social Science. During this period, he also directed the People's School and adult education program sponsored by the university's Extension department.

Mr. MacEachen first entered federal politics in 1953, when he was elected member for Inverness-Richmond, his home constituency. He was re-elected in 1957, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1968, 1972 and 1974.

From 1958 to 1962, he worked in Ottawa as special assistant (for economic affairs) in the office of the late former Prime Minister L.B. Pearson, who was at that time the Leader of the Official Opposition.

Following the election of a Liberal Government in April 1963, the new External Affairs Minister was appointed Minister of Labour. In this portfolio, Mr. MacEachen piloted the Canada Labour Code through Parliament and brought about the settlement of a long-standing Great Lakes labour dispute.

## Social security work

Mr. MacEachen was appointed Minister of National Health and Welfare in December 1965, and during his tenure, a series of major programs in the field of social security were brought forward and passed by Parliament. These included the Canada Assistance Act, the Health Resources Fund, Medicare and the Guaranteed Income Supplement for old-age security recipients.

Mr. MacEachen was Government House Leader in 1967-68 and served as chairman of the committee on the reform of parliamentary procedure. This committee produced a series of wide-ranging reforms that became the basis of a major updating of the rules and procedures of Canada's Parliament.

After his re-election in the general election of June 25, 1968, in the new Nova Scotia constituency of Cape Breton Highlands-Canso, Mr. MacEachen was appointed Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

He served as Manpower and Immigration Minister until September four years ago, when he was named President of the Privy Council and Government House Leader.