

BIOGRAPHY



Elizabeth May

Name: Elizabeth May

Party: Green Party

Riding: Saanich–Gulf Islands

Language: English



Connection to MS:

- Personally knows Lynn Hunter, former Chair, BC Government Relations Committee for the MS Society, former MP for Victoria, BC
- Has friends affected by MS
- Met with MS Society Representatives on May 2, 2016 for Day on the Hill Campaign
- Met with MS Society Representatives on May 2, 2017 for Day on the Hill Campaign
- Attended the 2017 Day on the Hill Reception

Bio:

- Elizabeth May has sponsored Bills:
 - C-387 Via Rail Canada Act
 - C-269 An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (sentencing) and to make consequential amendments to another Act
 - C-259 Open Science Act
- Elizabeth May has sponsored Private Members' Motions:
 - M-48 Yemen
 - M-23 Criminal justice policies
 - M-14 Environmental regulations
- An environmentalist, author, activist, and lawyer, May served as the Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada from 1989 to 2006
- On May 2, 2011, she became the first member of the Green Party of Canada to be elected as a Member of Parliament
- May is an Earth Charter International Commission member
- May has a long record as a committed advocate for social justice, for the environment, for human rights, and for economic pragmatic solutions
- She first became known in the Canadian media in the mid-1970s through her leadership as a volunteer in the grassroots movement against proposed aerial insecticide spraying on forests near her home on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

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- Associate General Counsel for the Public Interest Advocacy Centre
- She was the first volunteer Executive Director of Cultural Survival Canada from 1989–1992 and worked for the Algonquin of Barriere Lake from 1991–1992
- In 1986, May became Senior Policy Advisor to then federal Environment Minister, Tom McMillan of the Progressive Conservatives
- In 1988, she resigned on principle when the Minister granted permits for the Rafferty-Alameda Dams in Saskatchewan because of no environmental assessment
- She has taught courses at Queen's University School of Policy Studies, as well as teaching for a year at Dalhousie University to develop the programme established in her name in Women's Health and Environment
- She holds three honorary doctorates from Mount Saint Vincent University, Mount Allison, and the University of New Brunswick
- In June 2006, May stepped down as Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada, a post she had held since 1989, to run for the leadership of the Green Party of Canada
- In 2005, she was named an Officer of the Order of Canada, and in November 2010, Newsweek magazine named her "one of the world's most influential women."