For the first time in British Columbia’s parliamentary history, three women currently hold the most senior positions in our legislature.

Hon. Judith Guichon, OBC, was sworn in as British Columbia’s 29th Lieutenant Governor on November 2, 2012. As the Queen’s representative in British Columbia, she upholds the province’s constitutional framework.

Hon. Christy Clark was sworn in for her second term as Premier of British Columbia on June 10, 2013 and was elected as the MLA for Westside-Kelowna in a by-election on July 10, 2013. The Premier is the head of the provincial government.

Hon. Linda Reid was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on June 26, 2013. First elected in 1991, Madame Speaker is currently the longest-serving Member of British Columbia’s Legislative Assembly.
Women’s History Month has been celebrated in Canada each October since 1992

In honour of Women’s History Month, this display highlights seven women from British Columbia who achieved significant ‘firsts’ for women in Parliament. These achievements would not have been possible without the success of the women’s suffrage movement.

Mary Ellen Smith (second row), pictured with Members of the 14th Parliament, was the first woman elected to B.C.’s Legislative Assembly.

Nancy Hodges, an editor and daily columnist, became the first female Speaker in the Commonwealth.

Tilly Jean Rolston (fourth from left) was the first female cabinet minister with a portfolio in Canada.