



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LEADER  
**ANNAMIE PAUL**

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## **Shadow Cabinet Critic Portfolios**

*Applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Green Party of Canada's policies related to their chosen portfolio(s). Below are brief descriptions of each Critic's respective area of responsibility, along with links to information regarding activities included in the role for Critics that directly shadow a government Minister.*

*This document should be read in conjunction with the [\*\*Shadow Cabinet Job Description\*\*](#) where more details can be found regarding the duties and activities of all Critics.*

[\*\*Critic for Agriculture\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Arts, Culture, and Heritage\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Climate Change\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Democratic Reform\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Diversity and Inclusion\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for the Environment\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Finance\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Fisheries and Oceans\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Health\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Immigration and Refugee Issues\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Innovation\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for International Affairs and Defence\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Justice\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Municipal Affairs\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Rural Revitalization\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Seniors\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Transport\*\*](#)

[\*\*Critic for Youth\*\*](#)



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### **Critic for Agriculture**

The Critic for Agriculture shadows the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, who is responsible for the department that oversees the production, processing, and marketing of all farm, food, and agri-based products. Organizations such as the Canadian Dairy Commission, the Canadian Grain Commission, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency are included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and the responsibilities of [Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada](#).

### **Critic for Arts, Culture, and Heritage**

The Critic for Arts, Culture, and Heritage shadows the Minister of Canadian Heritage, who is responsible for promoting and supporting Canadian identity and values, cultural development, and heritage, and oversees the Department of Canadian Heritage. Areas in this portfolio include the arts, multiculturalism, the advancement of official bilingualism, sport, and national museums.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Canadian Heritage [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and the [Department of Canadian Heritage's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Climate Change**

The Critic for Climate Change shadows the Minister of Environment and Climate Change with regards to activities pertaining to climate change,



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including energy and climate policy, the conservation of Canada's renewable resources, and international climate change issues. Certain areas within the Department of the Environment and Climate Change are included in this portfolio, as are the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. This role requires a whole of government approach, working to identify all the ways in which government policy can promote climate objectives.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Environment and Climate Change [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Democratic Reform**

The Critic for Democratic Reform's portfolio includes areas pertaining to the integrity and strength of Canada's democratic institutions. This includes government oversight, transparency, structures for inter-governmental collaboration, and proposals for electoral system reform that ensure fairness in democratic processes. This Critic role supports the Green Party's commitment to Participatory Democracy and Electoral Reform.

### **Critic for Diversity and Inclusion**

The Critic for Diversity and Inclusion shadows the Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth, who oversees multiculturalism, anti-racism efforts, the protection of LGBTQ2S people's rights, and investments in employment opportunities and equal rights for women, racialized communities, and people living with disabilities. Activities pertaining to these areas within the Department of Canadian Heritage are included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth



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[Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and the [Department of Canadian Heritage's mandate](#).

### **Critic for the Environment**

The Critic for the Environment shadows the Minister of Environment and Climate Change with regards to activities that pertain to the federal government's environmental policies and programs and the preservation of the quality of the natural environment. Included in the portfolio are areas within the Department of the Environment and Climate Change, as well as Parks Canada, which is tasked with protecting and presenting Canada's natural and cultural heritage for present and future generations.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Environment and Climate Change [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Environment and Climate Change Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Finance**

The Critic for Finance shadows the Minister of Finance who is responsible for the federal government's annual budget and oversees the Department of Finance, which develops the fiscal framework for the government and advises on financial and economic issues. Included in this portfolio are agencies such as the Bank of Canada and the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Finance [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and the [Department of Finance Canada's mandate](#).



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### **Critic for Fisheries and Oceans**

The Critic for Fisheries and Oceans shadows the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, who oversees the fishing industry and all navigable waterways in the country. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the department that supports Canada's economic, ecological, and scientific interests in oceans and inland waters, and the Canadian Coast Guard are also included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Fisheries and Oceans Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Health**

The Critic for Health shadows the Minister of Health, who is responsible for maintaining and improving the health of all Canadians. Government agencies such as Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada are included in this portfolio, as is the *Canada Health Act*, the law that governs Canada's universal health care system. The Minister of Health also oversees the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and Patented Medicine Prices Review Board.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Health [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Health Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Immigration and Refugee Issues**

The Critic for Immigration and Refugee Issues shadows the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship who is responsible for matters pertaining to immigration in Canada, refugees, and Canadian citizenship. The department responsible for potential temporary and permanent residents of



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Canada, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, is included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Innovation**

The Critic for Innovation shadows the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry who is responsible for fostering a growing, competitive, and knowledge-based economy. This portfolio includes trade, investment, innovation, and enterprise growth, as well as the federal departments Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and Statistics Canada.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for International Affairs and Defence**

The Critic for International Affairs and Defence shadows the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who oversees the Canadian Government's international relations and is responsible for Global Affairs Canada, the department that manages diplomatic and consular relations, international trade, and humanitarian assistance. This portfolio also includes the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, and the International Development Research Centre. The Critic for International Affairs and Defence also shadows the Minister of National Defence, who is responsible for



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the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces, and for overseeing all matters pertaining to the national defence of Canada.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Foreign Affairs [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), the Minister of National Defence [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#); and [Global Affairs Canada's](#) mandate and [National Defence Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Justice**

The Critic for Justice shadows the Minister of Justice and Attorney General who oversees the Department of Justice with the objective of ensuring that the justice system is fair, relevant, and accessible to all Canadians.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Justice and Attorney General [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Department of Justice Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Municipal Affairs**

The Critic for Municipal Affairs' portfolio includes all areas related to the role of municipalities within Canada. This includes the funds allocated to municipalities, as well as issues of municipalities' representation and decision-making power in governmental institutions. This Critic role shadows a variety of Ministries that impact the activities of municipal governments, such as transportation, health, rural and economic development for example.



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### **Critic for Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs**

The Critic for Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs shadows the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and the Minister of Northern Affairs, who are responsible for renewing the nation-to-nation, Inuit-Crown, government-to-government relationship between the Crown and First Nations, Inuit and Métis; modernizing Government of Canada structures to enable Indigenous peoples to build capacity and support their vision of self-determination; and leading the Government of Canada's work in the North. This Critic also shadows the Minister of Indigenous Services, who works collaboratively with partners to improve access to high quality services for First Nations, Inuit and Métis. Included in this portfolio are the federal departments of Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and Indigenous Services Canada.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#); the Minister of Northern Affairs [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#); the Minister of Indigenous Services [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#); and [Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's mandate](#) and [Indigenous Services Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Rural Revitalization**

The Critic for Rural Revitalization shadows the Minister of Rural Economic Development, who is responsible for meeting the needs of rural Canadians. Included in this portfolio is the economic and social development of rural communities in Canada, including connectivity, infrastructure, labour, housing, economic diversification, and adaptation to climate change.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Rural Economic Development





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[Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Rural Economic Development Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Seniors**

The Critic for Seniors shadows the Minister of Seniors, who is responsible for enhancing the well-being and quality of life of Canadian seniors. Included in this portfolio are income support programs such as the Old Age Security program, Canada's largest pension program, and the Canada Pension Plan, which provides retirement, disability, and survivor benefits. The Minister of Seniors also oversees Employment and Social Development Canada, one of the largest departments in the Canadian Government.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Seniors [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Employment and Social Development Canada's mandate](#).

### **Critic for Transport**

The Critic for Transport shadows the Minister of Transport, who oversees Transport Canada, the department responsible for developing policies, regulations, and services of rail, road, marine, and air transportation in Canada. Canada Post is also included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Transport [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and [Transport Canada's mandate](#).



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**Critic for Youth**

The Critic for Youth shadows the Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth, who oversees the creation of meaningful opportunities and programs for youth to succeed. Areas pertaining to youth within the Department of Canadian Heritage are included in this portfolio.

For additional information regarding areas and activities included in this portfolio, please consult the Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth [Mandate Letter](#) and [Supplementary Mandate Letter](#), and the [Department of Canadian Heritage's mandate](#).