



Photo courtesy of Senate of Canada

The Hon. Yonah Martin, P.C.

Yonah Martin, our first Korean-Canadian parliamentarian, is Deputy Leader of the Senate Opposition (November 2015). She has also served as the Senate's Deputy Leader of the Government (2013-2015) and Deputy Whip (2011-2013).

Co-chair of the Canada-Korea Inter-Parliamentary Group since 2009, she co-founded both the International Parliamentary Coalition for Victims of Sexual Slavery (IPCVSS) and the C3 Korean Canadian Society.

Her Senate achievements include the Korean War Veterans Day Act (2013); addition of acupuncturists to the list of health professionals exempt from the GST/HST (2014); and implementation of the historic Canada Korea Free Trade Agreement (January 2016).

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Yonah immigrated to Canada in 1972. She holds a B.Ed (1987) and an M.Ed (Curriculum & Instruction, 1996) from the University of British Columbia. A teacher for 21 years (1987-2008) before her appointment to the Senate, Yonah has won international recognition for her human rights initiatives. A Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal recipient (2012), she is among 100 Canadians to be featured in *MacLean's* "Canada's Stories" (for 1965, her birth year), a celebration of the magazine's 100th anniversary.

