

## A timeline of highlights from former PM Pearson's civil service, diplomatic, and political career

- 1915 - Pearson enlists to fight in WWI.
- 1945 - Pearson named Canadian Ambassador to the United States.
- 1948 - Establishment of NATO: Pearson played a key role in the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a military alliance aimed at countering the spread of communism in Europe.
- 1948 – Pearson is appointed Minister of External Affairs.
- 1948 - Under the guidance of Pearson, as Canada's Minister of External Affairs, Canada decides originally to abstain from, and then eventually support, the ratification of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
- 1950-1953 - Korean War: Pearson's diplomatic efforts during the Korean War, especially his role in organizing a UN force, contributed to his international reputation.
- 1955 – Pearson was the first Western foreign minister to visit the Soviet Union after the death of Stalin.
- 1956 - Hungarian Revolution: Pearson calls for a UN mission to Hungary to secure their right to establish a free and democratic government.
- 1956 - Suez Crisis: As Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Pearson proposed the idea of a United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) to resolve the Suez Crisis, earning him the Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1957 - Pearson wins the Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1957 - Auto Pact: Pearson's government negotiated the Canada-US Automotive Products Agreement, also known as the Auto Pact, which helped integrate the North American auto industry.
- 1960 - Pearson's wife, Maryon is an honorary member of Voice of Women (VOW). She and her husband are publicly against nuclear weapons in Canada.
- 1960 - UN General Assembly Speech: Pearson delivered a historic speech at the UN General Assembly, proposing the creation of a peacekeeping force in response to the Congo Crisis.
- 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis: Pearson supports US actions while he is leader of the Liberals in opposition.
- 1963 – Pearson is elected Prime Minister.
- 1963 - Under PM Pearson, Canada allows Canadian missiles to be armed with nuclear warheads.
- 1965 - Voting Rights Act: Pearson publicly supported Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement in the United States.
- 1965 - Canadian Flag: Pearson's government introduced the new Canadian flag, commonly known as the Maple Leaf.
- 1966 - Vietnam War: Pearson spoke out against the U.S. escalation in Vietnam and called for a cessation of bombing. Meets with US President Lyndon Johnson - the meeting does not go well.
- 1967 - Pearson played a role in organizing Canada's centennial celebrations. Hosts Queen Elizabeth II.
- 1967 - Pearson reacts to French President Charles de Gaulle shouting separatist slogan in Québec City.
- 1967 February - PM Pearson establishes the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada.
- 1968 - Pearson's government signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.