

# Hon. Kent Hehr

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Bachelor of Law, University of Calgary

2001

Bachelor of Arts (Canadian Studies), University of Calgary

1997

Minister of Veterans Affairs, Government of Canada

November 2015 - Present

Associate Minister of National Defence, Government of Canada

November 2015 - Present

Member of Parliament (Calgary Centre), Parliament of Canada

October 2015 - Present

Member of Legislative Assembly (Calgary Buffalo), Legislature of Alberta

March 2008 – May 2015

Lawyer, Fraser Milner Casgrain (*now Dentons*)

July 2001 – March 2008

Board Member & Past Chair, Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta)

2000 – Present

Rotarian, Downtown Rotary Club (Calgary)

2009 – Present

Board Member, Accessibility Advisory Committee (Calgary)

1998 – 2006

National Education Association of Disabled Students

1993 – 1999

Calgary Canuck Alumni Association

1991 – Present

Flood Community Champion Award – East Village Neighbourhood Association

2013

One of Calgary's 20 Most Compelling Citizens – Calgary Herald

2008

Top 40 under 40 – Avenue Calgary

2006

Graduate of the Last Decade (Gold) – University of Calgary

2005

## Education

## Employment

## Involvement

## Recognition

Twitter:  
@KentHehr

Instagram:  
@kenthehr

Facebook:  
Fb.me/kenthehrj

LinkedIn:  
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# Biography

Kent J. Hehr was born and raised in Calgary. Kent's mom worked as a school principal and his father as the president of the Alberta Teachers' Association, making education and public service part of the fabric of everyday life. Kent took an early interest in sports, especially hockey, with an eye to a career as a phys-ed teacher. In 1989-90 he played with the Calgary Canucks and helped win the Alberta Junior Hockey League Championship. The following year he attended Mount Royal College and played with the Cougars, his stick-handling getting better and better.



Then Kent's life changed forever. In October 1991, while riding in a friend's car, Kent was hit by a drive-by shooter. The injury left him paralyzed. He would never walk again.

Like thousands of Canadians with life-altering spinal cord injuries, Kent's path changed, but his pace didn't. In fact, if anything, it quickened. While still re-learning to use his fingers, Kent studied at the University of Calgary, and received a Bachelor of Canadian Studies followed by a Bachelor of Law in 2001. In recognition of his abilities, commitment and early impact on the

community, the university named Kent its Graduate of the Decade, and one of the 40 top graduates over the last 40 years.

Kent practiced law at the prestigious national firm, Fraser Milner Casgrain (now Dentons), and became an active community leader, working with the United Way and heading the Alberta branch of the Canadian Paraplegic Association. In 2006, he was named Top 40 Under 40 by Calgary Inc. Magazine, and in 2008 Kent was named one of the Calgary Herald's 20 Most Compelling Calgarians to Watch. Later that year he won the race to represent Calgary-Buffalo in the Alberta Legislature, a seat he successfully defended in 2012. In 2015 he was successful in a run to become the Member of Parliament for Calgary Centre. He now proudly serves as the Minister for Veterans Affairs and as the Associate Minister of National Defence – and as the first Liberal from Calgary to sit in Cabinet since 1972.

Kent earned a reputation as one of Alberta's hardest working MLAs. As shadow minister of justice, finance, education and other portfolios, Kent not only held the government to account but also took an active role in creating legislation for Calgary and Alberta's future. Among many other things, Kent has fought for better management of the province's budget and natural resources, sufficient funding for public education, and equal rights for LGBTQ community members. He has become one of the most recognizable faces in Calgary. When not on the campaign trail or spending time with his nephews and partner, Deanna, Kent can often be found at local restaurants and pubs, sharing food and a drink with his beloved constituents.

*All photos on this page are available for free and public use.*

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