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Senator **Diane Bellemare** leaving role on government team in Red Chamber

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Senator **Diane Bellemare** is leaving her job as one of the **government's representatives in the Senate**, her office confirmed today.

Sen. Bellemare (Alma, Que.) has served as the legislative deputy to the **government's representative in the Senate**, Sen. **Peter Harder** (Ottawa, Ont.), since 2016, when she began sitting as an unaffiliated Senator. Prior to that, she sat as a Conservative Senator following her appointment to the Chamber by prime minister **Stephen Harper** in 2012.

As Sen. Harder's legislative deputy, Sen. Bellemare was responsible for attending regular scroll meetings with counterparts from the other **Senate** groups each morning the **Senate** sat, to try to map out what business the **Senate** would handle in the Chamber that day.

Senator **Grant Mitchell** (Alberta) is the third member of the government representative team in the **Senate**. He has served as the government's liaison in the Chamber since 2016.

Sen. Bellemare told her fellow Senators in a letter sent this morning that she was leaving the job to "focus on other parliamentary projects that are close to my heart." She thanked Sen. Harder and Sen. Mitchell for their support during their time working together to shepherd the government's **legislation** through the Upper Chamber, and represent the **Senate** to the government.

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