

HON, IDA CHONG

MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR SENIORS' AND WOMEN'S ISSUES

Ida Chong was appointed Minister of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors' and Women's Issues on June 16, 2005.

She previously served as Minister of Advanced Education and Minister of State for Women's and Seniors' Services

Ms. Chong was first elected in 1996 in the riding of Oak Bay-Gordon Head and was re-elected in 2001 and 2005.

Ms. Chong proudly retains her credentials as a Certified General Accountant and has won several awards for her work in this field for service at a chapter level, as well as for service on a provincial committee. In 1999, she was awarded the CGA Community Service Award.

Ms. Chong has worked extensively in public practice, and from 1985 to 2003 was senior partner in an accounting practice in Saanich. She also found time to volunteer for several non-profit organizations, serving as a board member.

Ms. Chong first entered political life as a municipal councillor for the District of Saanich in 1993. In her first term in provincial politics, she served as the Official Opposition critic for small business, tourism and culture, the deputy critic of finance, the deputy critic for women's equality and chair of the Official Opposition Committee on the Economy.

Since the 2001 election, Ms. Chong has served on many government committees. She has been chair of the Government Caucus Committee on Economy and Government Operations, as well as a member of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, and the Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform.

She currently serves on Treasury Board, the Government Caucus Committee on Education and the Government Caucus Committee on Cross Government Initiatives.

Ms. Chong is a native of Victoria and was raised in Gordon Head.