# Highlights of Nellie McClung’s Career

### Nellie McClung: The Best Selling Author.

Nellie McClung was a bestselling Canadian author. Her first book, *Sowing Seeds in Danny*, was published in 1908. It was a bestselling book. She wrote 16 books in all. She also wrote for newspaper and for magazines.

### Nellie McClung: The Outstanding Speaker

When Nellie became well known as a writer, she was asked to speak about her books. She was an excellent speaker and became very popular. Soon, she began to speak about other topics. For instance, she believed that women should be able to vote and gave speeches on that. She made speaking tours to other provinces and the United States. She was asked to give talks well into her late 60’s.

### Nellie McClung: The Campaigner for the Vote for Women

Nellie and a group of women (and some men) in Winnipeg organized the Political Equality League. The purpose of the group was to change the law so women could vote. They tried to talk Premier Roblin into supporting the vote for women. He refused. They tried to show him the poor working conditions faced by women in factories. He ignored them.

### Nellie McClung: A leader of the Women’s Parliament

In 1914, the women in the Political Equality League, held a Mock Parliament (Women’s Parliament). They put on a play at the Walker Theatre in Winnipeg that made fun of the Premier. Nellie played the part of the Premier. Everyone said she was brilliant. A little later, an election was called.

### Nellie McClung: Continuing the Campaigns in Manitoba and Alberta

The McClung family moved to Alberta in 1914. Nellie went to Manitoba to campaign in the last week before the election. A new Premier was elected and the women in Manitoba could vote. They were the first women in Canada to have the right. In Alberta, Nellie began working to help women in Alberta gain the vote. In 1916, they did.

### Nellie McClung: A Member of the Alberta Legislature, 1921‐1926.

Nellie won an election and became a member of the Alberta Legislature.

### Nellie McClung: A Member of the Famous Five (The Person’s Case) 1927 ‐ 1929

In 1927, Nellie McClung and four other women began another fight. Women in Canada were not persons under Canadian Law. The women did not like this. They contacted people in government and the courts. Two years later, women were declared to be persons in Canada!

### Nellie McClung: Working for Canadians

Nellie went to many meetings to represent Canadian people. She was on the Board of Governors of the CBC. She also went to the League of Nations.

### Nellie McClung: Helping Others Gain Rights

Nellie continued to work for people’s rights. She thought every Canadian should have the right to vote. She wrote that every Canadian should have equal pay for equal work. She wanted women to have the right to be ministers in churches. She spent much of her life writing and speaking to help others. She thought that Canada should accept Jewish refugees before World War 11. She thought that Japanese Canadian who could not vote in the 1930’s and 40’s should have the right.

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Delegate for Canada to the League of Nations

Delegate to the Ecumenical Conference in Britain

Board Member of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

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Japanese Canadians Rights

Plight of Jewish refugees during WW2

Women in the Workplace

Ordination of Women