

## Honouring the Lives of Four Friends of the Group of 78

**August 12, 2025**

Dear G78 Members,

With deep sadness, we must inform our members of the recent passing of four people important to the Group of 78.

**Peter Meincke** was one of the “original 78” who signed the statement to Prime Minister Trudeau in 1981 that launched G78. He did so while serving as President of the University of Prince Edward Island. He became a founding member of G78 when it was formed and later, after he moved to Ottawa, served as Chair. In recent years he was a valuable member of G78’s Climate Change Working Group, contributing to the dialogue and advocacy of our organization.

<https://www.arbormemorial.ca/en/capital/obituaries/peter-meincke/145139.html>

**Susan (Tudy) McLaine** joined the Group of 78 many years ago and was a regular participant in the monthly in-person luncheon presentations. Drawing on her rich life experiences, including as a diplomatic spouse, she was an educator and activist for many global and domestic causes. Feisty and articulate are two characteristics that we shall remember about Tudy’s participation in G78 activities.

<https://pilonfamily.ca/tribute/details/3493/Susan-McLaine/obituary.html>

**John Stone** joined G78 after presenting at one of our luncheons on climate change. He brought his deep experience and wisdom to our Climate Change Working Group, recommending and enabling advocacy actions. As an accomplished scientist and public policy analyst, John was a member of, and a senior report writer for, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. He was a prolific science writer and a favourite speaker with government, civil society and schools.

<https://carleton.ca/geography/cu-people/stone-john-m-r/>

**John Meisel** also signed the original statement of the Group of 78, doing so in his capacity as Chair of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, where he served from 1980 to 1983. His career was anchored at Queen’s University where he was a deeply respected professor of political science for over five decades, joining the university in 1949.

<https://thewhig.remembering.ca/obituary/john-meisel-1092802058/?proxy=original>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Meisel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Meisel)

We honour their lives, salute their dedication to human well-being, and are grateful for their valuable contributions to our efforts.

Richard Harmston  
Secretary and Former Chair  
G78 Board of Directors