

# Ottawa MPPs on the move as Wynne shuffles cabinet

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**By:** [Emma Jackson](#)

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Your local MPP likely has a new job after Premier Kathleen Wynne overhauled her cabinet Monday.

Four out of Ottawa's five Liberal representatives are on the move as Wynne made the changes halfway through her term.

Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi will leave behind his troubled correctional services post to become Ontario's attorney general.

Naqvi has been at the centre of Ottawa's jail controversy, which came to a head this year over reports of extreme overcrowding – inmates were sleeping in shower cells – lengthy segregation terms and several inmate deaths at the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre.

As attorney general, he'll replace Ottawa-Vanier MPP Madeleine Meilleur, who announced last week she's retiring from politics after 13 years in the legislature and 12 at city council.

She'll leave her seat vacant just as her federal counterpart, MP Mauril Belanger, fights for his life against ALS.

Ottawa West-Nepean MPP Bob Chiarelli is returning to the infrastructure file after three years as energy minister.

Chiarelli was the infrastructure minister between 2010 and 2013 under Premier Dalton McGuinty. But this time he's responsible for \$160-billion worth of investments in roads, bridges, schools and hospitals, a massive infusion of money funded in part by the sell-off of Hydro One under his supervision.

Even rookie Ottawa-Orleans MPP Marie-France Lalonde is headed for change. Until now the chief government whip, on Monday she became minister of government and consumer services, and she's now responsible for francophone affairs, taking over for Meilleur.

Carleton University politics professor Jonathan Malloy said it's not a bad thing for your representative to take on extra duties.

"A cabinet minister is busier and spends more time in Toronto, but they've got more clout and standing," Malloy said. "So it's quite useful for a community to get their priorities heard."

Residents especially shouldn't fear losing touch with Naqvi, who will almost certainly spend more time in Toronto, since he's made a point of being visible at home.

"No one can say Mr. Naqvi has not been seen," Malloy said. "He's very out and about."