

= Dion Phaneuf =

Dion Phaneuf (born April 10 , 1985) is a Canadian professional ice hockey defenceman for the Ottawa Senators of the National Hockey League (NHL) . He has previously also played for the Calgary Flames and Toronto Maple Leafs . He was drafted ninth overall in the 2003 NHL Entry Draft by Calgary and made his NHL debut in 2005 after a four @-@ year junior career with the Red Deer Rebels of the Western Hockey League (WHL) , in which he was twice named the Defenceman of the Year . He set a Flames record for most goals by a first @-@ year defenceman and was named a finalist for the Calder Memorial Trophy as top rookie in 2005 ? 06 . Two years later , he was a finalist for the James Norris Memorial Trophy as top defenceman , though he did not win either award . Since going pro , Phaneuf has been involved in two blockbuster trades . The first came in late 2009 , when he was involved in a seven @-@ player trade that saw him move from Calgary to Toronto . Six years later , Phaneuf was the centrepiece of a 9 @-@ player deal that saw him sent from Toronto to Ottawa .

Phaneuf is a three @-@ time NHL All @-@ Star . He has represented Team Canada internationally five times in his career , winning a silver medal and a gold medal at the World Junior Hockey Championship in 2004 and 2005 , respectively , as well as a gold medal at the 2007 Men 's World Ice Hockey Championships .

Phaneuf is active in the community ; the Flames honoured Phaneuf for his role as an ambassador to the Alberta Children 's Hospital , where he participated in events that help sick and injured children during his time in Calgary . Phaneuf was a common sight at Toronto events , often appearing at fundraisers , promotional activities or visiting patients at Sick Kids Hospital .

In 2013 , he married Elisha Cuthbert .

= = Early life = =

Dion Phaneuf was born April 10 , 1985 , in Edmonton , Alberta , to Paul , a construction worker , and Amber , a nurse , both originally from the province of Prince Edward Island . Dion attended Harry Ainlay Composite High School . Dion has a younger brother , Dane , who played for the P.E.I. Rocket of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL) . Paul and Amber Phaneuf describe their family as close @-@ knit .

Paul Phaneuf maintained a backyard rink each winter that the young Phaneuf practiced on . His mother , a former figure skater who competed for Prince Edward Island at the 1975 Canada Winter Games , taught him to skate . Phaneuf also practiced his shot relentlessly in the basement of his family 's home , frequently breaking the nets his father bought .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Junior = = =

The Red Deer Rebels selected Phaneuf in the third round of the 2000 WHL Bantam Draft . One year later , he joined the Rebels for the 2001 ? 02 season and recorded 17 points in 67 games . He added two assists in 21 games as the Rebels lost in the WHL Final against the Kootenay Ice . He improved to 16 goals and 30 points in 2002 ? 03 as the Rebels again reached the WHL Finals , again losing , this time to the Kelowna Rockets . Phaneuf 's development earned him comparisons to Hall of Famer Scott Stevens , as he was lauded by scouts for his physical style and ability to excel both defensively and offensively . Then @-@ Calgary Flames General Manager Darryl Sutter valued Phaneuf so highly in the 2003 NHL Entry Draft that he attempted to trade up from his ninth overall selection in the Draft , though to no avail . Nonetheless , he was able to select Phaneuf with Calgary 's first selection in the draft .

Phaneuf established himself as the junior hockey team 's top player following the draft , earning the Bill Hunter Memorial Trophy as the top defenceman in the WHL . He was also named an Eastern

Conference All @-@ Star by the WHL , and a First Team All @-@ Star by the Canadian Hockey League (CHL) . He was considered a candidate to join the Flames in 2004 . The 2004 ? 05 NHL lockout , however , forced Phaneuf to play one final year of junior hockey . He scored 56 points in 55 games to finish his junior career with 146 total points . He repeated as the WHL 's Defenceman of the Year , and was again named to both WHL and CHL All @-@ Star Teams . Prospects Hockey rated Phaneuf as the top player in the CHL in both 2004 and 2005 , ahead of Sidney Crosby , naming him one of the best junior defencemen of the previous decade .

= = = Calgary Flames = = =

Phaneuf joined the Flames for the 2005 ? 06 NHL season after signing his first professional contract in September 2005 . Phaneuf made his NHL debut on October 5 , 2005 , against the Minnesota Wild . Five nights later , he scored his first career goal , assist and points against the Colorado Avalanche . He was named the NHL 's Rookie of the Month for November after leading all rookie defencemen with nine points and two game @-@ winning goals . By January , Phaneuf was being named alongside Sidney Crosby and Alexander Ovechkin as a candidate for the NHL 's top rookie . He finished the season with 20 goals , only the third player in NHL history after Brian Leetch and Barry Beck to score 20 as a rookie defenceman . His 20 goals also broke the Flames franchise record for goals by a rookie defenseman , surpassing Gary Suter 's total of 18 . Phaneuf was named a finalist for the Calder Memorial Trophy as top rookie , but lost out to Ovechkin .

A 50 @-@ point sophomore season earned Phaneuf his first NHL All @-@ Star Game appearance in 2006 ? 07 . He participated in the hardest shot competition at the SuperSkills competition , losing to Zdeno Chára , and scored a goal and an assist in the game itself to help the Western Conference defeat the East 12 ? 9 . The Flames signed Phaneuf to a six @-@ year , US \$ 39 million contract extension midway through the 2007 ? 08 season . He responded by posting a career @-@ high 60 points , and was voted into the starting lineup by the fans for the 2008 All @-@ Star Game . Phaneuf was named to the NHL First All @-@ Star Team following the season , and was a finalist for the James Norris Memorial Trophy as defenceman of the year , losing to the Detroit Red Wings ' Nicklas Lidström .

The 2008 ? 09 season was a frustrating one for Phaneuf , as he recorded a career @-@ low 11 goals and 47 points , and his poor plus @-@ minus rating of ? 11 led fans to question his defensive commitment . His poor season and high salary also led to speculation that Phaneuf might be traded . In spite of his struggles , Phaneuf averaged 26 minutes and 31 seconds of ice time per game , the fourth highest in the League . He missed the final game of the Flames ' 2009 Stanley Cup playoff Western Quarter @-@ final series against the Chicago Blackhawks with broken ribs , after battling a hip injury during the regular season . Flames management defended Phaneuf , claiming that the injuries he battled affected his play .

= = = Toronto Maple Leafs = = =

On January 31 , 2010 , the Flames dealt Phaneuf , along with Fredrik Sjöström and Keith Aulie , to the Toronto Maple Leafs in exchange for Matt Stajan , Niklas Hagman , Ian White and Jamal Mayers .

On February 2 , 2010 , Phaneuf made his Toronto Maple Leaf debut , leading all Maple Leafs players in time on ice and ended the night with a fight and given second star of the game honours . He would record his first point , an assist , four nights later in a game against the Ottawa Senators and scored his first goal as a Leaf on April 7 , 2010 , on Henrik Lundqvist of the New York Rangers . Phaneuf was named an alternate captain in Toronto nine games after being acquired after Mike Komisarek suffered a season @-@ ending injury . While Phaneuf struggled offensively to begin his tenure in Toronto ? he played 25 games in Toronto before scoring his first goal ? then @-@ Leafs Head Coach Ron Wilson credited him with creating a positive change in the mood in the Toronto dressing room .

Phaneuf was named the 18th captain of the Toronto Maple Leafs on June 14 , 2010 , at a press

conference held by General Manager Brian Burke , succeeding Mats Sundin , who left after the 2007 ? 08 season .

On November 2 , 2010 , in a game against the Ottawa Senators , Phaneuf sustained an injury in the leg by having it cut open with a skate from Peter Regin while crashing into the boards . He was carried off the ice immediately and had surgery done the same night . Phaneuf was said to be off the ice for four @-@ to @-@ six weeks , and made a return to the Leafs ' lineup on December 9 , 2010 , a home ice game against the Philadelphia Flyers , which Philadelphia won 4 ? 1 , though he had one assist on the lone Toronto goal .

On January 5 , 2012 , it was announced that Phaneuf would compete in his third All @-@ Star Game , having finished second amongst all defencemen on the fan ballot , gaining 614 @,@ 933 votes , behind the Ottawa Senators ' Erik Karlsson . On April 21 , 2013 , Phaneuf and the Leafs clinched a Stanley Cup playoff spot , the first time for Phaneuf since the 2008 ? 09 season with the Calgary Flames . On December 10 , 2013 , Phaneuf received a two @-@ game suspension on a boarding hit on Boston Bruins defenceman Kevan Miller , which occurred on December 8 , 2013 , in Toronto . Phaneuf forfeited the amount of US \$ 66 @,@ 666 @.@ 66 for his action .

= = = Ottawa Senators = = =

After parts of seven seasons with Toronto , Phaneuf was dealt to the Ottawa Senators on February 9 , 2016 , in a blockbuster nine @-@ player trade . Both fans and media alike viewed the trade with shock , as a significant deal between the arch @-@ rivals was viewed as very unlikely to happen . Phaneuf , Matt Frattin , prospects Casey Bailey , Ryan Rupert and Cody Donaghey were sent to the Senators in exchange for Jared Cowen , Colin Greening , Milan Michalek , prospect Tobias Lindberg and Ottawa 's 2017 second round draft pick . Due to the Battle of Ontario rivalry , this was the first time the Maple Leafs and Senators had made a trade since March 17 , 1998 , when Per Gustafsson was shipped to Ottawa in exchange for an 8th round pick . Phaneuf played a shortened 2015 ? 16 season due to an " oblique injury and soreness in his right foot " after blocking a shot during a game against the Toronto Maple Leafs on March 12 , ending the season with 20 games played with the Senators , amassing one goal and eight points .

= = International play = =

Phaneuf made his international debut for the Canadian junior team at the 2004 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships in Helsinki , earning a leadership role under Head Coach Mario Durocher . A devastating bodycheck to the Czech Republic 's Rostislav Olesz led the referee to eject Phaneuf from the semi @-@ final game ; he was not suspended , however , and played in the gold medal game . The Canadians lost the final to the United States , while Phaneuf was named a tournament All @-@ Star at defence .

The Canadian team at the 2005 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships dominated the tournament , outscoring their opposition 35 ? 6 in the games leading up to the gold medal match @-@ up with Russia .

Phaneuf scored a goal and threw a memorable bodycheck that knocked down two Russian players in the championship game as Canada routed the Russians 6 ? 1 to win their first gold medal in eight years . He was again named a tournament All @-@ Star , as well as being named the outstanding defenceman of the tournament .

Following the Flames ' elimination in the 2007 Stanley Cup playoffs , Phaneuf joined the Canadian senior team at the 2007 Men 's World Ice Hockey Championships in Moscow . He recorded eight assists in seven games to help Canada win the gold medal over Finland . Once considered a virtual lock to join team Canada at the 2010 Winter Olympics , his struggles in the 2008 ? 09 season placed his candidacy in doubt . Team Canada General Manager Steve Yzerman continued to express confidence in Phaneuf during a summer camp held in Calgary , but Phaneuf was not among the seven defencemen ultimately selected for the team .

After the Leafs missed the 2011 playoffs , Phaneuf served as alternate captain of Team Canada at

the 2011 IIHF World Championship in Bratislava , Slovakia , where Canada finished fifth . Phaneuf was once again alternate captain of the Canadian team at the 2012 World Championship in Sochi , Russia . Canada repeated its fifth @-@ place finish of the prior year .

In August 2013 , Phaneuf attended the summer orientation camp for Team Canada in preparation for the 2014 Winter Olympics . Phaneuf , however , was not named to the final Olympic roster .

= = Playing style = =

In junior hockey , Phaneuf was known not only for his physical presence , but also his calm demeanour and offensive ability . He was compared to Hockey Hall of Famer Scott Stevens by his former coach , Brent Sutter . Scouts praised his defensive ability , and the poise he showed at both ends of the ice . Praised for his leadership abilities , Phaneuf was named the captain of Team WHL at the 2004 ATD Canada @-@ Russia Challenge , and was counted upon to take a leadership role with the Canadian junior team at the 2004 and 2005 World Junior Championships .

Entering his sophomore season , Phaneuf 's potential impact on a game was compared to that of Russian star Alexander Ovechkin , and a poll released by ESPN in 2008 revealed that 43 % of players asked argued Phaneuf was the hardest hitter in hockey , at the age of 22 . He was named an alternate captain by the Flames at the start of the 2008 ? 09 season , though Brent Sutter chose to alternate amongst a group of veterans , including Phaneuf , in 2009 ? 10 .

While he earned a James Norris Memorial Trophy nomination for his defensive play in 2008 , he struggled enough during the 2008 ? 09 season that some observers began to question his defensive commitment . Phaneuf 's teammates were quick to defend his play and noted that he was among the League leaders in average time on ice per game . His hitting game has also earned criticism at times . The New York Islanders were especially upset at an open @-@ ice charge Phaneuf delivered to Kyle Okposo during a 2009 exhibition game that resulted in the latter suffering a concussion . Phaneuf has also been criticized for occasionally refusing to fight opponents who challenge him after throwing a big hit . For his part , Phaneuf stated he does not believe that he should be forced to fight after every big hit , though he would do so when necessary . His coaches have praised Phaneuf 's mentality . He has also been accused of playing " dirty " and " stupid " by opponents who feel that he occasionally takes unnecessary liberties with opposing players . A 2010 Sports Illustrated poll of 229 NHL players saw 21 % of respondents name Phaneuf as the most overrated player in the NHL , three times as many votes as any other player . Phaneuf dismissed the poll while several of his current and former teammates expressed their disagreement with the result .

= = Personal life = =

Phaneuf began dating Canadian actress Elisha Cuthbert in May 2008 . Their relationship became the centre of controversy in December 2008 when then @-@ Dallas Stars forward Sean Avery , who had dated Cuthbert in the past , commented on how other NHL players , such as Phaneuf ? as well as Los Angeles Kings ' center Jarret Stoll , who was dating model Rachel Hunter , another ex @-@ girlfriend ? fell in love with his " sloppy seconds . " NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman referred to the remarks as " disgusting " and subsequently suspended Avery six games ; the Stars later cut ties with the player .

Phaneuf and Cuthbert announced their engagement in September 2012 , and they married on July 6 , 2013 , at St. James Catholic Church in Summerfield , Prince Edward Island . Living in Toronto during the hockey season , Phaneuf and Cuthbert spend their summers at Phaneuf 's waterfront estate outside of New London , Prince Edward Island , in his parents ' home province .

While with the Flames , he was the official ambassador to the Alberta Children 's Hospital in Calgary and donated tickets to Flames games to help families at the facility . The Flames named him the recipient of the Ralph T. Scurfield Humanitarian Award in 2008 in recognition of his participation with the Children 's Hospital . Phaneuf has appeared on the cover of the NHL 09 video game , and played a role in NHL promotions and commercials .

Phaneuf is a fourth cousin of Canadian figure skater Cynthia Phaneuf .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

= = = International = = =

= = = All @-@ Star Games = = =

= = Awards and honours = =