



Biographies

(August 1980)

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU

Prime Minister of Canada

Pierre Trudeau was born in Montreal in October 1919. He graduated in 1940 from Jean-de-Brébeuf College in Montreal with a bachelor of arts (honours) degree. Having graduated with honours in law from the University of Montreal, he was called to the Bar of the province of Quebec in 1943. He received a master of arts degree in political economy from Harvard University in 1945 and did postgraduate work in law, economics and political science at l'Ecole des sciences politiques in Paris and the London School of Economics.

Mr. Trudeau was subsequently employed with the Privy Council in Ottawa, and then practised law, specializing in labour law and civil liberties in the province of Quebec. In 1961 he was appointed associate professor of law at the University of Montreal, where he taught constitutional law and civil liberties, and carried out research as a member of the staff of the Institut de recherches en droit public.

Mr. Trudeau was elected to the House of Commons in 1965. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson in January 1966. In 1967 Mr. Trudeau was appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. In April 1968, after having been chosen as Leader of the Liberal Party, he became Prime Minister of Canada. He was re-elected in the general elections of 1972 and 1974. Following the May 1979 election, he became Leader of the Opposition. He was re-appointed Prime Minister after the general election of February 1980.

Mr. Trudeau was a delegate to the France-Canada Interparliamentary Association meetings in Paris in April 1966. In February 1967, Mr. Trudeau undertook a tour of French-speaking African states on behalf of the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs to determine the role Canada should play in the formation of an association of French-speaking states. He played an important role at the 1971 Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Singapore and was host to the heads of government in Ottawa in 1973.

Mr. Trudeau has written extensively on reform in politics and the theory and practice of federalism. His articles, essays and manifestos have appeared in several Canadian and foreign publications. He is the author of *La Grève de L'amiante* and of *Le Fédéralisme et la Société canadienne française*. He was a founder of the reform review *Cité Libre*.

Mr. Trudeau has three sons.