

THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JEAN CHRÉTIEN

Born in Shawinigan, Quebec, on January 11, 1934, Jean Chrétien received his education at Shawinigan, Joliette and Trois-Rivières colleges, and studied Law at Université Laval in Quebec city. He became a member of the Bar in 1958.

A member of the Liberal Party of Canada, Mr. Chrétien was first elected to the House of Commons in 1963 as the member for the riding of Saint-Maurice—Laflèche in Quebec. In 1965, he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister. From 1968 to 1984, he held several Cabinet posts, including Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and President of the Treasury Board. In 1977, he became the first francophone to head the Federal Department of Finance.

In February 1986, Mr. Chrétien left politics and returned to the practice of Law. On June 23, 1990, he was elected as leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. A few months later, he was elected as Liberal Member of Parliament for the riding of Beauséjour in New Brunswick and became Leader of the Official Opposition on December 21, 1990. On October 25, 1993, he was re-elected in the riding of Saint-Maurice during general elections that gave the Liberal Party a majority of seats. He was sworn in as Prime Minister of Canada on November 4, 1993.

Mr. Chrétien is married and has three children.