



Biographies

(February 1976)

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU

Prime Minister of Canada

Mr. Trudeau was born in Montreal in October 1919. He graduated in 1940 from the 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'École 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 cases, 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 l'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 April 1967, Mr. Trudeau was appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. In April 1968, he became Prime Minister of Canada. He was re-elected in the October 1972 and July 1974 general elections.

Mr. Trudeau was a delegate to the France-Canada Interparliamentary Association meetings in Paris in April 1966. He also served as a Canadian delegate to the twenty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly from September to December 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 when they met 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.
