Arthur Eggleton Minister for International Trade

Arthur Eggleton was born in Toronto, Ontario, on Sept. 29, 1943. After working as an accountant, he was elected to Toronto city council in 1969, serving on this body and on the Metropolitan Toronto council for 22 years.

From 1980 to 1991, he was mayor of Toronto — the longest-serving mayor in the city's history. Between 1973 and 1980, he served as city budget chief, the member of council responsible for financial matters. In 1992, Mr. Eggleton received Toronto's highest honour, the Civic Award of Merit.

In addition, he has served on the Metropolitan Toronto police commission, the board of the Canadian National Exhibition, and numerous committees and task forces dealing with community issues.

Mr. Eggleton established the City of Toronto international office to advance city-to-city relationships, particularly economic and cultural links. This office was the first of its kind at the municipal level in Canada. Between 1989 and 1991, he served as chairman of the committee responsible for international programs for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

On Jan. 25, 1996, Mr. Eggleton was appointed Minister for International Trade by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. Before the appointment, Mr. Eggleton had served in cabinet as President of the Treasury Board and Minister responsible for Infrastructure. He was first elected to the Parliament of Canada on Oct. 25, 1993, as the member for York Centre in the City of North York (Metropolitan Toronto).

Mr. Eggleton has one daughter.