John Savage Premier of Nova Scotia

A native of Wales, John Savage is a 1956 graduate of Queen's College Medical School, in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He worked for more than 30 years as a family physician and was a leader in many community initiatives: helping to start day care centres, establishing drug addiction programs, and delivering medical aid in Nicaragua.

Dr. Savage has been an educator in issues surrounding health promotion and taught family life programs throughout Nova Scotia. He was elected to the Dartmouth School Board in 1978 and chaired the board in 1984-85.

Dr. Savage became mayor of Dartmouth in 1985 and was re-elected twice before resigning to become leader of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party in 1992. As mayor, Dr. Savage pioneered the concept of a "healthy community." He established many firsts in Dartmouth, including an annual celebration of multiculturalism.

Dr. Savage led the Liberal Party to victory in May 1993, representing the riding of Dartmouth South. On June 11, he was sworn in as premier of Nova Scotia.

Premier Savage has lived in Dartmouth since 1966 with his wife, Margaret, and their seven children.