

Brian Tobin

Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador

Brian Tobin was born and raised in the western Newfoundland community of Stephenville. He studied at Memorial University of Newfoundland and worked as a journalist before entering politics.

Mr. Tobin was first elected to the House of Commons in 1980 as member of Parliament for the Newfoundland riding Humber-Sainte-Barbe-Baie Verte and was appointed parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. He was re-elected in 1984, 1988 and 1993 and was appointed Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in November 1993.

As an Opposition member of Parliament, Mr. Tobin served as critic for forestry, employment, regional industrial expansion and privatization, as well as critic and associate critic for transport.

In 1989, he was elected chair of the national Liberal caucus. He served as a member of the 1993 Liberal national campaign and national platform committees.

Mr. Tobin has also served as vice-chair of the House of Commons committee on regional development and as a member of committees on transport, fisheries and forestry, labour, and employment and immigration, as well as a member of the Constitutional Committee and the Special Committee on Employment Opportunities for the 1980s.

Following his acclamation as Leader of the Liberal Party of Newfoundland, Mr. Tobin was sworn in as the sixth Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador on Jan. 26, 1996. Mr. Tobin and his government were returned to office in the election held on Feb. 9, 1999.

Mr. Tobin and his wife, Jodean Smith, have three children.