

Ralph Goodale

Minister of Natural Resources and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board

Ralph Goodale was born on Oct. 5, 1949 in Regina and was raised on the family farm near Wilcox, Saskatchewan. In 1972, he received a bachelor of laws degree from the University of Saskatchewan and was called to the Saskatchewan bar in 1973.

He was elected to the House of Commons for the first time in 1974 as the member for the Saskatchewan riding of Assiniboia. He served as parliamentary secretary for several ministers, vice-chair of the House standing committee on agriculture, vice-chair of the special joint committee on the northern gas pipeline, and deputy government whip.

In 1981, Mr. Goodale became Leader of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party and in 1986 was elected a member of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. From 1989 to 1993, he worked for the Pioneer Life Assurance Company and Pioneer Lifeco Inc., two Regina-based financial institutions.

In 1993, Mr. Goodale was elected to Parliament and was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. Re-elected in 1997 and November 2000 to represent the Saskatchewan riding of Wascana for the Liberal Party of Canada, he became Minister of Natural Resources and Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board in June 1997.

Mr. Goodale and his wife, Pamela, live in Regina.