Pierre S. Pettigrew Minister for International Trade

Pierre Pettigrew was born in Quebec City on April 18, 1951. He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières in 1972 and a master's degree in international relations from Balliol College, Oxford, in 1976.

A business consultant, Mr. Pettigrew was vice-president of Samson Bélair/Deloitte & Touche International, Montreal, from 1985 to 1995, where he conducted economic studies on the impact of globalization on various industrial sectors.

In 1994, Mr. Pettigrew co-chaired the First National Forum on Canada's International Relations. He was foreign policy adviser to the Prime Minister from 1981 to 1984 and executive assistant to the Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party from 1978 to 1981. Mr. Pettigrew served as director of the Political Committee, NATO Assembly, in Brussels from 1976 to 1978.

Mr. Pettigrew was appointed to the cabinet in January 1996 and named Minister for International Cooperation and Minister responsible for Francophonie. Two months later, he was elected to the House of Commons. In October 1996, Mr. Pettigrew was appointed Minister of Human Resources Development.

Re-elected in June 1997 to serve the Quebec riding of Papineau–Saint-Denis, Mr. Pettigrew was named Minister for International Trade on Aug. 3, 1999.