

Paul Martin

Prime Minister of Canada

Born on Aug. 28, 1938, in Windsor, Ontario, Paul Martin studied law at the University of Toronto and was called to the Ontario bar in 1966.

The greater part of Mr. Martin's career was in the private sector as a business executive, first with Power Corp. of Canada, and later as chairman and chief executive officer of Canada Steamship Lines. He has also been a corporate director of several major Canadian companies.

Mr. Martin was first elected to the House of Commons in 1988 as the Liberal member of Parliament for the Quebec riding of La Salle-Émard. He served as associate finance critic and environment critic from 1991 to 1993.

Mr. Martin was sworn in as Minister of Finance in 1993. He also served for two years as the Minister responsible for the Federal Office of Regional Development (Quebec).

In 1999, while Finance Minister, Mr. Martin was named chair of the G20, an international group composed of G7 nations and emerging market nations. Currently he co-chairs the UN Commission on Private Sector and Development.

Mr. Martin was chosen as the new leader of the Liberal Party on Nov. 15, 2003, and became Prime Minister of Canada on Dec. 12, 2003.

Mr. Martin and his wife, Sheila, have three children.