André Ouellet Minister of Foreign Affairs

Born in St-Pascal, Quebec, on April 6, 1939, André Ouellet graduated from the University of Ottawa and the University of Sherbrooke faculty of law. He has been a member of Parliament since 1967, representing the constituency of Papineau-Saint-Michel, Quebec. He has held a number of cabinet positions.

Mr. Ouellet has served as Postmaster General, President of the Privy Council, Government House Leader, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Minister of State (Urban Affairs), Minister of Public Works, Minister of Labour and Minister of State (Regional Economic Development).

He has also served as minister responsible for various Crown corporations, including the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Metric Commission and the Standards Council of Canada.

Mr. Ouellet was appointed the official critic for transport in 1985, official critic for external affairs in 1988 and official critic for federal-provincial relations in 1990. Between 1990 and 1992, he sat on a Quebec legislative commission and two parliamentary committees on Canada's constitution: the Bélanger-Campeau Commission, and the Beaudoin-Edwards and Beaudoin-Dobbie committees.

He was chair of the Quebec Liberal caucus in 1968, chief political organizer of the federal Liberal party in Quebec from 1977 to 1984, and co-chair of the National Liberal Campaign Committee in 1992.

Mr. Ouellet married Edith Pagé in 1965. They have four children.