

News Release

Communiqué

Department of
External
Affairs



Ministère des
Affaires
extérieures

No. 257

December 23, 1988.

APPOINTMENT

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announces the following appointment:

Mr. J. Alan Beesley born in Smithers, British Columbia, as Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on Environmental Affairs.

Mr. Beesley received his legal degree from the University of British Columbia (B.A. and LL.B.) and practiced as a lawyer for five years before joining the Department of External Affairs in 1956. He has served abroad in Tel Aviv and Geneva, and as Ambassador to Austria and concurrently as Permanent Representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization from 1973 to 1976; as High Commissioner to Australia with concurrent accreditation to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu from 1977 to 1980; as Ambassador in New York to the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference from 1980 to 1982; and Ambassador for Disarmament and Head of the Delegation to the United Nations Seabed Preparatory Commission in New York from 1982 to 1983; and as Ambassador in Geneva and Permanent Representative to the Office of the United Nations, to the Conference on Disarmament and to the Secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade from 1983 to 1987. In Ottawa he was Director General of the Legal and Consular Bureau and later Assistant Under Secretary and was twice Departmental Legal Adviser. In 1973, in addition to his other duties, he was appointed Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the Law of the Sea as well as Leader of Canada's Law of the Sea Delegation. He has been a University Visitor at the University of British Columbia (Law School) since 1987. He is married to Ruth Stevens and they have two children.

Mr. Beesley was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1974; he received the Prime Minister's Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service in 1983; he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1984; he received a Doctorate Honoris Causa in Environmental Affairs from Waterloo University in 1984; and was elected to the International Law Commission in 1986.

- 30 -

Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada