

# Canada Weekly

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## Prime Minister Trudeau announces resignation



The Citizen

After more than 15 years as leader of Canada's Liberal Party, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announces his intention to resign.

On February 29, 1984 Prime Minister Trudeau announced his decision to resign as leader of the Liberal Party, a position he has held for more than 15 years, with the exception of a short period in 1979.

In a letter to Iona Campagnolo, president of the Liberal Party of Canada, he spoke of the leadership of his party as being "one of the joys of my life" and agreed to continue to serve until a successor is chosen at the leadership convention to be held in Ottawa in June.

In the House of Commons, politicians from all parties lauded Mr. Trudeau's achievements and described his career as "extraordinary". Brian Mulroney, leader of the Conservative opposition said history will remember Mr. Trudeau as "a strong leader and an honourable man who cared for his country, saw its future threatened and sought to make it right. When he leaves this Chamber," he added, "he will do so with the scars of vigorous, democratic debate and the memories of hopes

dashed and dreams fulfilled. He will leave with honour unsullied and with the warmest good wishes of all".

### Prime Minister's career

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of his resignation, *The Toronto Star*, the country's top circulation newspaper, examined Mr. Trudeau's career in the following editorial:

"Long after our current political problems and frustrations have been forgotten, Pierre Elliott Trudeau will be remembered as a towering figure in Canada's history.

"He indelibly made his mark on our future by accomplishing the main goal he had set out for himself in politics: 'To make sure that Quebec wouldn't leave Canada through separatism, and to make sure that Canada wouldn't shove Quebec out through narrowmindedness.'

"He did this not only through his decisive defeat of the separatist forces in the Quebec referendum battle of May

