

Jim Peterson

Minister of International Trade

Jim Peterson was born in Ottawa on July 30, 1941, He holds a doctor of civil law degree from McGill University and a master of laws degree from Columbia University. As well, he earned diplomas from the Sorbonne and from the Academy of International Law in the Hague.

A lawyer and law professor specializing in international tax and business law, Mr. Peterson has been a consultant with the United Nations, counsel to a federal task force, and a special lecturer at the University of Toronto law school.

First elected to the House of Commons in 1980 and re-elected four times, Mr. Peterson is the Liberal member of Parliament for the Toronto riding of Willowdale.

In the early 1980s, Mr. Peterson served as parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Justice and to the Minister of State for Economic Development, Science and Technology. He chaired the House standing committee on finance between 1993 and 1997, when he became Secretary of State for International Financial Institutions.

Mr. Peterson was named Minister of International Trade on Dec. 12, 2003.

Mr. Peterson is married to Heather Johnston.