



The Honourable Lyle Vanclief brings a lifetime of public affairs experience to his clients. With a special focus on agriculture and agri-food, Lyle delivers highly valued government relations counsel.

Agriculture Background

The Honourable Lyle Vanclief was born and raised in Prince Edward County on the farm where he and his wife, Sharon, still live. After graduation from the Ontario Agricultural College at the University of Guelph in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, he returned to operate Willowlee Farms Limited, a diversified livestock, fruit and vegetable, and grain and oilseeds farm. During this time, he also sat on many agricultural boards and organizations as well as serving on the local municipal council, planning board and school board for several terms.

Political Experience

Lyle was elected as the Member of Parliament for the riding of Prince Edward-Hastings in the federal elections of 1988, 1993, 1997 and 2000. He held many posts from Opposition Critic for Agriculture to Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture, Chairman of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture and Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food for Canada from June 1997 to December, 2003. This portfolio included not only Agriculture Canada but also the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Farm Credit Canada, Canada Grain Commission, the Canadian Dairy Commission and the National Farm Products Council.

Lyle retired from politics in June, 2004 to spend more time with Sharon and their family. Since retirement he has been active as a member of corporate boards and foundations as well as assisting a number of individual clients. He is proud to sit on the Board of Governors of the University of Guelph, his alma mater. In a volunteer capacity, he chaired a fundraising campaign for the Quinte region hospitals and is serving as Ambassador for the Ontario 4-H Foundation. Lyle was honoured to be made a Distinguished Member of Ontario Institute of Agrologists and recognized with a Fellowship in the Agricultural Institute of Canada. Recently he was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame.