

HON. LYLE VANCLIEF, P.C., P.AG (DIST.), FAIC, ICD.D

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 very diversified livestock, fruit and vegetable, and grain and oilseeds farm. He was also busy with many agricultural boards and organizations as well as serving on the local municipal council, planning board and school board for several terms.

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. While in that role he held many posts including Opposition Critic for Agriculture, 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. A daughter, Vanessa, is a teacher in Toronto married to Gavin, a lawyer and they have a son, Riley and a daughter, Teagan. Their son Kurt owns and operates Willowlee Sod Farms Limited and has a son, Kiefer. Since retirement Lyle has been active as a member of corporate boards and foundations as well as assisting a number of individual clients. He was proud to sit on the Board of Governors of the University of Guelph, his alma mater. In a volunteer capacity, he chaired a campaign to raise \$10 million to purchase diagnostic equipment for the Quinte region hospitals, served as Ambassador for the Ontario 4-H Foundation and is currently Chair of Vineland Research and Innovation Centre.

Lyle graduated from The Directors Education Program at the Rotman School of Management in 2006 and is an Institute certified director with the professional designation ICD.D—granted by the Institute of Corporate Directors. 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. In 2010 he was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame.