

Maurice Bitran

As Assistant Deputy Minister of the Strategic Policy Division in the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Mr. Bitran is responsible for Ontario's economic and trade policy agenda. He is also Ontario's Chief Negotiator for the free trade negotiations with the European Union. He has had a wide-ranging career in the Ontario Public Service, implementing such programs as "Safe At Work Ontario", as director of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch at the Ontario Ministry of Labour; "Growing Forward", the federal-provincial agricultural policy framework, as director of Strategic Policy, Federal-Provincial Programming, and Research and Innovation at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA); the "Ontario Research and Development Challenge Fund"; the "Ontario Ethanol Growth Fund"; and the partnership for research, education and analytical services between OMAFRA and the University of Guelph. He obtained a Ph.D. in Astronomy at the University of Florida (U.S.) and holds M.Sc. and B.Sc. degrees in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Chile.



Maurizio Cellini



Mr. Cellini is Head of the Economic and Commercial Affairs section at the Delegation of the European Union to Canada. He joined the Delegation of the European Union to Canada in September 2009. He has been official for the European Commission since the mid-1990s, where he has held several positions in the areas of Trade and Fishery policies. From 2006 to 2009, he served at the EU Delegation to Burkina Faso as Head of the Regional Integration, Good Governance and Cultural section. He has a Master of Arts in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University, USA, as well as a Degree in Political Sciences, with a major in International Relations from Pisa University, Italy. He speaks Italian, French, English, Portuguese, and Spanish. Born in Italy, he is married and has two children.

Joan DeBardeleben

Ms. DeBardeleben is a Chancellor's Professor in the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at Carleton University. She is Director of Carleton University's EU Centre of Excellence (the Centre for European Studies) and of the Canada-Europe Transatlantic Dialogue (www.canada-europe-dialogue.ca), which is a major Canada-Europe research network funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. She is also Vice-President of the European Community Studies Association. She has written extensively on the EU's relations with its eastern neighbours.



Pierre Marc Johnson



Former Premier of Quebec, Mr. Johnson is both a physician and a lawyer. He is Chief Negotiator of the Québec Government in Canada/EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement “CETA”. He has a wide experience in international negotiations and has abundantly published on issues related to global governance and the environment. He was founding member and Vice-Chairman of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy and Chair of its Foreign Policy Committee from 1990 to 1997. He was the Personal Representative of the Premier of Québec in the Council of the Federation's Mission to the People's Republic of China (November 2008), Principal Advisor to Canadian Minister of Environment, Bali Climate Change Conference (December 2007), and Chief Negotiator for the

Québec Government on the Softwood Lumber negotiations with the USA (2001-2009). He chaired the Public Commission of enquiry into the collapse of the Concorde Bridge in Montreal area (2007) and the ministerial appointed Ten Year Review and Assessment Committee of the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation (2004). He was a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations' Task Force on the Future of North America (2005) and Special Counsel to the Canadian Judicial Council in re complaints against Chief Justice Robert of the Appeals Court of Québec (2005). Former Professor of Law at McGill University, Mr. Johnson has an honorary doctorate of Claude Bernard University in Lyon, France. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Grand Croix de l'Ordre de la Pleiade and Grand Officier de l'Ordre National du Québec.

Steve Verheul

In early 2009, Mr. Verheul was appointed as Canada's Chief Trade Negotiator for negotiations between Canada and the European Union in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Prior to that appointment, he worked in international trade policy at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada from 1989 to 2009, where he worked on the NAFTA negotiations, the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations that led to the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the Doha Round of WTO negotiations. He was Canada's Chief Agriculture Negotiator from 2003 to 2009 for trade negotiations on agriculture, including the WTO. Mr. Verheul graduated from the University of Western Ontario in 1984, after obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree in Political Science.

