Canada-U.S. Relations

Derek H. Burney is Senior Strategic Advisor to Ogilvy Renault LLP. He is Chairman of the Board of CanWest Global Communications Corp. and a Visiting Professor and Senior Distinguished Fellow at Carleton University.

Mr. Burney headed the Transition team for Prime Minister Harper from January to March, 2006. He was President and Chief Executive Officer of CAE Inc. from October 1999 until August 2004. Prior to joining CAE, Mr. Burney was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bell Canada International Inc. (1993-1999).

From 1989-1993, Mr. Burney served as Canada’s Ambassador to the United States. This assignment culminated a distinguished thirty-year career in the Canadian Foreign Service, during which he completed a variety of assignments at home and abroad.

From March 1987 to January 1989, Mr. Burney served as Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister. He was directly involved in the negotiation of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. He was the Prime Minister’s personal representative (Sherpa) in the preparations for the Houston (1990), London (1991) and Munich (1992) G-7 Economic Summits.

In February 1992, Mr. Burney was awarded the Public Service of Canada’s Outstanding Achievement Award. In July 1993, he was named an Officer of the Order of Canada. His memoir of government service - “Getting it Done” - was published by McGill-Queen’s in 2005.

A conversation with two past Ambassadors to Washington about their experiences in that capital and about trade-related issues both past and current. What types of legal problems will these issues raise and what kinds of expertise will be needed to address them? What problems will your clients be facing in North American trade over the foreseeable future?
Canada-U.S. Relations

Raymond Chrétien Partner and Strategic Advisor, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Former Canadian ambassador to France, the United States, Belgium, Mexico and the Congo, Raymond Chrétien now acts as strategic advisor at Fasken Martineau. Mr. Chrétien has extensive knowledge and first-hand experience of senior government affairs, international financing agencies, complex issues in international negotiations and trade agreements.

After a career of 38 years in the federal public service, Mr. Chrétien retired in 2004. As early as 1966, he joined the Legal Affairs Bureau in that Department and had key assignments in Ottawa with the Privy Council Office, the Treasury Board and the Canadian International Development Agency. Outside Canada, he served at Canada’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York and the Canadian Embassies in Beirut and Paris. In 1978, he was named Canada’s Ambassador to Zaire with joint accreditation to Rwanda, Burundi and the Congo Republic. He returned to Ottawa in 1981 where he served as Policy Director for Industry, Investments & Competition, Assistant Under-Secretary of Manufacturing, Technology & Transportation, and then Inspector General in the Department of External Affairs. In 1985, he was appointed Canada’s Ambassador to Mexico. He returned to Canada in 1989 as Associate Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, the second highest position in the Department. In 1991, he then served as Canada’s Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg. From 1994 to 2000, he was Canada’s eighteenth representative to the United States of America. During this term, in 1996, he was appointed Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region of Central Africa by the Secretary General of the United Nations to undertake an assessment of the crisis in the Great Lakes Region and to make recommendations to the Security Council in December 1996. From 2000 to 2003, Raymond Chrétien was Canada’s Ambassador to France.