

August 6, 2010

## **NEW FEDERAL MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES.**

Prime Minister Harper today announced a small cabinet shuffle, appointing Hon. Chuck Strahl Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities. Prior to this role, he was Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Minister Strahl succeeds Hon. John Baird who has taken over the role of Government House Leader.

PMO News Release -

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&featureId=6&pageId=26&id=3559>

### **Hon. Chuck Strahl (Chilliwack–Fraser Canyon, British Columbia)**

Chuck Strahl was first elected to the House of Commons in 1993. He was re-elected in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

He was sworn in as Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians in August 2007.

Since then, Mr. Strahl has worked in partnership to improve the lives of Aboriginal peoples on many fronts, including economic development, housing, safe drinking water, land claim settlements, and the extension of human rights protection for First Nations on reserve.

Mr. Strahl introduced the Specific Claims Tribunal Act in the House of Commons in November 2007, which will create an independent tribunal of superior court judges to help resolve the specific claims of First Nations and accelerate their resolution. He also stood with Assembly of First Nations Chief Phil Fontaine to launch the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the spring of 2008.

Prior to his work as Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Strahl served as Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board.

Mr. Strahl was born in British Columbia and was raised in the Fraser Valley. He proudly serves the constituents of Chilliwack-Fraser Canyon. Prior to his election to the House of Commons, he was a logging contractor.

He and his wife Deb have four children and six grandchildren.

[http://www.chuckstrahl.com/view\\_page.php?id=467](http://www.chuckstrahl.com/view_page.php?id=467)