

Select Committee Member Bios



Andrew Harvey-Committee Chair
MLA, Carleton- Victoria

As a former entrepreneur and small-business owner, Andrew Harvey understands the economy in rural New Brunswick.

Mr. Harvey is a former business owner, who employed local people in traditional maple syrup harvest and production at his restaurant, the Sugar Moon Cook House, and in the production of forest products.

Mr. Harvey believes in giving back to his community. He has served as a municipal councilor with the village of Bristol, he was a member of the Carleton Co-op Board of Directors, and is a member of the Bath Lions Club.

He is committed to working with leaders from both the business sector and the community to create new sources of employment innovation and adding value to our traditional sectors of forestry, tourism, and agriculture.

Mr. Harvey was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Carleton-Victoria in 2014. He serves on the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations.

Mr. Harvey is married to Twyla, and they have three children, Jenna, Kristyn, and Nicholas.



Bernard LeBlanc- Vice Chair
MLA, Memramcook- Tantramar

Bernard LeBlanc has lived all his life in Memramcook. Mr. LeBlanc received a Bachelor of Arts from the Universite de Moncton in 1971.

He began his career as a New Brunswick Medicare representative. He then worked for a year as a teacher at the Dorchester Penitentiary. From 1971 to 1988 he was a program manager for Income Security. He travelled throughout the region; meeting clients, explaining programs to them, and helping

them fill out applications for benefits. He was a consultant for the public relations program of the Department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

Mr. LeBlanc was elected councilor-at-large for Memramcook in May 1995, and serves as mayor from 1996 to 2001. He was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick in the 2006 provincial election. He served as Minister of Local Government, Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs and Minister responsible for Public engagement. He was reelected in 2010.

He was reelected on September 22, 2014, as the member for Memramcook-Tantramar. He serves as Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

He spends a great deal of his free time doing volunteer work. He established Memramcook Valley Kindergarten, was president of the Memramcook Valley Community Centre, president of the Foyer Saint-Thomas, chair of the Pré-d'en-Haut Parish Council, and chair of the LSD District Committee in Pré-d'en-Haut. He has been a member of the executive of Dr. Georges L. Dumont Hospital, the Memramcook Institute, and the Memramcook historical society.

Mr. LeBlanc has also been named to several legislative committees including the Legislative Administrative Committee, Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, and the Standing Committee on Procedure.

Mr. LeBlanc and his wife, Georgette have two sons, Marc and Martin, one daughter, Sophie and five grandchildren.



Monique LeBlanc
MLA, Moncton East

Monique LeBlanc is a native of Moncton, and a graduate of Mathieu-Martin School, Université de Moncton and Université Laval. She was first elected to the New Brunswick Legislature on September 22, 2014, as the member for **Moncton East**. She is currently the Government Caucus Chair, as well as a member of the Standing Committees on Estimates and Fiscal Policy, on Law Amendments, on Public Accounts, and Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

Fluently bilingual and well-travelled, she holds a diploma in health sciences and a master's degree in education from the Université de Moncton, as well as a bachelor's degree in science (physiotherapy) from Université Laval. She has extensive experience in the field of sports physiotherapy. She was the owner-operator of Sport

Med Acadie, in Moncton, and taught a number of courses at both the Université de Moncton and the Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage, in Dieppe.

Over the years, she has been heavily involved in many community and professional organizations. She served as the president of the College of Physiotherapists of New Brunswick and representative of the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators. She also served in the sport physiotherapy division of the Canadian Association of Physiotherapy. During the 2012 municipal election, Ms. LeBlanc was elected as the representative of the Moncton area on the board of directors of Réseau de santé Vitalité, where she sat on different committees. She has also been involved with Film Zone (chair), the Société des Jeux de l'Acadie (board member) and the Canadian Olympic Movement. As a former high-performance athlete, the health and wellness of New Brunswickers are issues that concern her greatly.

Ms. LeBlanc lives in Moncton with her husband and daughter.



Gilles LePage
MLA, Restigouche West

Gilles LePage was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick as the Liberal Party member for the new riding of **Restigouche West** in the September 22, 2014, election.

Born in Dalhousie in 1966, Mr. LePage graduated from École Aux quatre vents in Dalhousie in 1984. He did his post-secondary studies at Université de Moncton, receiving in 1989 a Bachelor in Business Administration, with a concentration in Marketing, then, in 2008, a Certificate in Municipal Administration.

Mr. LePage became involved in the community during his time as coach, executive director and Chef de mission for the Jeux de l'Acadie. Through this experience, he met his wife Johanne, with whom he has two daughters, Valérie and Myriam. He is now a resident of the village of Balmoral.

He has cumulated 25 years of community and economic development experience. After eight years at the direction of the Société des Jeux de l'Acadie, Mr. LePage worked as an economic development officer for the Restigouche Economic Development Commission. After that, he worked in the private sector as dispatcher and personnel manager at Dynamic Transport, he became executive director of the village of Balmoral between 2001 and 2008, before taking the position of Balmoral's sustainable development manager until March 2014. He also was coordinator of the Restigouche-East Community action plan from 2010 to 2011.



Wilfred Roussel
MLA, Shippagan-Lamèque-Miscou

Wilfred Roussel is a native of Le Goulet, a coastal village in the Acadian Peninsula.

Mr. Roussel was first elected to the Legislative Assembly on September 22, 2014 as the Liberal member for the riding of **Shippagan-Lamèque-Miscou**. On January 26, 2015, he was appointed Chairman of the New Brunswick section of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie.

He has a bachelor's degree in social science from the Université de Moncton, and he completed a master's program at the École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP) in Hull, now Gatineau, Quebec. He is also trained in real estate sales and wine-making.

Wilfred Roussel's work experience is diverse. In 1975, he became a journalist and later served for seven years as editor and CEO of Éditions du Nord, in Caraquet. The company published four weekly newspapers and operated a commercial printing business. Mr. Roussel then served for nine years as CEO of the Association de la presse francophone in Ottawa. In 1989, he served as founding vice-president of the first Congrès mondial acadien and was then its CEO from 1992 to 1995. He later moved to Quebec where he worked as a consultant before becoming CEO and editor of the newspaper division of Transcontinental group in Montreal.

In 2006, he became an entrepreneur as the owner of an orchard and cider mill in Rougemont, Quebec. That is when Mr. Roussel started wanting to return home. The label for his ice cider, called Banquise, bore an illustration of pack ice that had been photographed from his place. He also realized that he was starting to promote his home region more than his cider. He told himself it was time to go back home.

Wilfred Roussel returned to the Acadian Peninsula and quickly got involved in local politics. He was elected Mayor of Le Goulet, his hometown, in 2012. He was also the first president of the Acadian Peninsula Regional Service Commission from 2012 to September 2014.

Mr. Roussel believes his region needs to develop small or medium-sized businesses, attract young families, improve the health care system for seniors, implement a coastal development plan, and eliminate political nepotism.



Jody Carr
MLA, Oromocto-Lincoln

Jody Carr, MLA for **Oromocto-Lincoln** and southern parts of the City of Fredericton, was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick on June 7, 1999, at the age of 23.

Over the years, he has gained extensive experience serving in various capacities, including Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour on two occasions, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Vice-Chair of Cabinet Policy and Priorities Committee, lead MLA in platform development and PC Caucus Chair.

Mr. Carr has worked in the Greater Oromocto area and New Brunswick, helping families, the community, and the province. He has built a reputation for being accessible, active and relentless in pursuing solutions to the many challenges facing our province.

On September 22, 2014, he was elected for a fifth mandate and is currently serving for a second time in opposition.

Mr. Carr was born on July 3, 1975, in Saint John. He attended Oromocto High School, where he graduated in 1993 as class president. He went on to the University of New Brunswick, where he graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 1998, majoring in economics.

His twin brother Jack served in the Legislative Assembly from 2008 to 2014, and his older brother Jeff is currently serving as MLA for New Maryland-Sunbury.

Mr. Carr and his wife, Krista, have two daughters, Taylor and Madison. They reside in Burton.



Brian Keirstead
MLA, Albert

Brian Keirstead was elected to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick as the Progressive Conservative Member of the Legislative Assembly for the riding of **Albert** in the general election held on September 22, 2014.

Mr. Keirstead is a graduate of Moncton High School. He furthered his studies at the University of New Brunswick by obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics, as well as a Diploma of Languages at Université Aix-Marseille III.

Mr. Keirstead has been involved in real estate for over 30 years, and has previously owned and operated a small real estate company. He is presently Chair of the New Brunswick Real Estate Association Government Relations Committee, a long standing Member of the Canadian Real Estate Association Political Action Committee, a former President of the Greater Moncton Real Estate Board and former Director of the New Brunswick Real Estate Association.

Mr. Keirstead is well known in the political sphere of the New Brunswick and Canadian Real Estate industry. His political involvement spans decades, which includes his current involvement as a Director of the Albert Riding Progressive Conservative Association and President of the Federal Riding of Fundy Royal. For a number of years, he served as the Special Assistant to MLA Wayne Steeves, former Minister of Public Safety.

Mr. Keirstead enjoys being an active participant and volunteer at conferences, meetings and events both provincially and federally. In his capacity as a businessman, he is currently the President of the Albert County Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Albert County Tourism Association, and former Director of the New Brunswick Chamber of Commerce. He is a long serving volunteer in his community with organizations, including, but not limited to, the Hillsborough Fashions Breast Cancer Gala and the Relay for Life.

Brian Keirstead is a proud and dedicated family man who has raised his three daughters, Erika, Logan, and Zoe, in Albert County.



David Coon
MLA, Fredericton South

David Coon, leader of the Green Party of New Brunswick, was elected to the Legislative Assembly by the people of **Fredericton South** on September 22, 2014. Mr. Coon, his wife, Janice Harvey, and daughters, Laura and Caroline, live in Skyline Acres, in Fredericton.

After earning a science degree at McGill University, Mr. Coon worked as an environmental educator, organizer, activist and organization manager for 33 years, 28 of those years with the Conservation Council of New Brunswick (CCNB).

He began his career providing education and training in energy efficient home renovations and home-based renewable energy systems. While at the Conservation Council, Mr. Coon's campaign for the legal protection of municipal drinking water supplies led to the enactment of New Brunswick's *Clean Water Act*. His work to protect private wells from gasoline contamination resulted in the creation of the *Petroleum Product Handling and Storage Regulation*. This safe drinking water advocacy earned CCNB the United Nations Environmental Programme's Global 500 Award.

Mr. Coon's expertise in sustainable energy systems was brought to bear in the establishment of Efficiency New Brunswick, the regulation requiring NB Power to source electricity from renewable sources, and in the development of New Brunswick's first climate action plan. He received the silver medallion from the Canadian Environmental Achievement Awards for his work to advance public policy on climate change, both provincially and nationally.

Mr. Coon has been a relentless advocate for community-based ecological resource management and land use. In collaboration with fishermen's organizations, he spearheaded an effort to create the Bay of Fundy Fisheries Council to advance community-based approaches to fisheries management. He also collaborated with the National Farmers Union to create the first agricultural conservation club in New Brunswick, and he has worked with communities and woodworkers to advocate for the establishment of community-based forests on Crown lands.

He was a founding director of Harvest Share Co-operative in Keswick Ridge, Canada's first community supported agricultural initiative. He is a founder of the New Brunswick Community Land Trust and is past director of the Ganong Nature Park. He is active in the United Church of Canada and studied to be a licensed lay worship leader. Mr. Coon was born in Toronto, and raised in Dollard-Des Ormeaux, Québec.