

**The Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier of Alberta**

MLA Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville

Ed Stelmach was elected leader of the Alberta Progressive Conservative Party on December 2, 2006 - and on December 14 - on the steps of the Legislature Building - was sworn in as Alberta's 13th Premier.

On March 3rd, 2008, he won an overwhelming mandate in a provincial general election that increased the number of Progressive Conservative MLAs from 60 at dissolution to 72 members of the government caucus.

Mr. Stelmach has been a member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly since 1993. He was elected to his fifth term as an MLA on March 3rd, 2008, serving the people of the Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville Constituency.

Edward Michael Stelmach was born on May 11, 1951 and raised in the Lamont area on the homestead established by his grandparents on their arrival in Canada in 1898.

The youngest of five children, Ed had planned on a legal career, and in 1973 was studying pre-law at the University of Alberta when a family tragedy struck. Mr. Stelmach and his wife Marie returned to operate the family farm, and have since managed a successful mixed farm business.

Premier Stelmach has a long record of public and community service. He has been a school trustee, chair of the Vegreville health unit board and member of the Archer Memorial Hospital and Lamont Auxiliary Hospital and Nursing Home boards. He has also been involved with the Andrew Co-op Association, Lamont District 4-H Council and Andrew 4-H Beef Club.

Armed with a passion for politics and a shoestring budget, he ran successfully for election in the County of Lamont. One year later he was appointed county Reeve — a position he held for 5 years.

In 1993, inspired by Ralph Klein, Mr. Stelmach entered provincial politics and was elected MLA in the Vegreville-Viking constituency. He has held four cabinet posts, including Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Transportation, and lastly Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations. He stepped down from his ministerial duties in March 2006 to run for leadership of the PC Party.

Premier Stelmach is the first Alberta Premier of Ukrainian ancestry, and the first Baby Boomer to lead the province. He and his wife, Marie, continue to live on the

family homestead as well as in Edmonton. They have four grown children and two grandchildren.