

Kim Campbell – Canada's First Female Prime Minister

Kim Campbell was Canada's first and only female Prime Minister. She was born Avril Phaedra Campbell in Port Alberni on Vancouver Island in 1947 but has gone by Kim since she was 12. Kim was always a high achiever, a good student and she graduated at the top of her High School class in 1964. Kim spent the next decade studying or teaching both here in British Columbia and overseas in England. Kim attended Law School at UBC, before turning to politics in the 1980's. She first served on the Vancouver School Board, before later earning a seat in the BC Legislature. In 1988, Campbell was elected as a member of Parliament, and served as a cabinet minister in Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government. She was the first woman to be named minister of justice and the attorney general. She also helped pass more restrictive gun law registration, as well as new laws that protected women's rights to privacy in cases of rape and sexual assault. Campbell's reputation and popularity resulted in her being voted as the new party leader when Prime Minister Mulroney resigned in 1993. On June 25th, 1993, Kim Campbell became Canada's first and only female Prime Minister.



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