

Ralph Eichler (PC) – MLA for Lakeside
Caucus Whip; Municipal Government; MB Hydro

Previous Critic Portfolio:

Caucus Chair, Government Services; Communities Economic Development Fund; Cooperative Development; Industry, Economic Development & Mines, Conservation, Water Stewardship; Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives; Infrastructure and Transportation; Emergency Measures

Background:

Ralph was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in June 2003. He is a long time resident of the Lakeside area with strong ties to the community and local businesses. Ralph served as the Administrator of the Interlake School Division and remains committed to building opportunities for youth.

He was an active member of a variety of organizations including the Teulon and Area Lions Club and the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch 52. Ralph and his family are active members of their local church. In the past, Ralph served as Board Director of the Prairie Implements Manufacturers' Association (PIMA), Board Chairman of Neicom Developments, an original Director of the Teulon Green Acres Park Board, President of the Interlake Riding Club, supporter of the Handivan Committee, Treasurer of the Teulon Kinsmen Club, member of the Interlake Community Foundation Board and Treasurer of the Teulon Golf and Country Club.

He is the past owner/operator of Prairie Farm and Ranch Supply, a major manufacturer and importer/exporter of livestock handling equipment. While a business owner, he successfully initiated the global marketing of an innovative Manitoba agricultural invention called "The Stockdoctor." He currently owns Ray's Auction Service.

January 5, 2014, Ralph was elected as Board Secretary to the State Agriculture Rural Leaders (SARL) Board representing Canada, USA and Mexico. Ralph attends, on a regular basis, the Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit. Here, he works together with senior US state agriculture legislators, Canadian provincial Ministers, and elected officials to discuss and develop agriculture policy and to exchange best practices.

Ralph and his wife Gail have two sons, a daughter and son-in-law, and three grandchildren.