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## **GORDON VENNER**

Former Associate Deputy Minister of the Department of National Defence

Gordon Venner is a retired Canadian Diplomat and Ambassador, and a former Associate Deputy Minister of National Defence. He has served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Conference of Defence Associations Institute, an Ottawa based think tank.

In a forty-year career in public service Mr. Venner also served as Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet for Foreign and Defence Policy in the Privy Council Office, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Middle East and Afghanistan in the Foreign Affairs Department, and as the Government's G8 Sous-Sherpa and APEC Senior Official.



He has significant experience in the Government's multilateral relationships including in the G7, the G20, the OECD, APEC, and NATO. He served as Counselor in the Canadian Mission to the European Union 1996 to 2000, and as Ambassador to Iran 2004 to 2006. He began his career in provincial and municipal government.

Mr. Venner holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Western Ontario, and a Master's Degree from the London School of Economics.

He is married to Marilyn Venner and they have one son.