

**WATTS, HONOURABLE FRANCIS DANIEL “BUCK,”** fisherman; b. 9 November 1944 in Charlottetown, son of Alfred Gregory Watts and Agnes May Ready; m. 20 November 1965 Margaret Marie Corrigan, and they have three children, Stephen Francis, Kimberley Anne and Jason Alfred; Roman Catholic.

Watts, a Liberal, was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in the 28 May 2007 general election for District 8 Tracadie-Hillsborough Park. He was re-elected in the 3 October 2011 general election for the same district. Watts was re-elected in 4 May 2015 general election and was elected as Speaker, through a secret ballot, under the MacLauchlan† administration. He has served as vice-chair of the standing committee on Public Accounts. Watts has served as a member of the special standing committees dealing with climate change, committees and electoral boundaries. He has also served on a number of standing committees dealing with agriculture, environment, energy and forestry; community affairs and economic development; intergovernmental affairs; education and innovation; fisheries and transportation; rural development; health and wellness, social development and seniors; privileges, rules and private bills; and the standing committee on the Constitution of Canada. Watts has served as chair of the standing committee on legislative management and vice-chair of the standing committee on Public Accounts, and chair of the legislative audit committee. From 2008 to 2012, he served on the Investment Advisory Committee of the PEI Master Trust. Watts ran unsuccessfully in the 9 September 2003 election.

Growing up in Grand Tracadie, Watts attended Grand Tracadie School before attending Saint Dunstan’s High School. Subsequently, he studied marine navigation at Holland College and was certified as a 350-ton Masters, Second Mate Home Trade (2MHT), after which he worked as a fisherman. He also took the Leadership Development Program at UPEI in Charlottetown.

He is the co-founder and chair of the Grand Tracadie Community Council and had a hand in the building of a baseball diamond and hockey rink in the area. He is an honorary member and chair of the PEI chapter of the Canadian Council of Professional Fish Harvesters. He has served as chair of the Community of Grand Tracadie, chair of the Tracadie Harbour Port Committee and as president of the PEI Fishermen’s Association.

Watts and his wife reside in Grand Tracadie. Margie was born on 7 October 1945 in Charlottetown and is the daughter of Herbert James Corrigan and Eulalia Ida Hughes of Pleasant Grove.

#### References

Questionnaire to MLAs; *The Guardian* 3 June 2009, April 19 2016, April 26 2017; *Royal Gazette* 30 January 2010.

**WEBSTER, GEORGE THOMAS,** farmer; b. 7 August 1949 in Summerside, son of Vernon Craig Webster and Mary Ruth Dawson; m. 14 February 1969 Sarah Wendy MacDougall, and they have two children, Stephen Troy and Tamie Ruth; Presbyterian.

Webster, a Liberal, was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in the 28 May 2007 general election for District 19 Borden-Kinkora. He was re-elected on 3 October 2011. He served as Minister of Environment, Energy and Forestry from 12 June 2007 to 12 January 2009. On 13 January 2009, he was named Minister of Agriculture and a year later the role of Deputy Premier was added to his portfolio. Webster also served as a vice-chair of the Policy Board and as a member of the Treasury Board. Webster did not reoffer in the spring 2015 general election.

Webster received his early education at Middleton School and graduated from Athena High School in 1968. He then attended the Provincial Vocational Institute. Webster ran a family farming

operation for over 30 years, receiving several provincial and national awards for his commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable farming practices. They included the Canadian Agri-Food Award of Excellence for Environmental Stewardship and the Honourable Gilbert R. Clements Award for Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture for establishing Maple Plains Agro Environmental Site to demonstrate sustainable farming practices.

Webster has served his community as chair of the PEI Potato Board and member of the PEI Potato Producer Association. He was a board member with the Bedeque Bay Development Corporation and the Kensington County store. He is a member of the Bedeque Bay Environment Management Association and North Tryon Presbyterian Church. He served as president of the PEI Snowmobile Association and Kensington Area Minor Hockey Council. He enjoys skiing, biking and motorized sports. He currently serves as the President of the Association of Former Members of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island.

Webster and his wife reside in Middleton. Wendy Webster is the daughter of Clifton Russel MacDougall and Florence Ruby MacPhee of Cape Traverse.

#### **References**

Elections PEI; *Farm Focus of Atlantic Canada* 10 September 2009; *The Guardian* 24 August 2009; Legislative Assembly member website; Questionnaire to Former MLAs; *Royal Gazette* 29 October 2011.