

Advisory Board Member

The Hon. Phil Goff MP



The Hon Phil Goff has been Member of Parliament for Mt Roskill in the New Zealand Parliament, representing the New Zealand Labour Party. He first joined the Labour Party in 1969 and has held a number of positions within the party since.

Mr. Goff was first elected as Member of Parliament for Mt Roskill in the 1981 elections; and following his re-election in the 1984 elections, he was elevated to the Cabinet, becoming its youngest member.

Between 1984 and 1987, under Prime Minister David Lange, he served as the Minister in Charge of the Government Life Insurance Corporation, the Public Trust Office and the State Insurance Office. He also served as the Minister for Housing and, between 1986 and 1987, Minister for the Environment.

Between 1987 and 1989, under Prime Minister Lange, he served as Minister of Employment, Minister of Tourism, Associate Minister of Education and Minister of Youth Affairs. Over the next year, he held the ministerial portfolio for education and was Minister in Charge of the Education Review and Audit Agency.

Between 1990 and 1993, he was appointed to a position at the Auckland Institute of Technology and later accepted a Foreign and Commonwealth Office Scholarship to study at Nuffield College, University of Oxford.

He was re-elected as Member of Parliament in 1993 and served as Party Spokesperson for Justice under the then Labour leader, Helen Clark. He retained his seat in the 1996 elections, serving in Opposition as Labour's Spokesman on Justice, Courts and Corrections.

Following the 1999 elections which Labour won, he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as well as Minister of Justice, until 2005 and Minister responsible for the Law Commission until 2007. He also served as Minister for Pacific Island Affairs between

2003 and 2007.

From 2005, he served as Associate Minister and then Minister for Trade Negotiations until 2007; Associate Minister of Finance until 2008; and Minister of Defence, Minister of Trade, and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control until 2008. He also served as Minister of Corrections between 2007 and 2008.

From 2008 until 2011, Mr. Goff served as Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Labour Party. He was also spokesperson for the Security Intelligence Service.

Currently, he serves as member of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee; member of the Law and Order Committee; Spokesperson for Ethnic Affairs, Defence, Trade, and Veterans' Affairs; and Associate Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs.

Over the course of his career, he has also served as a Lecturer at Auckland University and Senior Lecturer at Auckland Institute of Technology. His recreational interests include gardening, farming, hunting and fishing, motorbike riding, and watching rugby and league.