Biographical Sketch:

Jonathan Lee Convenor New Zealand Liberal Party



Mr Lee is the Convenor of the New Zealand Liberal Party. His previous political experience includes standing for the Waitemata District Health Board in October 2997 and writing the health and housing policy for Doug Matheson then leader of the United Party prior to the 1996 General Election. He also campaigned for the Social Democratic Party in the United Kingdom, which later joined the Liberals to form the UK's Liberal Democrats.

Mr Lee is the managing director of Montem & Company a firm providing corporate advice to medium sized business on strategy development and raising finance. He has over twenty years of commercial experience since graduating with a master's degree from the London Business School. Mr Lee's investment banking experience includes an appointment as a representative director for Jardine Fleming and as an Associate Director with Morrison & Company in Wellington, the manager of the Infratil fund.

During the early 1990s, Mr Lee was a Chief Policy Advisor to the Rt.Hon. Sir William Birch, the Minister of State Services. Among other senior roles with the Public Service under the auspices of the State Services Commission, Mr Lee served as Chairman of the Officials Committee on Energy Policy and on various ministerial inquiries into public service management, including an inquiry into the mistreatment of inmates at Mangaroa Prison. He was also the Project Director for the establishment of the Department for Courts under the Rt. Hon. Sir Douglas Graham. Mr Lee also served under the Hon. Doug Matheson for the Labour Government leading up to the 1990 election in assessing the structure of the DSIR.

His international corporate career included senior executive roles in BP plc and ICI plc both in Europe and North America. Before attending the London Business School, he was as an intelligence officer with the British Army.

He is a member of the Institute of Directors and a registered Commodity Trading Advisor with the United States' Commodities Futures Trading Commission.

In addition to his Master's degree, Mr Lee has an honours degree in International Politics from the University of Wales, a Diploma from the West Surrey College of Art and studied Fine Art at Goldsmith's College, University of London, where he was a contemporary of Damien Hirst and several others of the New Brit School of Art. He is also a graduate of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and the Army Staff College, Warminster.

Mr Lee is a naturalised New Zealand citizen, has been resident In New Zealand for some 20 years and is married to Alison Burford, an Occupational Therapist, with whom he has two infant children. They live in Devonport on the North Shore of Auckland. Before marrying, Mr Lee sailed extensively, including one and a half times around the North Island single handed before settling in Devonport.

Mr Lee is closely related to Robert Lee the controversial Inspector of Schools in the Wellington Province who drove out nepotism and promoted Māori education in the Province's schools at the end of the 19th Century. He went on to be a long serving member of the Education Board. Robert married the daughter of artist, John Gully, while headmaster in Nelson, and was the father of Lincoln Lee, the late watercolourist and Latin scholar.