Ian Macfarlane

Ian Macfarlane is the Chief Executive of the Queensland Resources Council, a non-executive director of Woodside Petroleum, the Chairman of the Innovative Manufacturing Co-operative Research Centre, a member of the University of Queensland Rural Clinical School Toowoomba Community Advisory Committee, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ian was elected to Federal Parliament as the Member for Groom in October 1998 and is Australia’s longest serving Federal Resources and Energy Minister and the Coalition’s longest serving Federal Industry and Innovation Minister with over 14 years of experience in both Cabinet and shadow ministerial positions. Ian has extensive experience across the resources and energy, agribusiness, science and innovation, skills and training and manufacturing and industry sectors.

Ian retired from the Federal Parliament in May 2016.

Before entering federal politics, Mr Macfarlane was one of the country’s most active agripoliticians. Mr Macfarlane previously farmed peanuts, sorghum and wheat, and ran cattle in Queensland’s Burnett region. He was President of the Queensland Graingrowers Association for seven years, President of the Grains Council of Australia for two years, and simultaneously held executive positions on the Queensland and National Farmers’ Federations.

Mr Macfarlane is married to Karen and has two adult daughters. He lives in Toowoomba, Australia’s largest provincial inland city.

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