The Honourable Rob Merrifield was first elected to the House of Commons in 2000 and was re-elected in 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2011 as the Member of Parliament for Yellowhead. Rob has served as the Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee for Finance and the Chair of the Canada-US Interparliamentary Association. He had previously served on the Health Committee in many capacities including Chair, Official Opposition Senior Health Critic and Vice-Chair. In 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper asked Rob to serve as Minister of State for Transport. Also in 2008, he was honoured to be summoned and appointed for life to Her Majesty’s Privy Council for Canada. Rob is currently the Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade and a member on the Board of Internal Economy, which is the governing body of the House of Commons. In addition, he has been given a mandate to work closely with the United States Congress, in cooperation with the Canadian Embassy in Washington, on issues relevant to Canadian interests. He was honoured to be selected as #17 out of the 100 most influential people in Canadian politics by the Hill Times in 2014.

Rob was raised on a dairy farm outside of Whitecourt, Alberta. After meeting his wife Brenda at college, he took over the family farm. He has since passed most of the farm’s operations onto his son Chad, but he still finds time during the harvest season to hop on a combine. Every once in awhile when he is back home, Rob can be sighted over Whitecourt taking his power parachute out for a spin.

Rob and Brenda enjoy spending time with their two sons, two daughters-in-law and five grandchildren.