

Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

February 21, 2002

William Kaplan

TREASURER, may I present to you and this Convocation William Kaplan and request that you confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

An admiration of law and history has shaped the extensive and diverse career of William Kaplan. Known as one of this country's finest legal historians, he has also served the law as a respected writer, educator and arbitrator.

Born in Toronto, William Kaplan received a Master of Arts from the University of Toronto before embarking on a legal education, which culminated in a J.S.D. from Stanford Law School. Having completed his formal education, he began a private practice in arbitration and mediation while continuing to develop his skill as a writer in the field of legal history. Eventually his career took yet another direction when he accepted a teaching position at the University of Ottawa where he obtained a full professorship.

Today his life is a balance of each one of these careers. As a writer he continues to publish works in the fields of legal history and arbitration. As an educator he continues to share his knowledge with the youth of this profession. As a lawyer he has become widely known for his work as an arbitrator and mediator.

In 1999, William Kaplan was the recipient of a Law Society Medal, an award given to show the profession's respect and admiration for those they feel have given outstanding professional service.

He is deserving of the highest honour this Society can give and I request you, Sir, to confer upon William Kaplan the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.