

# Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

October 3, 2002

Treasurer, may I present to you and this Convocation The Honourable Mr. Justice Robert Patrick Armstrong, B.A., M.A., LL.B., (Court of Appeal for Ontario) and request that you confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

Robert Armstrong began his legal career at the firm of Kimber, Dubin under the tutelage of Charles Dubin, Q.C., later Chief Justice of Ontario. In 1972, he joined Torys and in 1973, became a partner in that firm.

As an advocate, Robert Armstrong appeared in a broad spectrum of cases in courts throughout Canada. His reputation as a master of incremental argument became firmly entrenched with his victories in cases such as the "Dredging case", which was, at the time, the longest jury criminal case in Canadian history and the Hill vs. Church of Scientology et al case, in which he established the largest monetary award ever given in a libel case. In 1995, he became a Bencher of The Law Society of Upper Canada and four years later, he was elected Treasurer of the Society. In this capacity, Robert Armstrong promoted professionalism, mentorship and continuing education for the members of the legal profession in Ontario. After completing his term as Treasurer, Robert Armstrong was appointed to the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Mr. Justice Robert P. Armstrong has had a remarkable career, thus far. He has served his profession admirably as an advocate, a Bencher, a Treasurer and now as a judge.

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