

Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

July 8, 2003

Treasurer, it is my distinct honour to present to you and to Convocation, Chief Roberta Jamieson and ask that you confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

Roberta Jamieson is an outstanding individual. She has dedicated her life to challenging in Aboriginal and human rights issues, a whole series of injustices. She has worked tirelessly to build a stronger community for future generations by shattering racial and social barriers. In doing so, Roberta Jamieson has become an inspirational role model for First Nations people across this country.

Throughout her remarkable career she has celebrated many accomplishments. First Aboriginal woman to earn a law degree, the first Aboriginal Commissioner of the Indian Commission of Ontario, and the first woman appointed as Ombudsman for the Province of Ontario. In 2001, she became the first woman to be elected to serve as the Chief of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

Although personally proud of her many achievements, Chief Roberta Jamieson believes that the true importance of these achievements lies in what they mean to First Nations people. They demonstrate that through proactive action obstacles can be overcome and stereotypes can be shattered.

Chief Roberta Jamieson is deserving of the highest honour this Society can give and I request you, Sir, to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.