

Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

July 22, 2005

Claude Thomson

Treasurer, may I present to you and this Convocation Claude Renwick Thomson Q.C., FCI Arb, and request that you confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

As a litigator, an arbitrator and a national and international leader of the Bar, Claude Thomson has made immense contributions to the legal profession and earned a reputation for impartiality, integrity and professionalism. Called to the Bar in 1968, his legal career has been extensive and distinguished. As a practitioner, he has long been regarded as one of this province's best counsel in general commercial litigation. In recognition of his professional contributions, Claude Thomson was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1976.

His extensive litigation experience provided him with the knowledge and background necessary to continue on to a highly successful and renowned career as an international mediator and arbitrator in the second phase of his professional life. Claude Thomson has proven himself a strong voice of the profession and a strategic leader. As President of the Canadian Bar Association he worked tirelessly to promote improvements to the administration of justice in Canada and as President of the International Bar Association he visited many countries and provided support and leadership to lawyers around the world. His work in the international arena was recognized in 1985, when he was awarded the World Lawyer Award from the World Peace Through Law Centre.

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