

MINUTES OF SPECIAL CONVOCATION

Toronto - Friday, 23rd February, 2001
10:30 a.m.

The Treasurer, Benchers and their guests proceeded to the auditorium at Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto for the Call to the Bar ceremonies of the 204 graduates of the Bar Admission Course.

.....

CONVOCATION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:30 A.M.

The Treasurer asked all present to stand for the National Anthem sung by Tamara Hummel.

PRESENT: (Platform)

The Treasurer (Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C.), Larry Banack, Gordon Bobesich, Abdul Chahbar, Earl Cherniak, Edward Ducharme, Robert Lalonde, Donald Lamont, Niels Ortved, Frank Marrocco, Derry Millar, Marilyn Pilkington, Judith Potter and Heather Ross.

and

Justice William I. C. Binnie, Justice Coulter A. A. Osborne, Justice Sidney B. Linden, Huguette Malyon, Dean Alison Harvison Young, Lois Chiang, James O'Brien, Frederick L. Myers, Janet Leiper, Jeff Cowan, M. Elena Hoffstein, Richard Tinsley, Bob Bernhardt, Roman Woloszczuk, Ian Lebane and Doug Simpson.

The body of the auditorium was occupied by the candidates and their guests.

CONFERRING OF AN HONORARY DEGREE

Mr. Derry Millar, Chair of the Admissions Committee introduced the Doctoral candidate, the Honourable Mr. Justice William I. C. Binnie, and read the following citation:

“Treasurer, it is my pleasant duty to present to you and to this Convocation, the Honourable Mr. Justice William Ian Corneil Binnie and request that you confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Called to the Bar in Ontario in 1967, he quickly displayed those talents which were to make him a leader of the litigation bar; the ability to isolate the key elements of a case, to bring the law to bear on those elements and the skill to develop his argument in a clear, cogent and persuasive manner.

During his years at the bar, he practised before all levels of court and administrative tribunals arguing leading civil and constitutional cases before the Supreme Court of Canada and the International Court of Justice.

His judgment and legal analysis were in demand not only by private clients but by governments as well. He was Special Parliamentary counsel to the Joint Senate and House of Commons Committee examining the Meech Lake Accord and he advised the Government of Newfoundland respecting constitutional amendments to the Terms of Union.

From 1982 to 1986 as Associate Deputy Minister of Justice for Canada, he was responsible for all litigation involving the Crown in right of Canada and advised the government on Charter and Aboriginal issues.

Throughout his career, his wit and his obvious enjoyment of the collegiality of the bar combined with his abilities both as a litigator and legal scholar firmly established him in the first rank of the legal profession in Canada.

Mr. Justice Binnie, Treasurer, has throughout his career both as a practising lawyer and since 1998 as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, demonstrated those traits of service and professionalism that we hold in high esteem and I ask therefore that you bestow upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

The Treasurer admitted the Honourable Mr. Justice William Binnie to the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Justice Binnie then addressed the candidates and their guests.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

Mr. Bob Bernhard, Director of Education presented the prizewinners to the Treasurer.

The Treasurer presented the following prizes to the respective recipients:

Awarded The Law Society's First Prize for the student attaining the second highest grades in the Bar Admission Course; The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History Prize for being one of the twenty-five students attaining the highest grades in the Bar Admission Course; The Edwin George Long, K.C. Memorial Scholarship for the student attaining the second highest grades in the Bar Admission Course; a share of The Isadore Levinter Memorial Award for the student attaining the second highest grades in the Bar Admission Course; a share of The Herbert Egerton Harris Advocacy Scholarship for the student attaining the second highest grade in Civil Litigation; The S. J. Birnbaum Q.C., Scholarship Second Prize for the student attaining the second highest grade in Estate Planning; The Samuel Lerner, Q.C. Prize in General Advocacy for the student attaining the highest combined grades in Civil Litigation, Public Law, and Family Law; and The Harcourts Advocacy Award for the student attaining the highest combined grades in Civil Litigation, Family Law and Criminal Procedure

Glen Gordon Loutzenhiser

Awarded The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History Prize for being one of the twenty-five students attaining the highest grades in the Bar Admission Course, and a share of The Law Society's Third Prize for the student attaining the fourth highest grades in the Bar Admission Course

Robert Anthony Centa

Awarded The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History Prize for being one of the twenty-five students attaining the highest grades in the Bar Admission Course, and a share of The S. J. Birnbaum Q.C. Scholarship Third Prize for the student attaining the third highest grade in Estate Planning

Stephen Andrew Silverman

Awarded The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History Prize for being one of the twenty-five students attaining the highest grades in the Bar Admission Course

David Miles Gnam
Paul Hartley Stepak

Awarded a share of The Herbert Egerton Harris Advocacy Scholarship for the student attaining the highest grade in Civil Litigation, and a share of The International Academy of Trial Lawyers Plaque for the student attaining the highest grade in Civil Litigation

Deborah Lori Rollier

Awarded a share of The William Belmont Common, Q.C. Prize for Criminal Procedure for the student attaining the second highest grade in Criminal Procedure

John Waldemar Kaldas

Awarded a share of The Margaret P. Hyndman, O.C., Q.C., D.C.L. Prize donated by the Alpha Mu Chapter, Kappa Beta Pi Legal Association for the student attaining the second highest grade in Business Law

Gianni Toffoletto

Awarded a share of The S. J. Birnbaum Q.C. Scholarship Third Prize for the student attaining the third highest grade in Estate Planning

Eric Nehemia Jacob Hoffstein
Tammy Melissa Marer

CALL TO THE BAR

Mr. Frank Marrocco, Mr. Larry Banack, Mr. Donald Lamont and Ms. Heather Ross, representatives of the Admissions Committee presented to the Treasurer 204 candidates for the Call to the Bar as follows:

BAR ADMISSION COURSE 2000 - 2001

204 CANDIDATES FOR CALL TO THE BAR

(Enclosed in Convocation file is a list of the candidates for Call to the Bar)

The Treasurer conferred upon the candidates the degree of Barrister-at-law and called them to the Bar of Ontario.

CONVOCATION ADJOURNED

.....

Following Convocation a Special Sitting of the Court of Appeal for Ontario and the Superior Court of Justice convened, with the Honourable Mr. Justice Coulter A. A. Osborne, Associate Chief Justice of Ontario presiding.

The candidates were presented to Mr. Justice Osborne before whom they took the Oath of Allegiance, Barristers Oath and Solicitors Oath and acknowledged their signatures on the Rolls in the presence of the Court.

Justice Osborne then addressed the new Barristers and Solicitor.

.....

At the conclusion of the formal proceedings, the Treasurer and Benchers held a reception and luncheon at Osgoode Hall and had as their guests, Chief Justice R. Roy McMurtry, Justice Coulter A. A. Osborne, Justice William F. C. Binnie, Susan Binnie, James Binnie, Matthew Binnie, Erin Murphy, Max Binnie, Justice Rosalie S. Abella, Irving Abella, Zachary Abella, Jacob Julian Abella, Fanny Silberman, Huguette Malyon, Ronald Daniels, Dean Alison Harvison Young, James O'Brien, Frederick L. Myers and James Musgrove.

Confirmed in Convocation this 24th day of May, 2001

Treasurer