

MINUTES OF SPECIAL CONVOCATION

Toronto - Friday, 23rd February, 2001  
3:15 p.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 212 graduates of the Bar Admission Course and 7 transfer candidates.

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CONVOCATION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:15 P.M.

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

PRESENT: (Platform)

The Treasurer (Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C.), Larry Banack, Gordon Bobesich, Earl Cherniak, Edward Ducharme, Robert Lalonde, Donald Lamont, Niels Ortved, Gavin MacKenzie, Ron Manes, Derry Millar, Marilyn Pilkington, Judith Potter.

and

Chief Justice R. Roy McMurtry, Justice Jeff Oliphant, Justice Rosalie S. Abella, Justice John D. Ground, Huguette Malyon, Dean Ronald Daniels, Dean Alison Harvison Young, James O'Brien and James Musgrove.

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 Madam Justice Rosalie S. Abella.

“Treasurer, it is my pleasant duty to present to you and to this Convocation the Honourable Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella and request that you confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Her career in the law since her call to the Bar in 1972 has been eclectic, practising lawyer, judge of the Provincial Court Family Division, Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, Chair, Study on Access to Legal Services by the Disabled, Sole Commissioner on Equality in Employment, Chair, Ontario Labour Relations Board, Chair, Ontario Law Reform Commission and Justice of the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

From her appointment as a judge of the Provincial Court Family Division in 1976, an appointment notable for being the youngest judge to be appointed, the first Jewish woman to be appointed and the first pregnant woman to be appointed, through her career of successive high profile appointments, she was a role model for women at a time when the number of women entering the profession was rapidly increasing and she has continued to play an active part in advancing the role of women in the legal profession.

A main constant in her career has been her energetic and passionate devotion to the use of the law to achieve social justice and the protection of the disadvantaged in our society, a cause she has advanced both with the force of her intellectual rigour and with her infectious enthusiasm and sense of humour, a potent combination which has disarmed many an opponent.

Treasurer, Justice Abella's record of service to the profession and to the public is in the highest tradition of our profession and I ask therefore that you confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

The Treasurer admitted Madam Justice Rosalie S. Abella to the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Justice Abella addressed the candidates and their guests.

### PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

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

The Treasurer presented the following prizes to the respective recipients:

Awarded The Law Society's Second Prize for the student attaining the third 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; a share of The Isadore Levinter Memorial Award for the student attaining the second highest grades in the Bar Admission Course; The Stuart Thom Prize donated by Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt for the student attaining the highest grade in Business Law; and The McCarthy Tetrault Business Law Prize donated by McCarthy Tetrault for the student attaining the highest grade in Business Law at Toronto

Thomas Hartley Yeo

Awarded a share of The Law Society's Third Prize for the student attaining the fourth highest grades in the Bar Admission Counsel; 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 William Belmont Common, Q.C. Prize for Criminal Procedure for the student attaining the second highest grade in Criminal Procedure

Rebecca Faith Candace Brackley

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 Practitioners' Prize in Real Estate for the student attaining the highest grade in Real Estate

Katharine Elizabeth Lynne Alexander-Carew

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 Herbert Egerton Harris Advocacy Scholarship for the student attaining the second highest grade in Civil Litigation

Genevieve Dawn Currie

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

Kelly Anne Charlebois  
Nancy Kathleen Kempton  
Jill Lara Magazine

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

Benita Joanne Wassenaar

CALL TO THE BAR

Mr. Earl Cherniak, Mr. Niels Ortved, Mr. Gavin MacKenzie and Ms. Marilyn Pilkington, representatives of the Admissions Committee presented to the Treasurer 219 candidates for the Call to the Bar as follows:

BAR ADMISSION COURSE 2000 - 2001

219 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

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Following Convocation a Special Sitting of the Court of Appeal for Ontario and the Superior Court of Justice convened, with the Honourable R. Roy McMurtry, Chief Justice of Ontario presiding.

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

Chief Justice McMurtry then addressed the new Barristers and Solicitors.

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At the conclusion of the formal proceedings the Treasurer, Benchers and their guests returned to Osgoode Hall.

Confirmed in Convocation this 24th day of May, 2001

Treasurer