



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**Memorandum**

**TO:** Members of the Board of Governors  
Members of Academic Council

**FROM:** Tim McTiernan, President

**RE:** Honorary Degree Recipients 2013

**DATE:** May 14, 2013

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I am pleased to report that, on the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees Committee, seven candidates will receive honorary degrees at the upcoming Convocation ceremonies to be held on June 6 and 7, 2013. The recipients are Dr. Clement Bowman, Mr. Garry Cubitt, Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Mr. R. Peter MacKinnon, Mr. André Picard, Mr. Robert Strickert and Mr. Lorne Trottier.

**Dr. Clement Bowman – Doctor of Science, honoris causa**

Dr. Clement Bowman received his PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toronto in 1961 and joined Imperial Oil Limited where he began a long and distinguished career in the energy industry. He moved on to become the chairperson of the Alberta Oil Sands Technology and Research Authority where he was responsible for initiating a project which ultimately revolutionized the oil sands industry and brought considerable wealth to Alberta and to Canada. Other career highlights include being Chair of the Alberta Government's Technology and Research Advisory Committee, President of the Alberta Research Council, and Vice-President responsible for the Research Centre at Esso Petroleum Canada. His work has led to the successful commercialization of major new technologies and to significant improvements in the practices of technology-intensive organizations. He has recently authored a book, which outlines a number of priorities that Canada should follow over the current century to become a sustainable energy superpower. He has served on many committees and is a devoted member of the National Research Council. Dr. Bowman is the recipient of a number of awards, including the Canadian Research Management Association's Medalist Award, the Alberta Science and Technology Leadership Award, and the K.A. Clark Distinguished Service Award. He received the Global Energy International Prize in 2008. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada and in 1994 was installed as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

**Mr. Garry Cubitt – Doctor of Laws, honoris causa**

Mr. Garry Cubitt is the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Regional Municipality of Durham and was also named the Chief Administrative Officer of Durham Regional Transit in 2006. Mr. Cubitt began his career in the public service as a caseworker and continued his work in the public sector providing over 41 years of government service. Durham Region has experienced

significant growth and change during Mr. Cubitt's time as CAO and he continues to ensure that exceptional service is delivered to the 600,000 Durham Region residents. He is a long-time resident of Oshawa and has given back to his community through his dedicated volunteer work with many organizations in the Region. He has been widely recognized by a number of organizations and was awarded the William G. Davis Award for his contributions to Ontario colleges. Mr. Cubitt also was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012. As a former Durham College board member and founding UOIT Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Cubitt has made an outstanding contribution in creating UOIT. His efforts and dedication have made a significant impact on campus, throughout the Region and within the province of Ontario. He continues to show outstanding leadership, benevolence and unflagging commitment to ensuring the success of UOIT.

**Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell – Doctor of Science, honoris causa**

Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council of Canadian Academies. Her substantial public service career has spanned provincial, federal, and international borders. Her career highlights include serving as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment Canada, management consultant for the Government of Canada, Canada's permanent representative at the World Meteorological Organization, principal delegate to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and Canadian Chair of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board. Ms. Dowdeswell served as the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program and was later appointed President of Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organization. She is a member of numerous boards and was more recently appointed as Chair of the Board of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario. Ms. Dowdeswell is the recipient of numerous awards including the Memorial Gold Medal awarded by Charles University in Prague and she received the Order of Canada in 2012 for her outstanding public service.

**Mr. R. Peter MacKinnon – Doctor of Laws, honoris causa**

Mr. Peter MacKinnon is a member of the Ontario Bar and Saskatchewan Bar. He was appointed to the Queen's Counsel in 1990 and was chosen as Officer of the Order of Canada in 2011. Mr. MacKinnon joined the faculty of the University of Saskatchewan as an Assistant Professor of Law. His career grew at the university where he served as a Professor and Dean prior to being appointed President in 1999, a role in which he served for three consecutive terms before stepping down in 2012. He is currently a Prime Ministers of Canada Fellow for the Public Policy Forum. Mr. MacKinnon has held many provincial and national appointments. He is co-editor of three books and the author of many articles, commentaries and reviews in Canadian and international legal journals. He is the recipient of many professional and service awards including the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal.

**Mr. André Picard – Doctor of Laws, honoris causa**

Mr. André Picard is a health journalist for the *Globe and Mail*, best-selling author, renowned speaker and an advocate for improving the health of Canadians and the Canadian healthcare system. Widely considered the top health journalist in the country, his approach of researching, documenting and sharing health issues through the eyes of patients, health care workers, caregivers, and other often-forgotten individuals provides compelling insight into everyday challenges. His broad scope of research areas, ranging from HIV/AIDS, mental illness, healthcare reform, food safety, child obesity and the nursing shortage informs the public on relevant, timely and real-world issues. The light he shines on complex issues through his writing makes a positive difference on how the public, government, and policy makers work towards improving the health state of Canadians. Mr. Picard is currently the Scholar-in-Residence at the Conference Board of

Canada where he is writing a book on healthcare reform. He has received numerous awards, including the Centennial Prize of the Pan American Health Organization as the top public health reporter in the Americas, the Governor General's Leadership Award and the Hyman Solomon Award from the Public Policy Forum.

**Mr. Robert Strickert – Doctor of Laws, honoris causa**

Mr. Robert Strickert has had an illustrious career of over 30 years in the nuclear power industry with Ontario Hydro and Ontario Power Generation. His accomplished career paved the way for many of the standards and practices in the industry today. He was involved in the successful decontamination of the Douglas Point Reactor at the Bruce site and investigated the root cause of the pressure tube cracks in the CANDU reactor. He served in a variety of capacities including Operating Superintendent, Manager of Equipment and Reliability, and Site Vice-President of the Darlington Nuclear Station where he helped the plant be one of the first facilities in the world to receive ISO 14001 certification. He worked hard on behalf of the nuclear power industry to improve community relations and was instrumental in creating a good community partnership and helping the Darlington Power Plant gain a reputation as a good corporate citizen and environmental leader. Mr. Strickert is known as the 'green director' among his peers due to his commitment to safe, efficient and environmentally sound practices. He spearheaded training programs for staff and was involved in studies on the effects of shift work on the human body and reviewing examination testing methodologies for senior authorized staff in Canada. He is actively involved in the community participating on numerous boards. Mr. Strickert also served as a Board Chair for both Durham College and UOIT. He was an important leader in the creation of UOIT and is a valuable supporter today.

**Mr. Lorne Trottier – Doctor of Science, honoris causa**

Mr. Lorne Trottier is the co-founder of Matrox Electronics Systems, a high-tech computer company at the leading edge of graphics, video editing and image processing. Mr. Trottier has been both manager and innovator and has won over 1,000 awards, including an Emmy award for technical achievements. In 2005, he created the Lorne Trottier Public Science Symposium which features prominent world-class scientists speaking on topics of interest to the public. He established the Trottier Family Foundation to support science and technology education, public health care and third world economic development. His vision has led to a partnership with the David Suzuki Foundation and the Canadian Academy of Engineering to create the Trottier Energy Futures project. He envisions a future with a cleaner environment in which Canada is seen as a leader in innovative clean-energy solutions. Mr. Trottier also brings his qualities of vision and innovation to the numerous boards of which he is a member and was awarded the Order of Canada in 2007. He is a dedicated philanthropist, entrepreneur, innovator and visionary who has forged new paths toward and financially supported the development of safe, clean and reliable energy in Canada.

The UOIT Convocation ceremonies will be held on Thursday, June 6 and Friday, June 7, 2013 in the General Motors Centre and the schedule will be as follows:

<b>Ceremony date and time</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Honorary degree recipients</b>
Thursday, June 6 – 9:30 a.m.	Faculty of Energy Systems Engineering Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science	Mr. Robert Strickert Dr. Clement Bowman
Thursday, June 6 – 2:00 p.m.	Faculty of Education Faculty of Health Sciences	Mr. R. Peter MacKinnon Mr. André Picard
Friday, June 7 – 9:30 a.m.	Faculty of Science Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities	Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell Mr. Garry Cubitt
Friday, June 7 – 2:00 p.m.	Faculty of Business and Information Technology	Mr. Lorne Trottier

I hope you will all join us in celebrating the achievements of our students and our honorary graduands at this year's convocation ceremonies.

cc: Members, Honorary Degrees Committee