

### *honoris causa*

Madam Chancellor, David Baines' unique combination of academic and practical training in finance coupled with his integrity, curiosity, intelligence and courage demonstrates how a determined individual can contribute to improvements in the quality and transparency of business for all Canadians.

Mr. Baines began his journalistic career after completing an Honours Bachelor of Arts in English Literature at Queen's University and a Master of Business Administration from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario.

After several years in the finance industry, Mr. Baines joined the Vancouver Sun as its securities columnist specializing in white-collar crime, in particular, securities fraud.

Averaging three columns a week for 25 years, Mr. Baines exposed immoral and illegal business conduct in hundreds of different situations. He focused not just on the perpetrators, but also on the regulatory environment that enabled their misdeeds, and the professionals who facilitated them. In many cases, his exposés led to civil and criminal prosecutions, and in some cases, to game-changing regulatory reforms.

Not surprisingly, his writing was not well received by people who found themselves at the investigative end of his pen.

BC Business magazine dubbed him "the most hated man in business."

He was physically threatened on several occasions. At one point, Vancouver police announced there was a contract on his life. He was sued for libel 20 times, not because he was reckless, but because he and the Vancouver Sun refused to be cowed by legal threats. On one occasion, he turned the tables and sued a group of promoters who accused him of trading against his column. He won what is by far the largest libel award in BC history.

Yet Mr. Baines never wavered from his purpo