



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

**Honorary Degree Citations
The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*,
conferred on Dr. Celia Duthie
Thursday, June 3, 1999**

Mr. Chancellor, in presenting Celia Duthie, I am keenly aware that she needs no introduction, for the name Duthie is synonymous with Vancouver. Indeed, many of us here today could not imagine a Vancouver without Duthie Books. For readers and writers west of the great divide, mere mention of the name evokes visions of pleasant hours spent in pursuit of that worthiest of treasures - the perfect book. In honouring her today, we pay tribute to an individual whose unwavering commitment to writers and readers has enriched the cultural life of this province beyond measure.

Celia's father, Bill, founded the company four decades ago. A wise and decent man, he established a tradition of civility, grace, and integrity. When Celia Duthie inherited the management of Duthie Books in 1984, she made that tradition her own, giving it added luster with her wit, her style, and her unshakable belief in the importance of the printed word to the cultural life of this province. Under her guidance, the company expanded to include eight stores, a virtual bookstore known worldwide, a library wholesale company, McNeil Library Service, and