



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Honorary Degree Citations The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, conferred on Dr. Sheila Fraser Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. Chancellor, as Auditor General of Canada, Sheila Fraser has held herself and her Office accountable to the highest standards of truth and fairness. Her courageous stewardship of the public trust has earned her the respect and good will of all Canadians.

Sheila Fraser first distinguished herself as a Chartered Accountant with the firm of Ernst & Young, where she was responsible for a wide range of private and public sector clients. Quickly recognized for her penetrating mind and sound judgment, she was asked to participate in assignments with the Auditor General of Quebec, as well as several departments of the Government of Quebec.

Subsequently, she joined the Office of Auditor General as Deputy Auditor General in 1999, and just two short years later was appointed Auditor General of Canada, the first woman to hold this Office. In this capacity, she has brought her vast knowledge and experience to bear on many important issues of the day. And she has done so with a degree of insight, public-spirited determination, and impartiality that is truly admirable. As a result of her diligence and tenacity, Parliament and her fellow citizens are far better informed about major issues affecting the health, safety and environment of Canadians, such as national security, food safety, the state of the salmon fishery, and the regulation of medical devices.

Throughout her remarkable career, she has also generously given of her time to her profession, chairing important committees of the international organization of audit offices, in an effort to strengthen environmental auditing and the independence of legislative auditors throughout the world. For her many outstanding contributions to the auditing profession, she was awarded the *Frix Emerite* 1993. The following year, the *Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec* made her a Fellow. And in 2000, the Chartered Accountants of Ontario also made her a Fellow.

Sheila Fraser has said that success in government means responsible management of public funds, greater transparency and increased accountability to Parliament and Canadians, all of which are vital to strong public institutions and a healthy democratic society. And indeed, since the day she took Office, Sheila Fraser has worked tirelessly towards these ends. Mr. Chancellor, on behalf of the Senate of this University, I ask that you now confer upon Sheila Fraser the degree Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.