



## **SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

### **Honorary Degree Citations The degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, conferred on Dr. Morris J. Wosk Thursday, June 6, 1996**

Mr. Chancellor, it is my privilege to present Morris J. Wosk, a prominent British Columbian and dynamic businessman who for nearly seventy years has been part of the growth and development of Vancouver, and who has given generously of his time, energy, and resources to numerous causes both here and abroad.

Morris J. Wosk came from humble beginnings. He arrived in Canada as a young boy of twelve. For nearly four decades with vision and single-mindedness of purpose he helped to build the family retail business, Wosks Limited, a name synonymous with integrity and fairness. During the 1960s Morris J. Wosk turned his considerable talents to the hotel and residential sector, again with unqualified success, and again earning the respect of the community for his business acumen and scrupulousness.

For Morris J. Wosk, however, achievement in business is only one measure of success; the other is contribution to community. Ever mindful of the many blessings he has received, he has supported diverse non-profit organizations locally, nationally, and internationally, inspiring many other people to do the same. As a community patron, he is a benefactor to Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia, the Vancouver Public Library, the Vancouver General Hospital, and the Vancouver Art Gallery among many others. His generosity encompasses numerous organizations beyond B.C.'s borders, including the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Yeshiva University of New York and Los Angeles; Beit Wosk Community Youth and Cultural Centre, Ashkelon, Israel; the Jewish National Fund; and the Canadian Council of Christians & Jews.

These represent the public face of Morris J. Wosk's commitment to community. But what is little known is the quiet benevolence he has undertaken throughout the years by helping a long list of elderly and indigent tenants, persons needing medical equipment or assistance, and employees