

THE NOTARY FOUNDATION OF BC

Spotlight on Good Works:

Anne Pappas

UVic Faculty of Law Creates Education Endowment for Aboriginal Justice

On June 18, 2003, UVic Law celebrated the success of its campaign to establish an Educational Endowment for Aboriginal Justice (EEAJ) with a reception for donors, patrons, and volunteers. Chaired by Bryan Williams, QC, and Murray Rankin, QC, the EEAJ campaign reached its \$1 million goal, thanks in part to the support of The Notary Foundation of BC.

The EEAJ has enabled the Faculty to create the first Professorship of Aboriginal Justice and Governance in Canada and to attract this country's leading Aboriginal legal scholar, Professor John Borrows, to fill it. Under Borrows' leadership, the Faculty will develop a range of new initiatives to promote greater public and professional understanding of Aboriginal issues and their resolution.

These initiatives will build on UVic Law's recent experience with its Akitsiraq law school program in Nunavut, which is currently training 13 Inuit students to earn UVic law degrees and to become community leaders. The EEAJ will enable the Faculty to expand opportunities for Aboriginal students to study law, increase its Aboriginal law offerings, and deliver educational programs in Aboriginal communities. In addition, Professor Borrows will collaborate with the Continuing Legal Education Society, the judiciary, and others to enhance understanding of

Aboriginal issues among professional groups such as Notaries and lawyers.

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The EEAJ will also produce innovative and practical research aimed at assisting businesses, Aboriginal communities,

governments, and others to address Aboriginal matters that require resolution, such as treaty negotiations, resource conflicts, and economic development.

The Campaign Committee, the UVic Faculty of Law, and all those affiliated with the Education Endowment for Aboriginal Justice thank The Notary Foundation for its generous support of this important new initiative. ▲

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Lucy Bell (left), third-year law student and President of Native Law Students Society, accepts award from Associate Dean Cheryl Crane.

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