Robert Gordon Rogers

Bob Rogers, in times such as these, the energy and imagination of men like yourself are more than ever needed. Your career has followed Horace Greeley's famous advice, "Go West, young man." Born in Montreal, you attended the Royal Military College in Kingston, and then took civil engineering at the University of Toronto. After service with the Canadian Armoured Corps in the invasion of Europe during the Second World War, you took up a business career with Dominion Tar and Chemical Co., Montreal. In 1960, you came further west to join Crown Zellerbach in Vancouver, a company you served as Executive Vice-President, President and Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board. Now you have taken on the demanding job of Chairman of the new Canada Harbour Place Corporation, Vancouver, a role to test all your skills.

You have also worked as a Director of many companies, including the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the Export Trade Development Board, the Genstar Corporation, Gulf Canada, Hilton Canada, Rockwell International of Canada, Canadian Reinsurance Co. and Canadian Reassurance Co. You have been concerned with the conservation as well as the exploitation of Canada's forest resources, as Chairman of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, Chairman of the Council of Forest Industries of British Columbia, Chairman of Forintek Canada Corp. and Chairman of the Canadian Forestry Advisory Council.

This busy round of duties in your profession has not prevented you from taking an active part in community and educational affairs, as a member of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, the Pacific Basin Economic Council, the Canada-Japan Business Cooperation Committee and the International Council of United World Colleges. Your current major community concern rests in the visionary idea enshrined in the Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific, which you serve as Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors. You have also been a leader in endeavouring to establish closer ties between business and university faculties, arranging activities in which representatives of the market place and of the ivory tower of academe have been brought together to discuss problems and theories. In addition, you take time to roar with the Board of Governors of the B.C. Lions, and blaze new trails as Vice-President of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of Canada.

For these and other exemplary duties on behalf of your country, your community, and your profession, Simon Fraser University takes pleasure in conferring on you the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.