



September 17, 2001

Fraser Basin Council Pays Tribute to Iona Campagnolo

Friday, September 14th at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, friends, family and colleagues (past and present), paid tribute to Iona Campagnolo. At an evening hosted by the Fraser Basin Council, of which she is the Founding Chair, Council Directors, partners and staff bid her farewell and thanks prior to her installation September 25th as British Columbia's next Lieutenant Governor.

Some highlights of the evening MC'd by CBC's Gloria Mackarenko, included presentations from Pat Wallace, 2nd Vice-President of the Union of BC Municipalities, speaking on behalf of the Mayors and Councils of the 65 cities within the Fraser Basin; Musqueam Councilor Nolan Charles, on behalf of the Musqueam First Nation; Hon. Stan Hagen, BC Minister of Sustainable Resources Management, speaking on behalf of the Provincial Government; and the Hon. Herb Dhaliwahl, who brought greetings from the Government of Canada.

Longtime friend and colleague the Hon. Paul Martin, Canada's Minister of Finance, sent heartfelt greetings by videotape, as did the Hon. Garde Gardom, BC's current Lieutenant-Governor and several other of Ms. Campagnolo's friends who were unable to attend in person.

Campagnolo, clearly overwhelmed by the outpouring of affection from so many, spoke of the urgent need to continue bringing people together in dialogue to find common ground toward the resolution of serious sustainability challenges – the key focus of her work with the Fraser Basin Council. With the events of last week's tragedy in New York so fresh in many people's minds, Ms. Campagnolo reminded her audience of the First Nations' legend about the roots of trees in the forest. The legend describes that although the forest's trees are all shapes and sizes above ground, that deep in the earth the roots are indistinguishable, with the trees above relying on the intertwined roots below for their strength.

Campagnolo closed the evening by announcing her successor at the Council, Dr. Jack Blaney, Senior Fellow of the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue; Commissioner, International Joint Commission; Director, Vancouver Board of Trade; and Past President of Simon Fraser University.

The Fraser Basin Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Fraser Basin (www.fraserbasin.bc.ca).

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