

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



### **Peter Desbarats reviews Somalia inquiry in Laurier Lecture**

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WATERLOO - The Somalia inquiry came to an abrupt end before the commission finished examining all the shocking acts attributed to Canadian peacekeepers and the allegations of a cover-up. **Peter Desbarats**, one of the three commissioners will examine what this inquiry and its treatment by the federal government means for the future of public inquiries and of Canadian democracy in the first Laurier Lecture of 1998.

Desbarats will share his insights on the issues surrounding the inquiry on **Thursday, January 22, 1998 at 4 p.m.** in Laurier's **Paul Martin Centre**. Community members are welcome to attend; admission is free.

Desbarats was Dean of the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of Western Ontario when he was appointed to the Somalia inquiry in 1995. He had spent three decades as a journalist prior to his academic career and is a frequently-quoted expert on media. He has written eleven books; his most recent, Somalia Cover-up: A Commissioner's Journal, was published by McClelland and Stewart in October 1997.

The annual Laurier Lectures series brings distinguished individuals to speak or perform at the University.