

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Elizabeth Witmer to outline role of leadership in public sector

Laurier MBA candidates benefit from discussing relevant issues with industry leaders

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WATERLOO – One of Ontario's most high-profile ministers will outline the importance of leadership and the role of values in the public sector for an audience of MBA students at Wilfrid Laurier University. The Honourable Elizabeth Witmer, minister of health and long-term care, will share her views at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12, in the Paul Martin Centre.

"Ms. Witmer is a strong and successful leader in the public sector," explains Bruce Fournier, associate professor of business at Laurier. "She is a dynamic role model for our students to learn from."

Witmer was sworn in as Ontario's minister of labour in June 1995, appointed minister of health in October, 1997 and re-appointed minister of health and long-term Care in June 1999. Her lecture is part of a series designed to introduce Laurier's MBA students to esteemed business leaders.

"As a student at Laurier, I have found the speaker series really supplements our more formal classroom education," says Josef Frank, MBA 2000 candidate. "It's one thing to talk about leadership; it's quite another to have such direct interaction with today's leaders. Ms. Witmer's decision to make herself available to our class speaks very highly of Laurier's program."

Past speakers of the series have included Daryl Wilson, vice-president of manufacturing for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada, and Dan Fortin, vice-president of sales and service centres for IBM, The Americas.