

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Laurier Brantford celebrates third convocation ceremony

Social activist Maude Barlow will get honorary degree during ceremony for 39 students

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BRANTFORD – Students from the Brantford campus of Wilfrid Laurier University are preparing to commemorate the end of their successful university efforts during a spring convocation ceremony at 3 p.m. on Wednesday.

Thirty-nine students have met all the criteria required to receive their degrees in contemporary studies and other majors, and to participate in Laurier Brantford's third convocation. That number has grown from 12 graduands at the first convocation in 2002 and 31 graduands in 2003. To accommodate the growing numbers, the ceremony is moving to the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts.

“Convocation is an exciting time for the students, and for the family and friends who come to celebrate their achievements,” said Leo Groarke, dean of Laurier Brantford. “Laurier is especially proud of the growing Brantford convocation, which demonstrates the success of our Brantford campus. In a very few years, the number will exceed 100.”

Maude Barlow, volunteer national chairperson of the Council of Canadians, will receive an honorary doctor of letters during convocation. She will deliver a brief address early in the ceremony.

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The degree recognizes Barlow's long and distinguished career working for the good of Canadians and for her contribution in establishing the council. An Ottawa-based activist, writer and policy critic, she also serves on the board of directors of the International Forum on Globalization. She is the author of 10 books, including a number of bestsellers, on the effects of globalization on social-programs education, the media and the environment.

This year, Wilfrid Laurier University is celebrating the largest convocation in the university's long history, with 1600 students receiving their degrees and diplomas. On June 3 and 4, 1561 students from the Waterloo campus graduated during three ceremonies.