

For Immediate Release
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Laurier hosts Jim Balsillie for Laurier's Outstanding Business Leader Award

WATERLOO – Laurier's School of Business and Economics will host Jim Balsillie, co-chief executive officer of Waterloo-based Research In Motion (RIM), as he speaks with 400 business undergraduate and MBA students and accepts Laurier's Outstanding Business Leader Award for 2008. The award will be presented at a private luncheon on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at the Waterloo Inn.

News media representatives are welcome to attend both the student event and the award ceremony.

Date: January 22, 2009

Talk with Laurier Students

Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Location: Laurier Senate and Board Chambers, 75 University Avenue West, Waterloo

Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award Luncheon

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.: *Jim Balsillie: Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award*

Location: The Waterloo Inn, Salzburg room, 475 King Street North, Waterloo

The luncheon will be hosted by Ginny Dybenko, Laurier's dean of business and economics, who was recently named one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women.

Balsillie was selected for this prestigious award in recognition of his significant achievements in the global wireless communications industry including the unparalleled success of BlackBerry®, as well as his far-reaching community involvement.

About the Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award

The Laurier Outstanding Business Leader Award has been presented annually since 1987 by the Laurier School of Business & Economics. Recipients are chosen for their outstanding leadership and management qualities by a selection committee made up of industry, academia and community leaders. Award winners are business leaders who exemplify the qualities and characteristics of leadership and management excellence that the school seeks to develop in its students. A list of past recipients can be viewed at http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=31&p=440.