NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier reaches 100,000 alumni mark with 2,800 students graduating this spring

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will hold its spring convocation ceremonies in June. Three ceremonies will take place at Laurier's Brantford campus June 6 and 7, and 11 ceremonies will be held on Laurier's Waterloo campus between June 12 and 16.

As of May 31, approximately 2,865 students had met all program requirements and qualified to graduate. Laurier expects to confer 247 graduate degrees, 2,609 undergraduate degrees and 9 diplomas. On average, 80 per cent of Laurier graduands attend convocation ceremonies.

This year's spring convocation marks the university's 100,000th graduate, and the 5,000th student to graduate from Laurier's Brantford campus. In Waterloo, this year also marks the first convocation ceremonies to be held in Laurier's new Lazaridis Hall auditorium.

In addition to recognizing the hard work and dedication of all of its graduands, the university will feature the stories of Nairn Carter, who overcame personal challenges to achieve her degree, and Ann and Maverik Lyddon, a mother and son who are both graduating from Laurier at spring convocation.

Laurier's Honorary degree recipients include:

- June 6, 2:30 p.m.: Rebecca Jamieson, CEO and president of Six Nations Polytechnic (Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, Brantford)
- June 7, 10:30 a.m. **Tina Keeper**, award-winning Cree activist, producer, actress and politician (Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, Brantford)
- June 12, 9:30 a.m.: William (Bill) Richardson, accomplished Canadian writer, composer and broadcast host (Lazaridis Hall, Waterloo)
- June 15, 2 p.m.: David Young, award-winning musician and composer (Lazaridis Hall, Waterloo)

The Order of Wilfrid Laurier University will be presented to **Carl Zehr**, the former and longest-serving mayor of the City of Kitchener, on June 16 at 1 p.m. (Lazaridis Hall, Waterloo).

Laurier will also be celebrating its focus on teaching and research excellence by presenting the University Research Professor award as well as several <u>teaching awards</u> and <u>student teaching awards</u> at its convocation ceremonies. In addition, two instructors will be recognized with Wilfrid Laurier University Service Excellence Awards:

- June 13, 9:30 a.m.: Glenda Wall, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Sociology
- June 15, 2 p.m.: Paul Pulford, professor in Laurier's Faculty of Music

View a complete convocation schedule.