

**Ms. Andrea Fraser, President, UBC Law Students' Society**  
**Remarks at the Faculty naming announcement.**  
**January 22, 2015**

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen — some gifts simply take your breath away. And this is one of them. Not only because of its amount, and not only because of the good uses to which it will surely be put, but because of the magnitude of positive change it will create for this and future generations.

On behalf of the student body, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Peter Allard, QC, for this extraordinary gift. If it takes a village to raise a child, it most definitely takes a community to develop students of the law into very capable lawyers and judges. Mr. Allard is a person who has been, and continues to be, a leader of our community.

He generously supported the building of Allard Hall. Let me take this opportunity to say thank you on behalf of the students for the law school's world-class home. We spend hours upon hours within Allard Hall. The building's abundance of natural light is therefore much appreciated - we save a lot of money on vitamin D supplements. But most importantly, Allard Hall is the home of our community. It's where we study, laugh, and live. And we could not ask for a better home.

Yet as today's gift demonstrates, Mr. Allard's generosity continues. Once fully endowed, this gift will provide almost \$1 million dollars a year in funding in perpetuity. Students today and for generations to come will directly benefit in a number of ways.

Making it through law school is not an easy task for many. Students often need financial help. We can look forward to the addition of new awards and bursaries along with funding for student summer work experiences.

The backbone of our law school community is our Faculty. I want to specially mention our Dean, Mary Anne Bobinski, who has been a champion of the law school and has worked tirelessly with community leaders such as Mr. Allard during her time as Dean. As students, we will never forget the impact of the many professors who have helped shape our view of the law. Mr. Allard's gift will ensure that our community is able to attract and retain the very best. As our Faculty is supported in their research, this will provide opportunities for students to participate in that research which will prove invaluable to their future.

In addition, this donation includes a significant endowment for experiential learning. This is something that I'm particularly excited about. During my time at Allard Hall, my work at our student legal clinic has shown me the value and importance of hands-on learning.

Experiential learning connects the theory of law with the reality of people's lives. Dealing with real issues gives students relevant insight into people, their problems, and their needs. It also

shows us the importance of using the power we have as law students and lawyers to help address those needs.

Finally, this gift will ensure the continuation of the Allard Prize for International Integrity and related activities that benefit students such as internships, funding for externships, and research opportunities. The Allard Prize is a truly unique initiative and we as students are extremely proud of our law school's role in promoting human rights and combatting corruption internationally.

Mr. Allard - your gift is a remarkable legacy. It will allow our community the chance to dream big - and to make those dreams a reality.

Ultimately, the best way to express gratitude is through action. It is my hope that as graduates of the Peter A. Allard School of Law, we go into the world and live the principles of the community that educated us.

Whatever area of the law we end up practicing in, wherever we are in the world, we must remember our position of privilege and give back as Mr. Allard has so generously done. I encourage my fellow students to strive to reflect the values and goals of the Allard Prize. We must act with courage in our endeavours. We must demand transparency and accountability from our government. We must fight corruption and other abuses of power. And we must defend the rule of law and always protect one of our core democratic principles -- equality for all.

This gift is about caring and compassion for the students. It will help provide present and future students of the law with the confidence to meet these challenges. And for that, Mr. Allard, we thank you. You are a very special person.