



Memorandum to: Governing Council
Academic Board
Business Board
University Affairs Board
College of Electors
Alumni Council of Presidents
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors, and Chairs
Professional/Managerial and Confidential Staff
Presidents of APUS, GSU, UTSU (SAC), UTMSU and SCSU
President, University of Toronto Faculty Association
Presidents of Employee Unions
University of Toronto Alumni Association Board of Directors

From: Meric Gertler, President

Date: January 27, 2015

Subject: **Re-election of the Chancellor**

I am pleased to announce that, at its meeting this evening, the Governing Council's Alumni College of Electors re-elected The Honourable Michael H. Wilson to serve an additional three-year term as Chancellor of the University of Toronto, the maximum service length permitted by the *University of Toronto Act, 1971*. His first term began officially on July 1, 2012. He is the University's 33rd Chancellor since its founding in 1827.

Michael Wilson's service as Chancellor has been distinguished by his extraordinary loyalty and dedication. His marvellous record of leadership in public life, business, and not-for-profit work is both an inspiration and a tremendous asset to the University community. I am delighted that the College of Electors has re-elected him to a second term, and I look forward to continuing to work with him in advancing the University's teaching and research missions.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Wilson on his re-election and in thanking him for his willingness to extend his outstanding service as Chancellor to a second term. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Scott MacKendrick, Chair of the College of Electors, and the members of the College, for their diligence and deliberation.

The Chancellor is the ceremonial head of the University, presiding at convocations, conferring University degrees, and acting as ambassador to its more than 540,000 graduates worldwide and to the wider community. In this role, Mr. Wilson has initiated a series of roundtable discussions with alumni from across the University's campuses and divisions, and has met with graduates from around the world. The Chancellor also plays an essential part in advancing the University's interests in the local, provincial, national, and international arenas – a role Mr. Wilson has filled with great distinction, drawing on his extensive, unique, and superb record in public life.

Mr. Wilson has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the University of Toronto over many years. In 2005, the University conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on him in recognition of his exemplary and long-standing volunteer leadership and outstanding community service. He also served with distinction as Chancellor of Trinity College from 2003 to 2006.

Mr. Wilson is highly respected in a number of communities that have connections to and impact on the life of the University. He has been active in an array of professional and community organizations, including the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships, and the Canadian Coalition for Good Governance. Currently he is Vice Chair of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and Honorary Chair of Brain Canada.

He has received numerous awards for his work in these fields, including honours from the Conference Board of Canada, Canada's Public Policy Forum, the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians, and the Rotman School of Management. Mr. Wilson is a Companion of the Order of Canada and holds honorary degrees from the University of Toronto, Trinity College at the University of Toronto, York University, the University of Calgary, and the Royal Military College of Canada. An alumnus of Trinity College at U of T, he graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1959.

Michael Wilson was the 22nd Ambassador of Canada to the United States of America, from 2006 to 2009. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1979 and, in September 1984, he was appointed Canada's Minister of Finance. Mr. Wilson remained in that position until May 1991. He then became Minister of Industry, Science, and Technology and Minister for International Trade. Apart from his career in public life, Mr. Wilson was an investment banker with various responsibilities in corporate, government, and international finance. He is currently serving as Chairman of Barclays Capital Canada.