

Huron confers Honorary Doctor of Divinity to Kelly Meighen, President, T.R. Meighen Family Foundation

LONDON, ON: Huron is proud to celebrate a business and community leader who embodies the admirable qualities the founding institution of Western University hopes to inspire in its students.

During Huron's 156th Founder's Day, the university conferred an honorary Doctor of Divinity on Kelly Meighen, Class of 1971, to celebrate her significant philanthropic contributions to Canadians' quality of life.

Kelly has served on the Board of the T.R. Meighen Family Foundation since 1979 and has been President since 1990. Through her individual efforts and as President of the TR Meighen Family Foundation, Kelly has made significant investments into redefining youth mental health care, the arts, city-building and not-for-profit governance in Canada.

"Our university recognizes opportunity is not evenly distributed. It takes the conviction leaders, like Kelly, to change – and inspire others to change – the systems that result in these inequities," Huron President, Dr. Barry Craig said. "We applaud her relentless dedication to breaking down barriers to the resources vulnerable persons require to live more fully, and we're hopeful our students will emulate her compassion in whichever industries they choose to influence."

In addition to her work with the TR Meighen Family Foundation, Kelly has been actively involved with a number of other organizations, which align with her passion for developing more vibrant communities. From her work with the CAMH Foundation through to her dedication to sustaining the Stratford Festival, Kelly advocates for important causes in ways that inspire others to emulate her philanthropic spirit.

In 2019, Mrs. Meighen was the first woman named Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of The Royal Regiment of Canada. Additionally, she has been recognized with the Association of Fundraising Professionals 'Philanthropist of the Year Award', Western's 'Dr. Ivan Smith Award' and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. Along with her husband, The Honourable Michael Meighen, Kelly was the recipient of the Yorktown Family Services 2013 Humanitarian Award for Community Service.

Huron would like to express its admiration of Kelly's commitment to amplifying the positive impact of various missions that address key areas of need within communities across Canada.

About Huron

For more than 150 years, Huron has challenged students to be Leaders with Heart. With a focus on providing a well-rounded Liberal Arts education, Huron strives to be the best strategically small institution in Canada. The Huron experience equips students with the tools to be agents of change who receive faculty mentorship and unparalleled research opportunities from day one.

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