

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 10, 2001

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Dosedall, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Charmaine Letourneau – Member of the Order of Canada

ORIGINATOR: A. Sherwood, Board Secretary

INFORMATION

Ms Charmaine Letourneau, assistant principal Alberta School for the Deaf, was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada effective November 15, 2000. She will be presented with a medal by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada, at an investiture ceremony to be held later this year in Ottawa.

The description of Ms Letourneau's achievements appearing on the Governor General of Canada's webpage is as follows:

Charmaine Letourneau

*An educator, a leader and a role model in the Deaf community, she has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for Deaf people and to encourage an integration of their cultural and experience in Canadian society. An inspiration to many, she advocates for equal rights and initiates special cultural, recreational and social programs. Serving on the executives of provincial and national organizations and Assistant Principal of the Alberta School for the Deaf, she has enriched the lives of Deaf and hearing Canadians for almost thirty years.*

Charmaine has provided leadership and the impetus for change pertaining to all levels of education in the Deaf community. She has been instrumental in initiating improved communication between Deaf and hearing individuals and establishing mechanisms whereby Deaf individuals can contribute their expertise to Canadian society as a whole. She is an accomplished writer and has contributed to the preservation and expansion of Canadian Deaf culture.

Charmaine is the first Deaf Canadian in history appointed to the Order of Canada. She has devoted her entire adult life serving as a leader, mentor, advocate, and tireless contributor to Canadian Deaf society, ultimately enriching the lives of both Deaf and hearing Canadians.

AS:mmf