

**Dean Mary Anne Bobinski, UBC Faculty of Law
Remarks at the Faculty naming announcement.
January 22, 2015**

Good morning, friends, colleagues, and honoured guests. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Mary Anne Bobinski, Dean of the UBC Faculty of Law at Allard Hall, and I have the pleasure of serving as your Emcee this morning.

We are delighted to extend a welcome to special guests who are here with us today:

- John Montalbano, Chair, UBC Board of Governors;
- Members of the UBC Board of Governors;
- Professor Arvind Gupta, President and Vice-Chancellor, and
- Dr. Michelle Pereira who have welcomed us into their home;
- David Farrar, Provost and Vice-President Academic;
- Robert Lee, Chancellor Emeritus, and Honorary Campaign Chair for UBC's start an evolution campaign;
- Former UBC Board Chair, David McLean and Brenda McLean, UBC's Campaign
- Co-Chair;
- My fellow Deans;
- Senior members of the legal community; as well as
- Peter Allard and members of the Allard family.

We are here today to celebrate a special announcement that will have a lasting impact on the future of the law school for generations to come. I know you are all eager to hear this announcement, but first I would like to set the stage by reflecting on the law school's origins and history.

On September 6th, 1945 the UBC Faculty of Law welcomed its first students to army huts at the edge of the Point Grey campus. It was the end of World War II and veterans who had seen the horrors of the war, the risks of governmental oppression, and the catastrophic results of prejudice and discrimination returned home. They sought opportunities to join in the growth of the Province and Canada and they saw the need for laws and a legal system that could promote justice, peace and equality, in BC, Canada and the world.

People familiar with the story will know that our founding Dean, George Curtis, and faculty sought to ensure that UBC Law would contribute to BC, Canada and the world by preparing law graduates for the many leadership roles they play in our democratic society and by carrying out research and law reform essential to the pursuit of justice, freedom, equality, economic opportunity and the rule of law.

UBC Law will mark its 70th year this September. In the brief arc of its history, the law school has grown in ways that I don't think anyone could have anticipated -- from the visionaries in the army huts to a leading Canadian law school recognized as among the top 40 law schools

in the world and seeking to become one of the world's great centres for legal education and research.

It has been an amazing trajectory, fuelled by the renewed commitment of each generation to the pursuit of justice as well as by the deep connections between the graduates of this law school and the growth of our province and nation.

UBC Law's vision has attracted students and faculty from across Canada and around the world, because -- as much as we know has changed in seventy years -- from ease of travel and communication to our tremendous capacity to wreak havoc on our environment -- we still live in a world that hungers for justice, for equality, and for economic opportunity.

Of course a few things have changed at the law school over the years. Just over three years ago, we marked a milestone in the law school's history at the official opening ceremony of Allard Hall. I should note that the law school's inspiring space for teaching, learning and research would not have been possible without the generous support of our alumni, friends and leaders in the legal community. Thank you.

I would also like to thank Peter Allard, who is here with us today with his family and friends, for his historic and record-breaking gift in 2011, which allowed us to surpass the goals of the Allard Hall building campaign, to establish the Allard Prize for International Integrity, and to create the UBC Law History Project.

Peter's leadership gift to UBC Law reflects his strong belief in the enduring and transformative power of a legal education. So, here we are positioned for the next stage of the future of the law school.

Today I am delighted to share that Peter will once again make history for UBC Law through the commitment of a transformational gift of \$30 million. This is not only the single largest donation to UBC's Faculty of Law, it is the largest gift ever to a Canadian law school.

Peter's historic donation will bring unprecedented benefits to students and faculty -- both now and in the future -- by establishing permanent law school endowments to support:

- faculty recruitment and retention -- to ensure that our students and society benefit from some of the world's greatest legal minds;
- student initiatives -- such as entrance awards, summer employment and enhanced admissions practices; and
- much-needed student experiential learning programs and clinical opportunities.

The gift will also enable the Faculty to enhance its role as a champion for justice and human rights, here and abroad, through the Allard Prize for International Integrity. Taken all together, Peter's previous gift and new commitment to Law total nearly \$40 million.

Thank you Peter for your significant investments in the law school's future.

Earlier I mentioned a significant date, the founding of the law school on September 6th, 1945. I should therefore note that all of us are now sharing in another historic moment: January 22nd, 2015 and the announcement of both an extraordinary commitment and a new name: the Peter A. Allard School of Law.

Peter, there are really no words to express our gratitude for your commitment to the law school's faculty and students now and in perpetuity. Your gift is a tribute to what the law school and its generations of graduates have accomplished and an inspirational call to the broader UBC Law community to recommit ourselves to excellence in the pursuit of justice.

This special moment and the law school's new name also reflect your values, commitment, creativity, innovative spirit, and -- most importantly -- your desire to make a difference in the future of legal education and research at the Peter A. Allard School of Law and in the broader world through the Allard Prize for International Integrity and other law school programs.

I know that we have already made two important announcements today, yet there is still one more to go. We know that Peter's commitment provides the foundation for a newly ambitious future. The law school will recruit innovative scholars and ensure that our graduates have the knowledge, skills and ethical foundation to lead in the profession and society.

But the law school's ability to be ambitious, to found new programs and to contribute to the pursuit of justice will always depend on the willingness of each generation to recommit itself to the dreams and ambitions of our founders.

For that reason, we are pleased to announce with Peter here today a campaign to raise an additional \$10 million in matching funds to encourage alumni and friends to join in supporting the Faculty's ambitious goals and to ensuring that we are able to nurture future generations of lawyers, leaders and public servants.

You will hear more about the endowment campaign in the months and years ahead. For now, it is simply important to note Peter Allard's gift is truly meant to be "inspiring", to provide the base from which other law alumni and friends can work together to create one of the world's great centres for legal education and research, right here at UBC.

With your help we will be able to quadruple law school's endowments to total nearly \$50 million by the end of the campaign. Your investment in the Faculty's endowment will fuel the hopes and dreams of faculty, students and staff at the Peter A. Allard School of Law for generations to come.

Peter, thank you once again for your leadership gift to law and your remarkable investment in the transformative power of legal education and research, nationally and globally.

Your passion for justice is reflected in your support for the Allard Prize for International Integrity and for programs that will give today's students and tomorrow's graduates the knowledge, skills and grounding in ethics that are essential to leadership.

Your commitment to the law school creates the foundation for the law school's future growth and success and is an inspiration to other alumni and friends to contribute to the continued growth of one of the world's great law schools.

In closing, Peter -- thank you for your passion for integrity, ethics and human rights, for your visionary leadership in the pursuit of justice, and for your support of students, faculty and alumni of the Peter A. Allard School of Law.