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## Spring convocation honours five for contributions to society

Leaders in the arts, human rights and the environment will receive honorary degrees from the university during Spring Convocation ceremonies June 5 to 8. The honorands are: Bruce Cockburn (Doctor of Laws); the Honourable Iona Campagnolo (Doctor of Laws); the Honourable Miria Matembe (Doctor of Laws); Mary Okumu (Doctor of Laws); and William (Bill) Turner (Doctor of Laws).

Musician and social activist Bruce Cockburn has inspired a generation of Canadians with his poetic and political music that touches a wide variety of human issues and social concerns. During his 35-year career, his music and lyrics have received continual critical acclaim, evidenced by his 20 gold and platinum records and 11 Juno awards, among other honours.

His remarkable artistic success notwithstanding, Cockburn is most famous for his concern for the welfare of others, expressed through decades of activism and engagement with social and political issues around the world. He has received countless honours for his humanitarian contributions, including membership in the Order of Canada in 1982 and promotion to officer of the Order of Canada in 2002.

As a member of the Pan-African Parliament, the Honourable Miria Matembe represents Uganda's diverse interests amongst a complex of developing nations. In this role, she has spearheaded a number of major social and political changes in Ugandan society.

As Minister of State for Ethics and Integrity, she vigorously confronted widespread corruption in Ugandan society, especially in government and civil service. In her position as a member of parliament she tackled the deep-rooted problem of HIV/AIDS by forcing her culture to deal with taboo issues of human sexuality and disease. In addition, as the Uganda Constitutional Commissioner, she made major contributions to constitutional reform and the rule of law.

Author and human rights advocate Mary Okumu is a tireless defender of the poor and disadvantaged in her native Africa. Educated at the University of California, Los Angeles, Okumu returned to Africa to contribute to health service delivery, conflict resolution training, peace negotiations, protection and advocacy for human rights, and community empowerment.

She has held executive posts with key international aid organizations and is best known for her work with Women Waging Peace, a non-profit organization dedicated to

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eliminating conflict in Africa. In 2000 she was awarded the Peace Award by the United States National Peace Foundation.

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The Honourable Iona Campagnolo, British Columbia's 27th Lieutenant Governor, is known for her dedication to human rights and social justice issues. As Lieutenant Governor, she reaches out to all British Columbians, most notably youth and the Aboriginal community. Elected into federal politics in 1974 as a Liberal Party candidate, she was named Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. From 1976 to 1979 she served as Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport in Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau's cabinet. In 1982 Campagnolo was elected the first woman leader of the federal Liberal Party and served in that capacity until 1986. She is a member of the Order of Canada, among other honours, and is also known for her successful broadcasting career.

Conservationist Bill Turner has revolutionized the preservation and restoration of the natural and cultural heritage of BC. In 1997 he co-founded The Land Conservancy (TLC), a non-profit land trust that fosters community support around the need for conservation of ecologically and historically important areas in BC.

Turner is tireless in his efforts to create a powerful non-governmental organization capable of linking ecological and cultural values, which, in combination, create a properly integrated approach to conservation and restoration. In 2005 he was made a member of the Order of Canada.