June 12, 2012

MacEwan University honours Dr. Roberta Jamieson as a Distinguished Citizen

Edmonton—Dr. Roberta Jamieson has made a distinguished career out of staying connected to her community and by supporting Aboriginal youth. Roberta, a Mohawk woman from the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in Ontario, has been the president and CEO of Indspire (formerly the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation) since 2004. Indspire is a charitable organization that is dedicated to providing scholarship assistance and other support to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students seeking higher education.

Under Roberta’s leadership, Indspire’s ability to provide this support has grown considerably, and to date, more than $49 million has been provided to 14,000 students across Canada.

When not helping Aboriginal people receive support for getting an education, Roberta is a trailblazer. She is Canada’s first First Nations woman to earn a law degree; the first non-parliamentarian to be appointed ex-officio member of a House of Commons committee; the first woman appointed ombudsperson of Ontario; and the first woman elected chief of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, her home and Canada’s most populous First Nation.

She has received many awards in recognition of her contributions to the community, including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Law and Justice, Community Service Award, Indigenous Peoples Council Award and the Harmony Award (which she earned for her contributions toward eliminating racial and social barriers in Canada).

She is also a member of the Order of Canada and was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women three times.

An Honorary Bachelor of Arts degree will be conferred upon Dr. Roberta Jamieson during the Spring Convocation on Friday, June 15 at 10:00 a.m., at the Winspear Centre.

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University is proudly celebrating its 40th anniversary. As a comprehensive university, MacEwan offers more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training. Its philosophy of inspiring minds, providing career opportunities and opening the doors to academic excellence, continues to be its guide as it serves the educational needs of students across Alberta, Canada and the world.