June 14, 2010

ALLAN SCOTT HONOURED AS A DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

Edmonton—Grant MacEwan University will confer an Honorary Bachelor of Arts degree to Distinguished Citizen Allan Scott.

Allan Scott is currently chairman of the board of The Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA). He assumed this role in 2001 and has been the undying champion for the new gallery building and its new program vision ever since. In 1999, Al met with Tony Franceschine (chairman at the time) to discuss the plans of a new building with the goal of re-energizing the Gallery. Unknowing of how the plan would come to fruition or who would lead the project, they forged ahead. It was a rocky road – fundraising events fell short, an executive director needed to be replaced, and gathering a team of supporters and volunteers proved difficult. But all the while, Al kept moving forward. He and the board hired a wonderful collaborator and new executive director, Tony Luppino – who together with Al worked tirelessly to turn a dream into a reality in the form of a new building with enhanced programming – truly a gallery of national significance for Edmonton.

Al has held many significant roles in his career – president and CEO of the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation, a partner in Riverview Venture Partners, and president and COO of Telus Communications. Prior to joining Telus, he held various executive positions with Canadian Utilities, including vice president, Finance and Planning. Earlier in his career, he had extensive energy industry experience at Ontario Hydro, Interprovincial Pipe Line Inc., and Foster Research. A graduate of the University of Alberta with a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering, Al also holds an MBA from York University. Allan is a member of the Board of Directors of Associated Engineering as well as several other non-profit community organizations.

The Distinguished Citizen Honorary Bachelor of Arts
First awarded in 1972 to the Honourable Dr. J.W. Grant MacEwan, the Distinguished Citizen award is MacEwan’s highest tribute to individuals or groups who reflect the university’s mission and fundamental values. At its annual Convocation ceremony, MacEwan awards an honorary Bachelor of Arts to distinguished citizens who have made outstanding and significant contributions to MacEwan, the communities we serve, and/or the institution’s programming or service areas.

Scott will receive his Honorary Bachelor of Arts degree during the 7:00 p.m. Convocation ceremony on Thursday, June 17 at the Winspear Centre.

For further information, please contact:
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