



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

N E W S R E L E A S E

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For Immediate Release

University of Winnipeg President & Former Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister to Address North West University

XI'AN—Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, President of The University of Winnipeg and former Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister, will address North West University faculty and students Wednesday, November 23, 2005 on “The Role of Education in the Global Era.”

Axworthy, nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his part in the Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines, will talk with North West University faculty and students about the most pressing issues related to education today: international accessibility to information and quality education, promotion of diversity in student bodies, and the responsibility of universities to support a global network of education

It is no longer access to natural resources that dictates wealth but access to information and education. Wireless technology and distance education are innovations universities can provide to bridge the digital divide. Universities are in the unique position to pioneer programs that bring cultures together within a supportive learning environment.

Dr. Axworthy will draw from his experience as Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs where he brought to the world stage the Canadian-led concept of *The Responsibility to Protect* (R2P), a phrase that describes an evolving concept about the duties of all governments to provide human security for the people of the world, wherever they live.

“As educators and as global citizens, we have a duty to create and provide educational programming that will prepare young people for today's world,” said Axworthy. “If we wish to address issues of inequality, of social and economic divide, then we also have a duty to make education available to all who are interested or be guilty of furthering the inequalities in society.”

While in Xi'an, Dr. Axworthy will also meet with Dr. Sun of North West University and with the Provincial Director General of Education. Dr. Axworthy's trip also includes visits to Hong Kong and Beijing.

The University of Winnipeg, located in the heart of Canada, is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 8,900 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their “Entire Educational Experience” (Maclean's Graduate Survey, November 2004). The Globe & Mail 2005 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall 'A' grade in the areas of teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca

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For information on interviews, members of the media are invited to contact: Richard Walker Tel.: (86-1)13911120605

BIOGRAPHY _____

The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, PC, OC, OM, PhD

On May 1, 2004, Lloyd Axworthy became The University of Winnipeg's sixth President and Vice-Chancellor. His installation took place on June 6, 2004 at The University of Winnipeg's 77th Convocation.

Previously, Dr. Axworthy was the director of the Liu Institute for Global Issues at The University of British Columbia. Canada's Foreign Minister from 1995 to 2000, Dr. Axworthy's political career spanned 27 years, six of which he served in the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, and 21 in the Federal Parliament. He held several Cabinet positions, notably Minister of Employment and Immigration, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Minister of Transport, Minister of Human Resources Development, Minister of Western Economic Diversification, and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Axworthy is internationally known for his advancement of the human security concept. In particular, he is noted for the Ottawa Treaty—a landmark global treaty banning anti-personnel landmines. For his leadership on landmines, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. For his efforts in establishing the International Criminal Court and the Protocol on child soldiers, he received the North-South Institute's Peace Award.

Among his prestigious awards and honours, Dr. Axworthy is also the recipient of the Senator Patrick J. Leahy Award, presented by the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, in recognition of his leadership in the international effort to outlaw landmines, to end the use of child soldiers, and to bring war criminals to justice. Princeton University awarded him the Madison Medal for his record of outstanding public service, and he also received the CARE International Humanitarian Award. He was elected Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been named to Order of Manitoba and to the Order of Canada. He holds honorary doctorates from Lakehead University, University of Victoria, University of Denver, Niagara University, The University of Winnipeg, Queen's University, Dalhousie University, McMaster University, and the University of Manitoba.

Currently, Dr. Axworthy holds positions on several boards and companies. He is a board member of The University of Winnipeg Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, Human Rights Watch (where he chairs the Advisory Board For Americas Watch), Lester B. Pearson College, University of the Arctic, the Pacific Council on International Policy, the Port of Churchill Advisory Board, as well as the Advisory Board of the Ethical Globalization Initiative. Dr. Axworthy is a consultant on trade and international affairs at the law firm of Fraser Milner Casgrain. He also serves as Chairman of the Human Security Centre for the United Nations University for Peace (UPEACE), Co-Chair of the State of the World Forum, Commission on Globalization, and Honorary Chairman of the Canadian Landmine Foundation. He will continue in a senior advisory role with the Liu Institute, assisting in its work and development to address contemporary global issues.

Dr. Axworthy graduated in 1961 with a BA from United College (now The University of Winnipeg), followed by an MA and PhD from Princeton in 1963 and 1972.

Dr. Axworthy remains involved in international matters and lectures widely in Canada, the U.S., and abroad. His book *Navigating a New World - Canada's Global Future*, Knopf Canada, was released in the fall of 2003.

In February 2004, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed Axworthy as his special envoy for Ethiopia-Eritrea to assist in implementing a peace agreement between the East African countries.

Lloyd Axworthy is married to Denise Ommanney. They have three children.