

## 1992 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



**Mary Jonik**  
**Applied Arts Award**  
**Cambrian College**

Mary Jonik is a graduate of Applied Arts at Cambrian College. She also has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Laurentian University and is currently completing her Master of Arts Degree, also at Laurentian, in Child Development.

After graduating from Cambrian, Ms Jonik accepted a position in the Adult Training Department at that college. Her experiences there led her into her career helping individuals realize their full potential. She returned to school to study for her degrees, and while doing so, started a revolution in public housing. As a single parent relying on government assistance and living in public housing, Ms Jonik realized through first-hand experience that most people involved with this system lost control of their own lives and learned helplessness.

She began the process of empowerment through the organization of a tenants association, and this led to her helping to found the first city-wide tenants association in Ontario. She also developed the first on-site Life Skills Program in public housing, and was the first tenant board member of the Sudbury District Housing Authority. Ms Jonik also acquired a full-time position at Cambrian as a counsellor in the Ontario Basic Skills Program.

Mary Jonik's contributions to the development of individual growth among her friends and neighbours make her an ideal recipient of the 1992 Premier's Award.

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**Andrew J. Faas  
Business Award  
St. Clair College**

Andrew Faas graduated from the Business Administration Program at St. Clair College. He entered the business world after graduation, and has made his mark at three divisions of the giant Weston Group: Loblaws Limited, Central Canada Grocers Inc. and National Grocers Co. Ltd. where he currently holds the position of Executive Vice President of the Wholesale Services Group.

Mr. Faas is also an active volunteer in many community organizations, and has given his time generously to the college system - first as member, and finally Chairman of the Board of Governors of George Brown College, secondly as Vice Chairman of the Steering Committee of "Vision 2000" for the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

He is currently a member of the Labour Management Advisory Committee at the Ministry of Labour and a governor of Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. In the past he has served as a director of the Juvenile Diabetes Association Toronto Chapter, and of the Home Again Residential Programs for the Handicapped.

Andrew Faas's contributions to his community and his outstanding achievements in business have earned him the tribute of a 1992 Premier's Award.

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**Mae V. Katt  
Health Sciences Award  
Confederation College**

Mae Katt is a graduate of the Nursing Program at Confederation College. She also has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Lakehead University and completed three years of the program towards a Bachelor of Social Work degree before deciding to attain a Master of Education degree, which she will complete next year.

Ms Katt is a member of the Teme-Augama Anishnabai Nation. Her commitment to education offers an excellent role model to other aboriginal students. She has participated in the Aboriginal Recruitment Program at Confederation College and directs Lakehead University's Native Nurses Entry Program.

Ms Katt is a dedicated advocate of community health care and as Health Director of the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, she has made a genuine difference in the quality of life of the native

community of Thunder Bay. Her duties include co-ordinating health program delivery to forty-six First Nations, finding funding for programs, training and supervising staff and general administration - all accomplished while studying and as parent to four young children she has recently adopted.

Mae Katt's commitment to community health and continuing education exemplify the qualities embodied by the Premier's Awards.

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### **Fernand Hamelin Technology Award St. Lawrence College**

Fernand Hamelin is a graduate of the Civil Engineering Program at St. Lawrence College. He has also studied Business Administration at the University of Ottawa. Mr. Hamelin's career path has always been in public service, first for the federal government at Parks Canada, then for the provincial government at the Ministry of Transportation and since 1976 at the municipal level for the City of Cornwall, where he is currently the Manager of Public Works.

Mr. Hamelin has been an active member of various boards at St. Lawrence College serving on the French Language Advisory Committee, the Ad-hoc Committee on the Implementation of French Language Services, the Technical Task Force studying Technology Programs and with the Board of Governors as a member of the sub-committees on Finance and Personnel. This year he is Vice

chairman of the Board of Governors.

Mr. Hamelin is a member of the District Health Council of Eastern Ontario, and executive of Le Patriote Food Co-op, a member of La Radio Communautaire de Cornwall, and has been a leader of the Boy Scouts for five years.

Fernand Hamelin's community activities and commitment to education embody the qualities of a recipient of the 1992 Premier's Awards.

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### **The Honourable William G. Davis, P.C., C.C., Q.C. Honorary Award**

A native of Brampton, Ontario, Bill Davis is a graduate of the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School called to the Bar in 1955. He practised law for only four years before elected to the Ontario Legislature as the Conservative Party Representative for Peel. Mr. Davis was appointed Minister of Education in 1962 and minister of University Affairs in 1964, portfolios he held until he was sworn in as Premier in 1971.

Mr. Davis is honoured as the founder of the college system. Recognizing that students studying the four-year program in Ontario high schools had few options available for post-secondary education, he set out to develop a system of institutions offering career-oriented programs. Over several years, the ministry studied the junior college system in the State of California and the community college system in the State of Florida. Realizing that these American models were not suited to the Ontario school systems, Mr. Davis and his staff developed the system of colleges of applied arts and

technology offering two and three-year diploma and certificate programs. The next task was persuading the Legislature and the province that needs of people not interested in the university experience were relevant. After much debate, the Department of Education Act Regulations were amended to establish the first eight community colleges. Since then, fifteen more colleges have been added, bringing the total to twenty-three.

As Premier of Canada's most populous province, Mr. Davis played a key role in the 1981 Constitutional Accord. In recognition of this accomplishment, he was sworn in as a member of the Privy Council by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth Honourable Jeanne Sauv , Governor General of Canada. One year later, he was among the first of twenty citizens to be invested in the Order of Ontario by Lieutenant Governor Lincoln Alexander.

Since leaving public life, Mr. Davis has been counsel in the Toronto law firm of Tory Tory DesLauriers & Binnington and holds directorships in numerous companies. A dedicated sports enthusiast, he was a guiding force behind the building of the Skydome and is Vice Chairman of the Stadium Corporation of Ontario Limited.

Mr. Davis' dedication to the principle of accessible postsecondary education is a lasting contribution to the enviable quality of life enjoyed by Ontarians. There can be no other honorary recipient of the first Premier's Awards.