



### **David S. R. Leighton**

Dr. David S. R. Leighton was born in Regina, Saskatchewan in 1928, and graduated with a B.A. from Queen's University, and an M.B.A. with High Distinction and D.B.A. from Harvard University. He was awarded honorary Doctorates from both Queen's University and the University of Windsor. He was a member of the faculty at the University of Western Ontario for over 20 years, most recently as Director of the National Centre for Management Research and Development. In 1971-72, he was elected President of the American Marketing Association, the first Canadian to attain this position, and was Chairman of the Canadian Consumer Council from 1968 to 1971.

Dr. Leighton has served on 18 corporate boards. He was the Chairman of Nabisco Brands Ltd. from 1983 to 1985. Together with his colleague, Donald Thain, he has published extensively on the subject of corporate governance, culminating in a book published early in 1997 by McGraw-Hill Ryerson and the Report on Business entitled *Making Boards Work*. Dr. Leighton was a member of the Dey Committee appointed by the Toronto Stock Exchange to examine corporate governance in Canada, whose 1994 report *Where Were the Directors?* has had a major influence on corporate governance. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Corporate Directors. He has held teaching appointments at Harvard University, the University of Western Ontario, Stanford University, Emmanuel College-Cambridge, England, the University of Lusanne, University of Tel Aviv and the University of London, England.

Throughout his career, Dr. Leighton has maintained a hands on interest in, and service to the Arts in Canada; specifically its orchestras. An amateur violinist himself, he served as a Director on the Boards of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, London (Ontario) Symphony, the Canadian Conference of the Arts, the Council for Business and the Arts, Telefilm Canada, the International Choral Festival, the Glenbow-Alberta Institute, and Centre Stage. He was Chairman of the highly successful 1985 International Bach Piano Competition, and co-founder and Chair of the Banff Television Festival.

During his 12 years as President of the Banff Centre in Alberta, he transformed the Center from a six-week summer school to a year-round Arts and Management Centre of international stature. He was also President and CEO of the Organizing Committee for the 1988 Clagary Olympics.

In 2006, to honour Dr. Leighton, the National Arts Centre established two new funds to help support Canada's emerging artists and arts professionals. The Leighton Talent Development Endowment and the Leighton Family Tribute Fund honour Dr. Leighton's seven-year term as Chair of the NAC Board of Trustees, during which he helped lead the NAC into a time of unprecedented vitality and financial health. Together with his wife and partner Peggy Leighton, Dr. Leighton became a champion of the NAC, personally supporting each of the four artistic disciplines, attending countless performances, and accompanying the NAC Orchestra on every tour, visiting countless small towns, as well as large cities across Canada.

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