



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

is delighted to invite you to the
virtual presentation of its



2021 Pearson Peace Medal

to the

Rt. Hon. Beverley McLachlin.



Thursday, May 20

2:00 to 3:30 p.m. EDT

In addition to hearing from our *laureate* as she reflects on her life and priorities, we are convening a dynamic Arm-Chair discussion on emergent challenges confronting the Canadian justice system, including how international law and jurisprudence has relevance to Canadian legal practice. The panel will include a group of legal experts, including **Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild**; **Ann Fitz Gerald**, Director Balsillie School of International Affairs; and **Godyne Seba**, Managing Partner for Ontario of McCarthy Tetrault (tbc). We will also be joined by the **Hon. Landon Pearson**, representing the Pearson family, as well as other special guests. The presentation will be a virtual webcast event.

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Growing Global Citizens § Citoyens du monde à venir

400-30 Metcalfe St, Ottawa, ON K1P-SL4 ∪ Tel: (613) 232-5751 ∪ E-mail: info@unac.org
Charitable Registration No. 11927-6855 RR0001 / N° d'organisme de charité 11927-6855 RR0001

Ms. McLaughlin is the 32nd recipient of this Medal, which honours a Canadian who has made an outstanding contribution, in a professional capacity or through volunteer work, to those causes for which Lester B. Pearson is remembered: aid to the developing world; mediation where conflicts arise; assistance to refugees and those in need; equal rights and justice for all; peaceful change through international law and multilateralism.

For over a decade and a half, Beverley McLachlin, first as a Justice and later as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada (2000-2017), led with measured and collegial strength through a series of land-mark decisions. These decisions, under her leadership, have contributed to shape and elevate the recognition and respect of essential human rights in Canada. In this regard her Court played a central role in giving effect to our Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Beverly McLachlin has been instrumental in defining and expanding the fundamental rights of Canadians in such key areas as the legalization of assisted dying, the expansion of Indigenous rights, and the rights of the accused before the courts and law enforcement. She also succeeded in achieving a significant number of decisions with full consensus of the Court, giving greater strength to the Court's decisions on central questions of law.

As one of her nominators so appropriately noted, “She has used her intelligence, compassion and keen legal mind to develop a foundation of rights that will serve the people of Canada for generations. The Rt. Hon. Beverley McLachlin personally embodies the Pearsonian ideals of equality and justice for all, and peaceful change through law”.

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All virtual guests will have an opportunity to be inspired by an afternoon of thoughtful discussion with leaders, and leaders-in-the-making from government, corporate, academic and civil society sectors.

To register for this event please go to <https://bit.ly/3tk2gUg>

For more information contact:

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