



CANADA - POLAND



Rt. Hon. Herb Gray

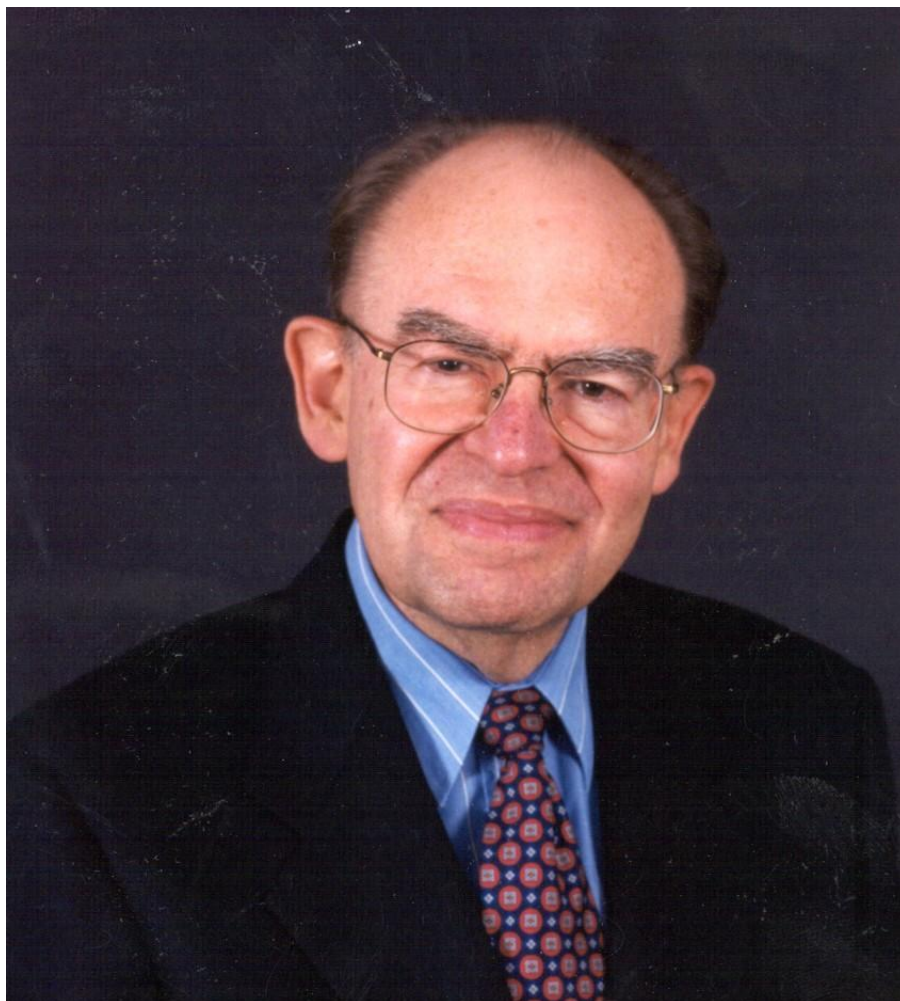
WINDSOR



LUBLIN



TWIN CITIES FROM
THE YEAR 2000



Doctor, honoris causa

Catholic University of Lublin

Lublin, May 30, 2003

Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, Doctor, *honoris causa*, Catholic U. of Lublin

It gives us great satisfaction to inform you that on 28 March 2003 the Senate of the Catholic University of Lublin, on a motion of the Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences, voted to award the title of Doctor, *honoris causa*, to the renowned statesman and former Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Herb Gray (Photograph #1, on cover).

Parliamentary Career

Mr. Gray, former Member of Parliament for the Federal riding of Windsor-West, is one of the most famous and respected politicians in Canada. He served 39 years, 6 months and 26 days of continuous service in the Canadian Parliament, a record, and was elected a record 13 times. Mr. Gray has a wealth of experience in government, having served as Deputy Prime Minister of Canada; Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada; Minister without Portfolio working with the Minister of Finance; Minister of National Revenue; Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs; Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce; Minister of Regional Economic Expansion; and President of the Treasury Board. He also served as Opposition House Leader and Leader of the Official Opposition. While Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Gray was also the Minister responsible for the Millennium Bureau and the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution.

Mr. Gray worked extensively as a Minister and as a Member of Parliament in the fields of parliamentary affairs; economic and industrial development; foreign investment; finance; consumer protection; competition; international trade; Federal law enforcement; the environment and climate change; and Canada-US border issues.

New Position and Honorary Title

On 14 January 2002, Mr. Gray was appointed Chair of the Canadian Section of the International Joint Commission and resigned his seat as a Member of Parliament. In recognition of his exceptional service to Canada, the Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson, the Governor General, bestowed upon him in the name of Queen Elizabeth II, the special title "Right Honourable", normally reserved for Canadian prime ministers, governors general and ministers of justice.

Initiative of Windsor's Polonia

The Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor began and coordinated the initiative, leading to the award of the title of Doctor, *honoris causa*, to Mr. Gray. The President of the Association entered into the initial discussions of this matter with Mr. Gray's secretary. These took place during the celebrations of the unveiling of the statue of the Pope, in front of the Holy Trinity Church in Windsor, in October 2000. The Hon. Herb Gray, then Deputy Prime Minister of Canada, took part in the ceremony with the Rev. Prof. Andrzej Szostek, the Rector of the Catholic U. of Lublin. They little suspected then that their paths would meet again, but this time at the Catholic U. of Lublin (Photographs #2, #3, #4).

Next, the Business and Professional Association turned for help to Mr. Jesse Flis, always very active in public service, a former federal Member of Parliament for the riding of Parkdale – High Park, in Toronto. He carried out the first official discussion of this matter with the Rector of the Catholic U. of Lublin, during the visit to Lublin of a delegation from its partner city of Windsor, in April 2001. Mr. Flis continued his mission to the end, as our Canadian connection with the Catholic U. of Lublin (Photographs #5, #6).

40th Year of Government Service

For Mr. Gray, last year ended with celebrations, marking his fortieth year of government service. The ceremony, commemorating this event, took place with the participation of 1,200 people in his home city of Windsor, on 20 November 2002. The chief speaker at this moving ceremony was Mr. Paul Martin, the former Finance Minister, also a former resident of Windsor. As we all know, he is one of the leading candidates in this year's November elections for a new leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Canada. One item in the programme was the presentation of a film about the life and work of the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, the man and the legend. The participants included many famous politicians, people from public life, as well as friends and family members. Also present were representatives and leaders of Windsor's Polonia, who took part in this historic demonstration of recognition and gratitude for Mr. Gray and his work. Among the special guests was the Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Zasępa, the Rector of the Lublin Business School, honoured guest from Lublin of Polish Week in Windsor 2002. The reverend professor, who for many years has been associated with the Catholic U. of Lublin, also joined in the effort, leading to the award of an honorary doctorate by the University to Mr. Gray.

Recognition from Polonia

It was fortunate that the anniversary celebrations for Mr. Gray took place during Polish Week in Windsor 2002, one of the biggest events, organized by Windsor's Polonia, since the Second World War. The newspaper *Zwiqzkowiec* in Toronto acclaimed it as the most interesting Polonia event of the year 2002. In spite of a very intense programme of meetings in Windsor, Mr. Gray found time for a short appearance at the University. It took place during Polish Day at the University, on Wednesday, 20 November 2002. Polonia directly expressed its gratitude to our representative of many years. Mr. Gray received Certificates of Recognition, specially prepared for the occasion. The first was from the Windsor-Chatham Branch of the Polish Canadian Congress, with the signatures of the presidents of Polish organizations and the Holy Trinity Parish; the second, a Certificate of Honorary Membership of the Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor (Photograph #7). An additional, personal gift from the Business and Professional Association was a portrait of Mr. Gray, painted by the famous portrait artist, Piotr Bednarski, of Lublin.

Citizen of Windsor

Mr. Gray was born on 25 May 1931, in Windsor. He grew up near the “Polish district”, not far from the business area, on Ottawa Street. Indeed, his father, Harry Gray, an immigrant from the region today known as Belarus, had a department store, called “Gray’s” on Ottawa Street. He was not far from the Polish Holy Trinity Church and *Dom Polski*, the oldest club for Polish immigrants in Windsor. No doubt, his close proximity to the “Polish district” had an influence on the child, later to be a student and then a lawyer and representative in the Federal Parliament. He always liked to attend the social functions of Polonia, sometimes with his wife Sharon and on other occasions with his already grown children, Elizabeth and Jonathan. We know that, in addition to our traditions and culture, they very much appreciate the excellence of Polish cuisine.

Participation in Polonia Life

Mr. Gray took part in the most important celebrations of the Holy Trinity Parish, such as the unveiling of the Statue of the Pope, in front of the Holy Trinity Church in Windsor and the anniversary celebrations for Monsignor Wawrzyniec Wnuk, P.A., the long-time spiritual leader of Windsor’s Polonia. We would like to take this opportunity to note that this year Msgr. Wnuk celebrates both 75 years in the priesthood and his 95th birthday. Mr. Gray also celebrated with his son and daughter the 75th year of the oldest and largest Polish organization in Windsor, the Polish People’s Home Association. He was the main speaker at the VI Meeting of the Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor, in 2000. At that time, he received a book about Poland, along with an invitation to visit the country. Of course, then no one imagined that this would happen so quickly and in such unexpected circumstances (Photographs #8, #9, #10, #11).

Canadian Representative Supports Entry of Poland into NATO

Politics is not a simple matter. We do not have representatives of Polish origin in the Canadian Government. According to the most recent statistics in 2001, there are 817,085 Poles, living in Canada. In theory, if there should be a representative for every 100,000 citizens, then we ought to have eight Members of Parliament with Polish heritage at the federal and provincial levels, not to mention a much larger number on the city councils. We have a long way to go, before we will achieve such numbers. This is why it is so important for us to give effective support to worthwhile candidates of Polish origin in elections for government positions, Members of Parliament and senators, in appropriate proportions and ethnic representation. Windsor’s Polonia was privileged to have Mr. Gray as our representative for nearly 40 years. When we went to him with our concerns, he helped us in Windsor and much farther afield. In spite of the many responsibilities, related to his diverse government functions, he always found time for us. So it was that in 1998, the Windsor Polonia directed a petition to Mr. Gray, requesting his support for Poland’s application for entry into NATO. Mr. Gray informed us in writing about his discussions of this matter with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and members of the Canadian Government. Among other things, thanks to his authoritative stance, Canada

was the first country to give official support to the admission of Poland into NATO. For this and many other matters, resolved in a satisfactory way, we are grateful to Mr. Gray.

Windsor-Lublin Collaboration

Canada is very closely associated with the Catholic U. of Lublin. We know that Canadian Polonia and the very active Windsor part of it is abundantly represented in the places of honour, on the walls of the John Paul II Auditorium. It is a credit to not only the Holy Trinity Parish in Windsor, but also to the Circle of Friends of the Catholic U. of Lublin. Thanks to them, the highly accomplished Choir of the Catholic U. of Lublin went on a Canadian tour in 1998 and had its main performances and organizational headquarters in Windsor. Lublin is Windsor's twin city since the year 2000. Delegations have been exchanged, agreements were signed, and institutions and businesses have established contact directly. According to the Canadian Embassy in Warszawa, this is the most active partnership with Poland. Perhaps it is appropriate to note that this year, from 8-10 September, Lublin will hold its own Canadian Trade Days. The City Council of Lublin and the Canadian Embassy in Warszawa are the organizers of this event, which is very necessary for the development of an international, economic partnership.

Doctor, *honoris causa*, of Catholic U. of Lublin

The title of Doctor, *honoris causa*, is the most important academic distinction that a university can bestow. At the Catholic University of Lublin, not only famous representatives of the Catholic Church, such as Pope John Paul II (1983), but also politicians, such as Dr. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor (1989) and Rabbi Elio Toaff, the Chief Rabbi of Rome (2000), have received this distinction. We are proud that, on 30 May 2003, to the present list of the Catholic U. of Lublin's Doctors, *honoris causa*, from Canada – Rev. Piotr Michał Czartoryski, Senator Dr. Stanisław Haidasz, Henryk Słaby (1991) and Prof. Paul Wyczyński (1996) – one more is to be added, the fifth famous individual, the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, the former Deputy Prime Minister of Canada. This is also a great distinction for us, the citizens of Windsor, Polonia and the Polish Parish, that “our” representative from Windsor is receiving the honorary title of Doctor, *honoris causa*, at the Catholic University of Lublin.

Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank all of the individuals, who in some way contributed to this great, shared success of Lublin and Windsor, Poland and Canada. This latest thread of reciprocated friendship unites our nations.

Text by Jerzy Barycki.
Translated by Frank Simpson.

Windsor, 30 April 2003

Please note that organizations and individuals, wishing to send congratulations to Mr. Herb Gray, can contact him directly at: Rt. Hon. Herb Gray, Chairman, International Joint Commission, 234 Laurier Ave. West, 22 Floor, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6.



Photograph #2- Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, for unveiling of statue of John Paul II, 22 November 2000. From left to right: Rev. Canon P. Sanczenko, Monsignor Wawrzyniec Wnuk, P.A., Rev. Bishop J. Sherlock, Rev. Prof. A. Szostek (Rector, Catholic U. of Lublin), Rev. R. Waszkiewicz.



Photograph #3- Herb Gray speaks at celebration of unveiling of statue of John Paul II, in front of Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, 22 November 2000.



Photograph #4- Herb Gray among guests, after celebration of unveiling of statue of John Paul II, in front of Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, 22 November 2000.



Photograph #5- Windsor delegation in courtyard of Catholic U. of Lublin, with staff of International Office, Lublin, 24 April 2001.



Photograph #6- Bidding farewell to Windsor delegation in Lublin, 25 April 2001. From left to right: D. Cassivi, Vice President, Windsor; J. Barycki, President, Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor; Rev. Prof. A. Szostek, Rector, Catholic U. of Lublin; J. Fils, former Member of Parliament, Canadian Government; H. Pietraszkiewicz, Chairman, Lublin City Council; A. Pruszkowski, President, City of Lublin; J. Cox, Chair, International Co-operation Committee, City of Windsor.



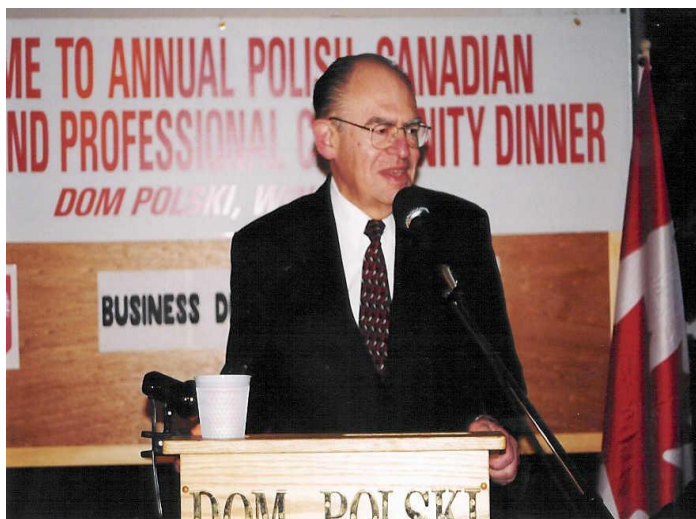
Photograph #7- Herb Gray receives acknowledgement from Polonia, during Polish Week in Windsor 2002, University of Windsor, 20 November 2002.



Photograph #9- Herb Gray at head table, surrounded by members of Song and Dance Group "Tatry", at celebration of 75th Anniversary of *Dom Polski* in Windsor, 25 November 2000.



Photograph #8- Herb Gray presents greetings from Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister of Canada, at celebration of 75th Anniversary of *Dom Polski* in Windsor, 25 November 2000.



Photograph #10- Herb Gray at V Annual Meeting of Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor, 16 November 1999.



Photograph #11- Herb Gray, Guest Speaker at VI Annual Meeting of Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor, receives book about Poland from organization's President, 2 November 2000.

Rt. Hon. Herb Gray

Doctor, *honoris causa*

Catholic University of Lublin, Poland, May 30, 2003

