



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

For Immediate Release

November 22, 2010

Lieutenant Governor's statement on the death of former Lieutenant Governor the Honourable David See-Chai Lam, O.C., C.V.O., KStJ., O.B.C., M.B.A., LL.D.

VICTORIA – The Honourable Steven Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, made the following statement:

“It is with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of former Lieutenant Governor David Lam. Dr. Lam was a significant supporter of education and cultural development in British Columbia. His generosity, kind heart and gentle demeanour made him a much loved and admired member of our community. He will be sadly missed.

“As Lieutenant Governor from 1988 - 1995, Dr. Lam served the people of British Columbia with quiet dignity. As the first Queen’s representative of Chinese descent in Canada, David Lam brought an awareness and understanding of cultural differences to the role and promoted cross-cultural harmony throughout the province. Here at Government House he will be forever remembered for his revitalization of the gardens and grounds. He founded the Friends of Government House Gardens Society and improved the grounds for public use and enjoyment. His legacy will live on here for generations to come.”

Dr. Lam was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy.

The general public is invited to visit Government House, 1401 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, to sign a condolence book which will be available in the portico from dawn to dusk until November 27 or online at <http://www.protocol.gov.bc.ca/protocol/prgs/Condolence/Condolence.aspx>.

Biography:

The Honourable David See-Chai Lam was sworn-in as British Columbia’s 25th Lieutenant Governor in September, 1988. With his wife, Dorothy, and their three young daughters, he immigrated to Canada in 1967, becoming a Canadian citizen in 1972.

Born in Hong Kong, the grandson of a Baptist minister, he received a Christian upbringing before taking an Economics degree at Lingnan University in China and an MBA from Temple University in Philadelphia. He pursued a career in banking in Hong Kong for 18 years before making Canada his home in 1967.

He entered the development field, eventually founding his own investment firm. In 1982, he concluded his professional business interests, and at that time devoted his life to philanthropic pursuits. He and Dorothy provided substantial gifts to higher educational institutions and worthy community projects through their charitable Foundations.

In 1987 he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from The University of British Columbia, in 1988, the prestigious Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia in 1995. Honorary degrees were subsequently awarded by Baylor University (1990), Simon Fraser University (1991), Eastern College (1991), Royal Roads Military College (1991), and Hong Kong Baptist College (1992).

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