

For Immediate Release  
April 25, 2008

## AUDITOR GENERAL TO VISIT OAKVILLE CHAMBER

OAKVILLE, ON – Canada’s Auditor General, Sheila Fraser, will be in Oakville on Tuesday, May 13th. She will be addressing Members and guests at a breakfast hosted by the Oakville Chamber of Commerce. The Auditor General will speak about her role as an Officer of Parliament and the government's external auditor. She will also comment on her semi-annual report which is due to be released on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

“We are honoured that the Auditor General would take time from her very busy schedule to visit Oakville and speak to our Members and guests.” stated Chamber President Gerry Popp. Mr. Popp went on to say, “the Chamber advocates for prudent and responsible government spending. Our Members want to know that their tax dollars are being allocated and used effectively. Based on the feedback we have been getting there is obviously a great deal of respect for Ms. Fraser’s past work and people are keenly interested in hearing her comments.”

Ms. Fraser has made headlines across Canada with her reports on government spending. The public has come to appreciate her commitment and the effective manner in which she carries out her duties. The Auditor General has become a popular figure; in a nation wide poll conducted by the CBC, Ms. Fraser was named “**one of the 100 greatest Canadians of all time**”

Chamber President-Elect Aby Alameddine commented, “The Chamber is very pleased to have the opportunity to host the Auditor General and there has been a very enthusiastic response to the event from the community. Although our focus is on supporting our Members, when we are able to bring an important, high profile guest like Sheila Fraser to Oakville we do invite the public to attend.”

Sponsored by Grant Thornton LLP, the breakfast will be held at the Oakville Conference and Banquet Centre, 2515 Wyecroft Road, Oakville, Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$35 (plus GST) for Members, \$45 (plus GST) for non-Members, \$245 (plus GST) for a reserved table of 8. For more information, or to register, contact Events Coordinator Brendan Stewart at 905-845-6613 ext. 28 or [brendan@oakvillechamber.com](mailto:brendan@oakvillechamber.com) .

**For additional information contact:**

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## BACKGROUND:

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### **Sheila Fraser, Auditor General of Canada**

#### **Sheila Fraser was appointed Auditor General of Canada on 31 May 2001.**

Born in Dundee, Quebec, Ms. Fraser earned a Bachelor of Commerce degree from McGill University in 1972 and became a Chartered Accountant in 1974.

As Auditor General, Ms. Fraser has focused the Office's efforts on serving the needs of parliamentarians and ensuring they have objective and reliable information with which to scrutinize government activities and hold the government to account for its stewardship of public funds. She has promoted the use of plain language in the Office's performance audit reports tabled in the House of Commons. At her initiative, Canada was the first legislative audit office to request a review of its performance audit practice in an effort to provide assurance about the quality of its work. In 2004, an international team made up of representatives of the legislative audit offices of the United Kingdom, Norway, France, and the Netherlands completed a highly favourable [report](#).

Before joining the Office, Ms. Fraser enjoyed a challenging career with the firm of Ernst & Young, where she became a partner in 1981. In its Québec City office, she was responsible for a wide range of private and public sector clients. She participated in several assignments with the Auditor General of Québec, as well as with several departments of the Government of Québec. She joined the Office of the Auditor General of Canada as Deputy Auditor General in January 1999.

Ms. Fraser has always been active in her profession, at both the provincial and national levels. For her noteworthy service to the auditing and accounting professions, she was awarded the Prix Émérite 1993 and the designation "Fellow" by the Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec in 1994 and by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario in 2000. She received the Governor General's medal commemorating Canada's 125th anniversary in 1992. Ms. Fraser has also been awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from Simon Fraser University, Queen's University, the University of Waterloo, Nipissing University, Université de Montréal, and Carleton University, which recognize her contribution to the fields of accounting and legislative auditing. In 2006, she was recognized with the Faculty of Management Achievement Award from McGill University.

Ms. Fraser served as the Chair of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants in 2004-05. She currently chairs the Working Group on Environmental Auditing and the Sub-committee on SAI (Supreme Audit Institutions) Independence, two committees of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI).



**Gerry Popp,**  
President  
Oakville Chamber of Commerce

The Oakville Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the Oakville business community. We provide Member benefits which include advocacy, corporate benefits, networking opportunities, business development and educational forums. Our mission is to foster a healthy economic environment for Oakville.

A not-for-profit organization, the Oakville Chamber of Commerce was established in 1949. The Chamber has grown to over 1000 Member businesses representing over 37,000 employees. The Chamber is one of the largest associations of any kind in the Town of Oakville.

The Chamber hosts over 70 events each year. Our guest speakers have included a number of high profile government officials including; Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Canada, Lu Shumin, Premier Dalton McGuinty, Federal NDP Leader Jack Layton, National Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, Opposition Leader John Tory, Minister Michael Chong, Minister Jim Prentice, Minister Greg Sorbara, Minister Steve Peters, Minister David Caplan, Minister Marie Bountrogianni, Attorney General Chris Bentley, MPP's Kevin Flynn, Ted Chudleigh, Norm Sterling, Norm Miller, Christine Elliot, Deputy Minister David Lindsay and Halton Regional Chairman Gary Carr,

The Oakville Chamber has also hosted a number of prominent business leaders and celebrities, notably, Bill Osborne, President of Ford Canada, Pierre Morrisette, Founder & CEO of the Weather Network, Dr. Sherry Cooper, Executive Vice President & Global Economic Strategist BMO Financial Group, Tom Grifferty, Founder and CEO of First Canadian Title, John Suk, founder and CEO of Altana Pharma Canada and world renowned wildlife artist Robert Bateman.

The Oakville Chamber of Commerce was the 2007 Chair's Award recipient. This award is presented annually by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce to Chambers that develop outstanding new programs. The Oakville Chamber is an active member of both the Canadian and Ontario Chambers of Commerce.

For further information about the Chamber please contact:

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