

Dalhousie University Polytechnic
Naming Event Speech
March 7, 1997

-Historic occasion/delighted to celebrate the formal alliance between TUNS & DAL.

-A lot of people have worked very hard to make this happen - I'd particularly like to thank Ted Rhodes, Dexter Kaulbach, Barb Watt, the Naming Committee, Andy Eisenhower & his Board Members for their faith and commitment to a new and better future.

-This is the third time during the past 90 years that this wonderful institution is changing its name to reflect evolving circumstance.

-But a great institution is not a name - it is the people who work there, the people who study, the people who have come before and gone out as proud alumni and it is also our friends in the wider community who work with us and support us.

-None of these are changing - the great things we have done here in the past are merging with the great people who are here today for the purpose of doing great things in the future.

-As President of Dalhousie I want to say formally that I and the rest of my colleagues at Dal are strongly committed to reinforcing the strengths of our Architecture and Engineering Programs and to building a first rate Faculty of Computer Science as well - that will be one of our highest priorities at Dalhousie in the future.

-Old established organizations these days face a new kind of challenge - the public isn't interested in our turf wars or petty parochialism - they want key stakeholders in society to put aside traditional differences and work together for the common good.

-With the amalgamation of Tuns and Dalhousie and the formation of the Dalhousie University Polytechnic we are taking a huge step in the direction of serving that public good.

-We will be able to offer more & better academic programs.

-We will be able to establish stronger research programs.

-We will be able to join our strengths together and work with government and private partners to help develop Nova Scotia to enable it to participate fully in the new economy that is fast emerging around us.

-We cannot pretend that we will have all of the answers to Nova Scotia's problems and needs, but as the province's largest, research intensive and comprehensive university we can and will be a key stakeholder in building a better future.

-Our new amalgamation and our new name then symbolize a new commitment - to work together, to reach out and share our knowledge and enthusiasm, to learn from others with useful lessons to teach us, and finally to make a difference to this community.

-Dalhousie University Polytechnic, this is a name, this is a vision worthy to celebrate and I am proud and delighted to be with you today, as we will be together again on many occasions in the future, to say Bravo and Good Wishes to us all.