

## Rosalie Abella to deliver Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lecture

(STU PR) - Dr. Abdul Lodhi, Director, St. Thomas University's Atlantic Human Rights Centre, has announced that Rosalie Silberman Abella will deliver the Centre's inaugural Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lecture in Human Rights. An outstanding advocate of human rights, Rosalie Abella is Chair of the Ontario Law Reform Commission. Her lecture titled "Human Rights Legacy" will be held Thursday, January 25, Room 2, Ludlow Hall, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, beginning at 8:00 P.M. A reception will follow.



Rosalie Silberman Abella

Born in Germany, the child of Holocaust survivors, Mrs. Abella emigrated with her family to Canada in 1950. She was educated at the University of Toronto where she earned both a B.A. and LL.B. Admitted to the Bar of Ontario in 1972, she practised general litigation until 1976, when at the age of 30, she became the youngest woman ever to be appointed a Family Court Judge in Ontario.

While on the Bench, 1976-1987, Mrs. Abella contributed to the advancement of human rights and social justice through many professional and public service activities. She was the first woman to chair the Ontario Labour Relations Board. She also chaired the Study on Access to Legal Services by the Disabled, Province of Ontario; and was a member of both the Premier's Advisory Committee on Confederation, and the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Her efforts on behalf of human rights came to national attention in 1983 when the Government of Canada appointed her sole Commissioner, Royal Commission on Equality in Employment. The Abella Report, a seminal study, has

served as the basis of all subsequent employment equity initiatives and legislation in Canada.

In 1989 Mrs. Abella became the first woman to head the Ontario Law Reform Commission. In addition to her work there, she continues to promote justice and human rights through active involvement in many national and inter-national human rights organizations.

Widely recognized for their outstanding citizenship, Rosalie Abella has received many honors. B'Nai Brith Woman of the Year (1977), she holds honorary degrees from Queen's University, Kingston, (1985); Dalhousie University, Halifax, (1985); McMaster University, Hamilton, (1986); the University of Windsor, (1988); the University of Ottawa, (1988); Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, (1989); and the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, (1989).

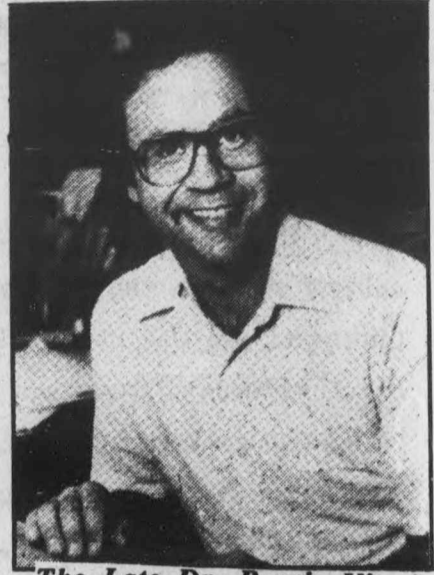
Members of the public are invited to attend Mrs. Abella's Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lecture in Human Rights.

The Vigod lectures are named for the late Dr. Bernie Vigod, Canadian historian and

educator, and a lifelong advocate of human rights and civil liberties. Dr. Vigod was a Professor of History and Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research, University of New Brunswick.

In both his professional career and private life, Dr. Vigod spoke and published extensively on human rights concerns such as language, race and religion. Advisor to public officials on a wide range of provincial and national issues, he coordinated the University of New Brunswick's French Language Policy, and was instrumental in developing the Holocaust education component of the New Brunswick school curriculum. In addition to these activities, Dr. Vigod assumed leading roles in numerous organizations committed to the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Both to recognize Dr. Vigod's personal contribution to the advancement of human rights and to continue his efforts, the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at St. Thomas University in cooperation with Dr. Vigod's colleagues and friends has established the Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lectures Trust Fund. Proceeds



The Late Dr. Bernie Vigod

from this endowment will fund the annual Dr. Bernie Vigod Memorial Lectures in Human Rights. Rosalie Abella's inaugural lecture in this series is made possible by a generous donation from the University of New Brunswick.

It was the great need to acknowledge and to address issues such as cultural bigotry and racial discrimination that inspired Dr. Vigod. This same need now inspires the endowed human rights lecture series in his name. Donations to the Vigod lecture Trust Fund are being accepted by St. Thomas University. All contributions are tax deductible.

## A Workshop will be held at

7:00pm Room 103 Sub, January 22

The Workshop will mainly consist in focusing on how to write news stories. Also tips on layout will be discussed.

It is strongly suggested that all news writers of the Brunswickan attend and anyone else interested in the workshop.

For more information contact:

Allan Carter

453-4983 (Bruns)

457-1375 (home)

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