

# Group of 78 Annual Policy Conference September 24 – 26, 2010

## SPEAKERS

### Reid Morden



Reid Morden, CM, LLD, is President, Reid Morden & Associates which provides advice and comment on intelligence, security, and public policy issues. He has held a number of senior positions in the Canadian Public Service, notably Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and President and CEO of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. Following these appointments, he worked in the private sector with such firms as Kroll and KPMG Forensic Inc. He was appointed and served from 2004-06 as Executive Director of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Iraq Oil-For-Food Program (Volcker Inquiry). Mr Morden also served as an advisor to Justice O'Connor during the Arar Inquiry and to former Supreme Court Justice Iacobucci with respect to the Almalki et al Inquiry. He was appointed in 2008 to serve as an external member of the Audit Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. In February 2010, Mr. Morden was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies at Wilfred Laurier University.

From 2002-08, Mr. Morden chaired the Board of Governors of Trent University and, during that time has also been Chair of the Council of Chairs of Ontario Universities (2004-2006). As well, he has been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of University Board Chairs. Mr. Morden has also sat on the Board of Advisors of the Homeland Security Leadership Alliance as well as the Institute for the Study of International Terrorism and Violence. He has recently stepped down as a Senior Research Fellow of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute and has written extensively for them and other publications and newspapers. He appears frequently on national and international radio and television. Mr. Morden is a Member of the Order of Canada, a Grand Officer of the Order of the Southern Cross (Brazil) and a holder of the Ian L. MacRae Award from the Canadian nuclear industry. He holds a Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) from Dalhousie University.

### Carolyn McAskie



Carolyn McAskie served as Assistant Secretary General for Peacebuilding, Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of the UN Peacekeeping Operation in Burundi. Her previous appointment was Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator at the UN Secretariat in New York, serving as Emergency Relief Coordinator. Prior to her appointment with the United Nations, Carolyn McAskie had a career with the the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). She served as Vice-President for Africa and the Middle East Programs and Vice-President of CIDA's Multilateral Programmes Branch, holding the rank of Assistant Deputy Minister. Throughout her career, Carolyn McAskie has played a prominent role in multilateral negotiations as a Canadian delegate to the UN Funds and

Programs and in the Governing Councils of the International Financial Institutions, including the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Global Environmental Facility. Carolyn McAskie is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Director of Canadem and the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre.

*Photo: University of Ottawa*

### **Eileen Olexiuk**



Eileen Olexiuk, currently works under contract to advise the Commander and headquarters staff destined for Kandahar. A career diplomat, she retired from the foreign service in 2007. Her last assignment was as Senior Policy Advisor to the newly established Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) in DFAIT. Ms Olexiuk was the first Canadian diplomat assigned full time to Afghanistan as Political Counsellor in 2002. When the Canadian Embassy was established in August 2003, she served as Deputy Head of Mission until August 2005. She was responsible for political themes, including good governance and democracy building; security sector reform which included de-militarization, police, and justice; and supporting Afghanistan's adherence to international human rights norms. Ms Olexiuk has also been posted to Canadian Embassies in Colombia and Greece. Other assignments with DFAIT included responsibility for Canadian assistance for Reconstruction in the Former Yugoslavia and for the Economic and Political Transformation of Russia. While with the Canadian International Development Agency in the 1970's she managed development assistance to Bangladesh and the South East Asia region. Ms Olexiuk has also worked in Germany and Jamaica.

### **Gar Pardy**



Gar Pardy is a son of the Rock and his early education was in Norris Arm and Gander. He first worked for the Meteorological Service of Canada in Gander, Goose Bay and then Frobisher Bay. Following an honours degree from Acadia University and a Master's from McMaster, he joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1967. He served in India, Kenya, the United States and Central America where he was Ambassador to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. In the late '80s he was Director of the Asia Pacific Division in headquarters and became a noted expert in Asian affairs. From 1992 to 2003 he was head of the Canadian Consular Service, during which time he computerized telecommunications within Canada's consular service; this system has been the envy of and copied by many other Governments, for use by their Foreign Services. He also created a crisis management centre in Ottawa which has been adopted by governments around the world. He retired in 2003 and since has been a commentator and writer on issues of Canadian foreign and public policy. He lives in Ottawa.

### **Monia Mazigh**



Monia Mazigh was born and raised in Tunisia and immigrated to Canada in 1991. She holds a Ph.D. in finance from McGill University and speaks Arabic, French, and English fluently. She has worked at the University of Ottawa and taught at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, British Columbia. Mazigh was catapulted onto the public stage in 2002 when her husband, Maher Arar, was deported to Syria where he was tortured and held without charge for over a year. She campaigned tirelessly for his release during that time. In 2004, she ran in the federal election for the NDP, coming third but gaining the most votes for the riding the NDP had ever received. Dr. Mazigh lives in Ottawa with her husband and two children.

### **Amir Attaran**



Amir Attaran is by training both a biologist and lawyer, and currently Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair at the Institute of Population Health and the Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, Canada. Professor Attaran's research emphasizes the subject of health, development and human security in poor countries. His interests include: to study the scarcity of foreign financial aid spent on controlling epidemic and pandemic diseases; to raise the standard of medical technology and care for patients in the world's poorest countries; and to apply Canadian and international human rights law toward crises affecting transnational justice and human security.

Professor Attaran's peer-reviewed publications have appeared in the leading journals of both the legal and biomedical professions, including the *Yale Journal of International Law*, the *Stanford Journal of International Law*, *The Lancet*, *Health Affairs*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *PLoS Medicine* and many others. He is also the author of a recent book (with Professor Brigitte Granville) on access to medicines in developing countries. Currently he is an Editorial Consultant to *The Lancet*, the world's leading medical journal and on the editorial writing team of *CMAJ*.

Professor Attaran is a recognized authority on global development and governance issues. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Financial Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, and the *Globe and Mail*, among others. He is also frequently quoted in the print and broadcast media, and lectures widely to diverse audiences on public policy and global development, including at events such as the International AIDS Conference, the World Economic Forum in Davos, and the World Health Organization. He has testified by invitation before Canada's Parliament and the U.S. Senate. Prior to accepting his current position at the University of Ottawa, Professor Attaran held fellowships and lectureships at Harvard University, Yale University, and the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

Professor Attaran has acted a policy advisor to numerous NGOs, the United Nations, governments and corporations. His past pro bono or paid clients include the Governments of Brazil and Malawi, Médecins Sans Frontières, Novartis, Pharmacia, the Sierra Legal Defence Fund, the UN Development Program, and the World Bank.

Finally, when Professor Attaran is not in his office, he can frequently be found on a bicycle or canoe in eastern Canada.

### **Manfred Bienefeld**



Manfred Bienefeld has been a full professor at Carleton University since 1986, where he is cross appointed to the School of Public Policy and Administration and the Institute of Political Economy, and has been an elected member of Board of Governors and Senate. He has had a lengthy academic career as economist, teacher, author and consultant on national and international issues, having worked for many leading international organizations as well as for national governments and civil society organizations in Africa, Asia and Latin America. His main research focus has been the tension between deeper international integration and democratic national policy making, with special reference to the issues raised by the deregulation of trade and finance, the impact of financial instability and the changing need and scope for industrial policy.

His list of publications includes three books, chapters in 31 others and scores of published papers. He taught at the London School of Economics, the University of Dar es Salaam and the Institute of Development Studies in Sussex, England before coming to Carleton. During his recent sabbatical he was invited to teach and to deliver a series of lectures on the current transformation of the international development debate at L.S.E., the University of Aalborg and the Autonomous University of Zacatecas. He has also addressed the Group of 78 on several previous occasions

### **Jean-Jacques Blais**



Jean-Jacques Blais, P.C., Q.C., is a lawyer, Queen's counsel and Privy Councillor. He was a Member of Parliament for the riding of Nipissing in Northern Ontario from 1972 to 1984 and a Minister of the Federal Crown from 1976 to 1984.

Mr. Blais obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Ottawa in 1961, and his LL.B. in 1964. He was called to the bar in 1966. In 2001, Mr. Blais obtained a Masters degree in International Law from the University of Ottawa. First elected to the House of Commons in October 1972, Mr. Blais was re-elected in 1974, 1979, and 1980. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council in 1975 by (then) Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Mr. Blais joined Pierre Trudeau's cabinet in Sept. of 1976 and served as Postmaster General (76 -78), Solicitor General for Canada (78-79), Minister of Supply and Services and Receiver General for Canada with responsibility for Defense Production and Statistics Canada,(80-83) and Minister of National Defense (83-84) From 1984 to 1991 Mr. Blais was a member of the Security Intelligence Review Committee.

Since 1991 Mr. Blais has served on some 12 democratization missions including 7 months in Bosnia in 1998 as Deputy Chairman of the Provisional Election Commission and 8 months in Afghanistan in 2003 as head of an advisory mission to the UN on elections readiness.

Mr. Blais is Chairman Emeritus of Pearson Peacekeeping Training Center and a founding Director of the Canada-Israel Industrial Research Foundation. He is Chairman of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute Board of Directors and a director of the Canadian Parliamentary Center.

He is counsel to the firm and advises clients on government relations, public administration and governance. Mr. Blais is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Liberal Party of Canada

### **Robert Miller**



Robert Miller is the former President and CEO of the Parliamentary Centre, a not-for profit organization providing research, training and advisory services to strengthen parliaments around the world. Following his retirement in 2008, he became a member of their Board of Directors.

Beginning with his 1985 study, "Canada and Democratic Development", he has been a leader in advocating and establishing democratic development as an important objective in Canadian foreign policy and development assistance programming, frequently writing and speaking on Canadian foreign policy and democratic development. He is a senior Fellow and Lecturer at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University where he teaches a graduate seminar in International Democracy Support