

BACKGROUND BIOGRAPHIES

Harley Hotchkiss

Harley Hotchkiss is a business and community leader who has made great contributions to health and sports development in Canada.

Harley Norman Hotchkiss was born in Tillsonburg, Ontario, in 1927. After World War II service in the Canadian Merchant Marine in 1944 and 1945, he graduated with high honours from Michigan State University in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology. The same institution awarded him an Outstanding Alumni Award in 1989 and a Distinguished Hockey Alumnus Award in 1992. He received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Calgary and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1998.

Mr. Hotchkiss has worked as a geologist, manager, and president for several petroleum companies. He is now self-employed, with business interests in oil and gas, real estate, agriculture and professional sports. Mr. Hotchkiss has made great contributions to the health sector as a volunteer.

In October 2004, with the full support of institutional leaders, the Calgary Brain Institute became the Hotchkiss Brain Institute in recognition of the Hotchkiss family. Harley Hotchkiss and his wife Becky have made outstanding contributions to health care and research, and have been especially generous in their support of the neurosciences

T. Boone Pickens

Mr. Boone Pickens is a widely recognized business leader in the oil and gas sector. A native of Holdenville, Oklahoma, Mr. Pickens achieved global recognition 25 years ago when he was featured on the cover of *Time* and *Fortune* magazines for his accomplishments as the founder of a highly successful oil company from the Texas panhandle. He is listed on the Forbes 2005 "400 Wealthiest Americans" list with an estimated wealth of \$1.5 billion.

Mr. Pickens spent considerable time in Canada from 1959 – 1979 and maintains Canadian ties through his business interests. He oversees more than \$4 billion in two funds as Chairman of BP Capital LLC, which have a large stake in Canadian oil sands through investments in Suncor Energy Inc. and Canadian Oil Sands Trust.

Throughout his professional life, Pickens has been a generous philanthropist, giving away more than \$600 million. Pickens, who formed the T. Boone Pickens Foundation in late 2006, contributed \$200 million to a wide range of causes in 2007. The Pickens Foundation is focused on improving lives through grants supporting educational programs, medical research, athletics and corporate wellness, at-risk youths, the entrepreneurial process and conservation and wildlife initiatives.

The Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans Inc. selected Pickens as a recipient of the 2006 Horatio Alger Award, which epitomizes those who overcome adversity and humble beginnings to achieve success.

Samuel Weiss, PhD

As director of the Hotchkiss Brain Institute, Samuel Weiss has brought to together the best scientists and clinician-scientists from the neuroscience and mental health fields integrating research, education and discoveries into innovative health care for Albertans while creating the neurological and mental health enterprise of the future. The ultimate goal is to advance the patient care, prevention, treatment and management of neurological and mental health conditions.

In 1992, Dr. Weiss discovered neural stem cells in the brains of adult mammals. This research has lead to new approaches for brain cell replacement and repair. He is a Professor and an Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) Scientist in the Departments of Cell Biology & Anatomy and Pharmacology & Therapeutics at the University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine. He received his BSc. in biochemistry from McGill University in Montreal and his PhD in neurobiology from the University of Calgary. His post-doctoral fellowships, completed between 1983 and 1988 were funded by the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) and the Medical Research Council of Canada (MRC). In addition to authoring many publications in his field and sitting on numerous national and international peer review committees, Dr. Weiss holds several patents in the neural stem cell field and has been a founder of two biotechnology companies in this area.