

Vimy award winners honoured

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The Conference of Defence Associations Institute held its 14th annual Vimy Award Dinner, in the grandly lit Grand Hall of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Friday evening. The oh-so-grand dinner for more than 400 guests from the Canadian defence industry, included some big names around town. Supreme Court Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, accompanied by her husband, Frank McArdle, was the honorary guest, fresh from her court's much talked about decision on special education for autistic children.

Then there was David Bercuson, vice-president of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute and director of the Centre for Strategic and Military Strategy at the University of Calgary, who received the Vimy Award that recognizes a Canadian who has made a significant and outstanding contribution to defence and security issues. Sharon Hobson, the Canadian correspondent for Jane's Navy International and Jane's Defence Upgrades, among other publications, received the Ross Munro Award that goes to a Canadian journalist who has made a significant and outstanding contribution to the understanding of defence and security issues. Ms. Hobson's husband, Jim Bagnall, the Citizen's associate business editor, accompanied her to the black-tie affair.

Mixing and mingling were Defence Minister Bill Graham; former defence minister David Pratt and his wife, Joan; and former Vimy Award winners Gen. John de Chastelain and Jack Granatstein, former director general of the Canadian War Museum.

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