



## **The Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM, AOE, KStJ Lieutenant Governor of Alberta**

The Honourable Norman L. Kwong of Calgary was installed as Alberta's 16<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant Governor on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005. He is the first person of Chinese heritage to serve as Lieutenant Governor in Alberta.

One of six children, Mr. Kwong was born in Calgary to Chinese immigrants Charles and Lily Kwong. He completed his secondary schooling at Western Canada High School in Calgary where he discovered his talent for football. In 1948, at the age of 18, he joined the Calgary Stampeders Football Club as a halfback. That year, he became the first Chinese Canadian to play in the Canadian Football League (CFL) and the youngest player to win a Grey Cup.

After three years with the Stampeders Mr. Kwong was traded to the Edmonton Eskimos, where he spent 10 years and won three more Grey Cup championships. He was chosen to receive the "All-Canadian Fullback" award five times and won the Schenley Award as the Most Outstanding Canadian in 1955 and 1956. In 1955 he was also selected as Canada's Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year. By the time of his retirement in 1960, Mr Kwong held over 30 CFL records. He is a member of the Canada Sports Hall of Fame, the Canadian Football Hall of Fame, the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and the Edmonton Sports Hall of Fame.

Upon his retirement from the CFL, Mr. Kwong moved to the private sector and spent the next few decades in sales, mainly in commercial real estate. He eventually became Vice President and General Manager of Torode Realty.

From 1988 to 1991 Mr. Kwong served as President and General Manager of the Calgary Stampeders. He was also co-owner of the National Hockey League's Calgary Flames from 1980 to 1994, during which time the Flames won the Stanley Cup Championship (1989). He is among only a few Canadians to have won both the Grey Cup and the Stanley Cup as a player, manager or owner.

A popular dinner speaker and Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Kwong has spoken in support of numerous non-profit organizations across the nation from Vancouver to Halifax. He is a former National Chairman of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism (1979-1980) and also served as Honorary Chairman of the Easter Seal Campaign in Calgary (1982-1984).

Mr. Kwong is a Member of the Order of Canada (1998) and is Chancellor of the Alberta Order of Excellence (2005). In May, 2005 The Queen appointed him Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. In June, 2006 he received a Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Alberta. The Canadian Embassy in Beijing dedicated their gymnasium to Mr. Kwong in recognition of his tremendous contributions to Canadian football and to sportsmanship. In appreciation of his participation in bringing the Flames Hockey Team to Calgary, donors endowed the "Normie Kwong Bursary" in Medicine at the University of Calgary which is given annually to a student in financial need.

Lieutenant Governor Kwong and his wife Mary have been married for 49 years. They have four grown sons. Their Honours remain devoted grandparents to their nine grandchildren.