

Romanow receives the Atkinson Economic Justice Award

(TORONTO) -- Health care Commissioner Roy Romanow has been granted the Atkinson Charitable Foundation's Economic Justice Award.

Foundation President, Mrs. Catherine (Betsy) Atkinson Murray, presented the award to Romanow at the South Riverdale Community Health Centre. "Your work on the future of health care in Canada has provided all of us with the potential for a more hopeful future," she said.

"The timing of this award couldn't be more perfect and I am deeply honored and grateful," Romanow said. "Since the tabling of my report, I have received countless ideas about our recommendations, many to do with how to implement them in an effective and sustainable manner. This award gives me the time and resources to further research and discuss implementation."

"I have been trying to take stock, to listen in on what Canadians are saying. I have been overwhelmed and gratified by the public's response to our work. After all, we see the Commission's work as an attempt at democratic policy-making given the incredible participation of Canadians in the process and the rich diversity of advice we received," Romanow said.

Mr. Romanow, former Premier of Saskatchewan, was commissioned by the Federal government to provide a blue print for the future of Canada's health care system. He tabled his report in November of 2002. He is currently teaching public policy at the universities of Saskatchewan and Regina.

The Atkinson Award for Economic Justice will provide up to \$100,000 for a year and is renewable. The award includes a stipend, research support, and other expenses.

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