

Summary Biographical Notes 2006

Thomas Paul d'Aquino B.A., LL.B., LL.M., LL.D.

Thomas d'Aquino is a lawyer, entrepreneur, author, educator and strategist. He is Chief Executive and President of the *Canadian Council of Chief Executives* (CCCE), an organization composed of the chief executives of 150 of the country's leading enterprises and pre-eminent entrepreneurs. A non-partisan and not-for-profit organization, the Council is the senior voice of Canadian business on public policy issues in Canada, the United States and internationally. Member companies administer \$3.2 trillion in assets and have annual revenues in excess of \$750 billion and are responsible for the vast majority of Canada's exports, investment, research and development, and training.

Under Mr. d'Aquino's leadership, the Council has played an influential role in shaping the direction of fiscal, taxation, trade, energy, environmental, competitiveness and corporate governance policies in Canada. In the international arena, Mr. d'Aquino has worked with his colleague chief executives on a wide range of North American and global issues germane to Canada and to Canadian enterprises. He is acknowledged as one of the private sector architects of the Canada-United States free trade initiative and of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

A native of Nelson, British Columbia, Mr. d'Aquino was educated at the Universities of British Columbia, Queen's and London (University College and the London School of Economics). He holds B.A., LL.B., and LL.M. degrees, and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from Queen's University and from Wilfrid Laurier University.

Mr. d'Aquino's career combines experience in government, business, and law. He has served as a Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Canada and as the founder and chief executive of Intercounsel Limited, a firm specializing in the execution of domestic and international business transactions and in the mentoring of chief executives on public policy strategies. He also served as an international trade lawyer and as an Adjunct Professor of Law lecturing on the law of international business transactions, trade and the regulation of multinational enterprise.

Mr. d'Aquino serves on boards and advisory committees in Canada and abroad. He has been referred to as one of Canada's foremost policy strategists and one of the country's most effective global business ambassadors. A specialist in a number of public policy areas, he is the author of numerous publications, a regular commentator on radio and television, and a frequent speaker on platforms in Canada, the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America. Mr. d'Aquino has addressed audiences in twenty-five countries and in over one hundred cities worldwide.

Mr. d'Aquino is the co-author of an influential book published in 2001, and titled *Northern Edge: How Canadians Can Triumph in the Global Economy*.

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Canadian Council of Chief Executives**

Thomas d'Aquino is a lawyer, entrepreneur, author, educator and strategist. He is Chief Executive and President of the *Canadian Council of Chief Executives* (CCCE), a post that he has held without interruption since 1981. Formerly known as the Business Council on National Issues (BCNI), the organization is composed of the chief executives of 150 of the country's leading enterprises and pre-eminent entrepreneurs. A non-partisan and not-for-profit organization, the Council is the senior voice of Canadian business on public policy issues in Canada, the United States and internationally. Member companies administer \$3.2 trillion in assets and have annual revenues in excess of \$750 billion and are responsible for the vast majority of Canada's exports, investment, research and development, and training.

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Mr. d'Aquino's career combines experience in government, business, and law. From 1969-1972, he was a Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Canada. From 1972-1975, he was associated with an international management consulting firm in London and Paris where he worked on strategic business problems. In 1976, Mr. d'Aquino founded and became chief executive of Intercounsel Limited, a firm specializing in the execution of domestic and international business transactions and in the mentoring of chief executives on public policy strategies. He also acted as an advisor to clients in Canada and abroad on domestic and international business and legal problems. The focus of his practise was in the banking, energy, communications and technology sectors. During this period, he was a Professor Adjunct of the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa where he lectured on the law of international business transactions, trade and the regulation of multinational enterprise. From 1987 to 1990, Mr. d'Aquino also served as Special Counsel to McCarthy & McCarthy, a leading Canadian law firm with offices in Canada and internationally. A specialist on international trade, he is acknowledged as one of the private sector architects of the Canada-United States free trade initiative and of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Enhancing Canadian competitiveness continues to be one of Mr. d'Aquino's major preoccupations. To this end, he has contributed significantly through his own work and through his supervision, on the Council's behalf, to the ground-breaking study in 1990-1991 on Canadian competitiveness by Harvard Professor, Michael Porter. Mr. d'Aquino chairs the Council's *Canada Global Leadership Initiative* -- an undertaking which is currently developing analysis and recommendations on how to make Canada a world leader in private sector and country-wide global competitiveness. In 2002/2003, he co-chaired the Council's *Corporate Governance Initiative* aimed at establishing Canada as a world leader of effective governance in the conduct of enterprise. Currently, Mr. d'Aquino chairs the Council's *North American Security and Prosperity Initiative* which is addressing a comprehensive range of policy issues aimed at enhancing North American economic and security co-operation.

Mr. d'Aquino serves on a number of boards and advisory committees. These include the Canadian Foundation for International Management of Fontainebleau-based INSEAD; La Conférence de Montréal; the Advisory Council of The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States; the Chairman's International Advisory Council of the New York-based Council of the Americas; the Advisory Board of the Washington-based Canada Institute, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; the Lawrence National Centre for Policy and Management, Richard Ivey School of Business; the Advisory Committee of the Trudeau Centre for the Study of Peace and Conflict, University of Toronto; the Council for Canadian Security in the 21st Century; and the Max Bell Foundation. He also is the representative of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives on the Geneva-based World Economic Forum and a member of the Global Business Consultative Group of the World Economic Forum. He is a Founding Member of the Pacific Council on International Policy headquartered in Los Angeles and a member of the Institute for Strategic Studies in London. The recipient of The Shastri Institute Distinguished Lectureship, he has addressed audiences in four major Indian cities. In 2004/2005, Mr. d'Aquino also served as Vice Chairman of the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations Task Force on the Future of North America.

Mr. d'Aquino is a member of the Board of Directors of Manulife Financial Corporation, a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 19 countries and territories worldwide. He also is a member of the Board of Directors of CGI Group Inc., a world-class leader in information technology and business process services, active in 16 countries.

Mr. d'Aquino was a founder and member of the Executive Committee of three organizations which have played a significant role in national debates in Canada on trade and constitutional issues respectively: the Canadian Alliance for Trade and Job Opportunities (1987-1989); Canadians for a Unifying Constitution (1989-1990); and The Confederation 2000 Initiative (1996). He is the co-founder and former Co-chair of the Canadian Labour Market and Productivity Centre and has served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council on Social Development and the Board of Governors of Carleton University and the University of Ottawa. He has served as a member of the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on the Outstanding Public Service Award and of the National Jury for the Selection of the Vimy Award. In 1997, Mr. d'Aquino was the architect and Co-chair of the first-ever APEC CEO Summit which took place in Vancouver on the eve of the meeting of APEC Leaders.

An active supporter of the arts, Mr. d'Aquino is Chairman of the National Gallery of Canada Foundation, a member of the Board of Directors of The Council for Business and the Arts in Canada and of the International Advisory Committee of the Calgary International Organ Festival. In the health and medical sciences field, Mr. d'Aquino has served as a member of the International Board of Scripps Foundation for Medicine and Science in La Jolla, California, and of the Chairman's Committee of The Heart Institute of Ottawa Endowment Campaign.

Mr. d'Aquino has been referred to as one of Canada's foremost policy strategists and one of the country's most effective global business ambassadors. A specialist in a number of public policy areas, he is the author of numerous publications, a regular commentator on national radio and television, and a frequent speaker on platforms in Canada, the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America. Mr. d'Aquino has addressed audiences in twenty-five countries and in over one hundred cities worldwide. In 2001, he authored, together with David Stewart-Patterson, an influential book titled *Northern Edge: How Canadians Can Triumph in the Global Economy*. He is also the co-author of the book *Parliamentary Democracy in Canada: Issues For Reform*.

Mr. d'Aquino and his wife Susan live in the Heritage Village of Rockcliffe Park, in Ottawa.

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