



Getting a good education is important to our young people if they are to succeed in later life. Member of Parliament Peter Goldring has always encouraged students to strive for excellence. He frequently speaks at the graduation ceremonies for Queen Elizabeth High School. Here is his latest address to the graduates in June 2012.

Assistant Superintendent Bruce Coggles, Principal Don Blackwell, elected colleagues, Councillor Tony Caterina, Trustee Cheryl Johner, graduating class of 2012, teachers, parents, special guests, ladies and gentlemen.

As Member of Parliament for Edmonton East, I am honoured to be here with you on this special evening and bring greetings from the Parliament of Canada to the graduating class at Queen Elizabeth High School. Your graduation marks the culmination of your efforts, achievements and experiences throughout your academic careers. Today

marks the beginning of the next chapter in your lives, a chapter with endless possibilities.

You have traveled a long journey and now stand at the pinnacle of your greatest accomplishments. It is a day to take pride in your accomplishments at Queen Elizabeth High School, a day to remember, honour and express appreciation for your parents, teachers and mentors for their guidance

and support. It is a day to cherish friends and classmates who have shared in this journey. Another chapter in your lives has been written, a chapter which you will forever hold in your memories to reflect upon as you begin an exciting new one.



Peter Goldring, Member of Parliament for Edmonton East, addresses the crowd at Queen Elizabeth High School in Edmonton, Alberta.

Whatever your future may be, when you reflect on your years at Queen Elizabeth High School, cherish your memories and your educa-



tion as a whole - for the wisdom you have gained has helped to make you the person you are today, and will be invaluable to the achievement of your life's goals. In the coming years you will recognize more and more how the hard work, dedication and inspiration of your teachers have helped your growth, developed your strengths and made a difference in your lives. Your success speaks strongly of your character and integrity, and also of those of your parents and family members.

Remember your school motto: "Virili Parte" – to the utmost of our abilities. Look forward to the opportunities that await you in the near and distant futures. Academic, athletic and social experiences at Queen Elizabeth High School have given you the tools necessary to be successful citizens and leaders. Hard work, dedication and commitment to your goals saw you through to this moment, while friendship, camaraderie and school spirit made the experience a greater pleasure.

So, young ladies and gentlemen, this is truly a night of commencement, of beginning. There is a road before you, and you are entirely free to choose the direction and

speed. The road has forks, with endless directions and destinations. Make your choices wisely. Consider what you need for the journey and plan your trip. Always have a goal in the forefront of your mind and always continue to strive for it.

Graduation day also brings with it the reality of becoming an adult. Adulthood brings certain rights, but also certain responsibilities. Success comes when you plan and make responsible choices, understanding the balance between those rights and responsibilities. As an adult you have the freedom to choose the direction for your life. Consider what you want for your future, and plan how you are going to accomplish it. Do what

will continue to make you proud of yourselves and others proud of you. Plan to constantly reinforce your self-worth and, most importantly, cherish your word, your honour and your integrity.

Wherever your future leads to in scholastic achievements, careers, family and friends, don't forget to include in your endeavours service to your community. Volunteer. Give back to the community in the



A sea of students, cadets, faculty, family and friends at Queen Elizabeth High School listen as Mr. Goldring addresses the assembly.



same way others have invested in your youth, in your well-being. Share your passions and skills with others. Take an active role in your community and beyond. Keep aware of the issues in your community, your province, your country and the world and be as active a participant as you are able. Success in this life is ultimately measured by the richness of lifelong friendships, supportive family unity, community contribution and adherence to strong moral values and supportive spiritual beliefs. Success is achieved when you are able to make a positive impact on those around you. By giving back a part of yourself you can leave an honourable legacy for your families, your community and your country.



Mr. Goldring stands with members and cadets of the Queen Elizabeth High School after addressing the many people assembled for the Remembrance Day ceremony.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, for whom this wonderful school was named. To commemorate her Diamond Jubilee, her 60 years of service to Canada and the Commonwealth, Principal Blackwell, will, with myself, be hosting a special ceremony at Queen Elizabeth High School on October 11, 2012. I want to thank him for agreeing to host this event which will honour many people who have made significant

contributions to the community and to Canada and who will be receiving the Queen's Jubilee Medal for their service. We will be honoured to have in attendance with us that day Her Majesty's representative in Alberta, Lieutenant-Governor Donald Ethell. Those of you graduating today can look at the lives of those who will be recognized on that date for inspiration, to see just what can be accomplished by a willingness to give of your time and your efforts in service to community and country.

Now, graduates, start your engines! The highway of life beckons you onward. I'm reminded of the motto of the Royal Canadian Air Force, in which I once served: "Per ardua ad astra."

That motto is appropriate for this occasion also: Through adversity to the stars.

The empty canvas for your future has been well shaped, solidly framed and awaits your efforts with the palette of life to produce your own individual personalized masterpiece.

Congratulations to you all. Good luck. God bless. Godspeed.

Mr. Goldring has attended many graduation ceremonies at Queen Elizabeth High School, as well as several of the very special Remembrance Day services in which the high school has been connected with several schools across Canada and with Canadian troops in Afghanistan. Mr. Goldring also worked with Principal Tony Rankel in 2002 to participate with then Lieutenant Governor Lois Hole to present Golden Jubilee medals to recipients.

Mr. Goldring presented Principal Don Blackwell and Queen Elizabeth High School with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Flag in recognition of the high school's support for the monarchy over the years. The flag will be used for significant events throughout the 2012 Jubilee Year.

As part of the 2012 graduation ceremonies

UPDATE: When Mr. Goldring approached Principal Don Blackwell, he graciously and whole heartedly offered for Queen Elizabeth high School to once again host a special presentation ceremony with Lieutenant-Governor Donald Ethell, Thursday October 11, 2012, to present the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medals to deserving community leaders.

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This brochure series is intended to highlight special issues that Member of Parliament, Peter Goldring, has been involved in. If you wish to comment, please take a moment to fill out the survey below, write or call to the address above.

Your Opinion Matters...

Question #1 Do you believe a greater emphasis should be place on Post Secondary education?

Yes No

Question #2 Education is a provincial responsibility. Do you feel the federal government could do more to enhance education overall?

Yes No

Comments: _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 Telephone: _____

No
Postage

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