



## Robert J. Prettie (Chancellor, 1980-1987)

**Robert J. Prettie** was Lakehead University's 3rd Chancellor. Robert Prettie was born in Guelph, Ontario, in 1906, his family moved to Calgary, Alberta, and it was there, that he completed his elementary and secondary school education; he went on to study Commerce and Finance at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

In 1929 he joined the Sales Department of the Alberta Wood Preserving Company, Calgary and in 1932, he became Assistant Sales Manager of the Vancouver Creosoting Company. He returned to Calgary in 1935 as the Prairie Sales Manager of the Canada Creosoting Company Limited, and in that same year he became President of the Northern Wood Preserves Limited and its subsidiaries, a position which he held for 35 years. He became chairman of the Board in 1971, retiring on December 31, 1971.

Dr. Prettie, has been an active member of the business community since he arrived in Port Arthur in 1935; now in his 74th year he is still active.

He has served as chairman or president of such organizations as the Northern Development Committee of Ontario Economic Council, the Ontario Forest Industries Association, the Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce, the Northwestern Ontario Association Chambers of Commerce, the Northwestern Ontario Development Association, Lakehead Videon and the Port Arthur Golf and Country Club, at various points in his career. He has also served in the capacity of chairman and director of many local and regional civic associations. He retired from the chairmanship of the Lakehead Harbour Commission in 1978.

Dr. Prettie's association with Lakehead University dates back to 1962 when he was first elected a Governor of the Lakehead College of Arts, Science and Technology. In 1967, he served as chairman of the University's Building Fund drive, and it was largely through his efforts and those of former Board member John N. Paterson, both of whom took more than a month off from their own busy schedules to stump the country in search of funds, that more than \$3,600,000 was raised during the campaign. The outstanding efforts of those concerned citizens, was a major factor in convincing the Ontario Government to construct the present Lakehead University buildings. He was chairman of the Board of Governors of Lakehead University from 1971 to 1973.

In July of 1977, Dr. Prettie retired from the University's Board of Governors after serving continuously, in one capacity or another, on the Board for 15 years. After his retirement from business Dr. Prettie continued to serve as a director of a number of Lakehead companies, and is on the Advisory Board of the Royal Trust and the Board of the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation. In May 1978 the University conferred the degree of Doctor of Commerce (honoris causa) on Robert Prettie for his outstanding service.

Please contact the University Secretariat if you require this information in another format:

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Location: University Centre, Thunder Bay Campus, Room UC2002;

Phone: 807-346-7929 or Email: [univsec@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:univsec@lakeheadu.ca).