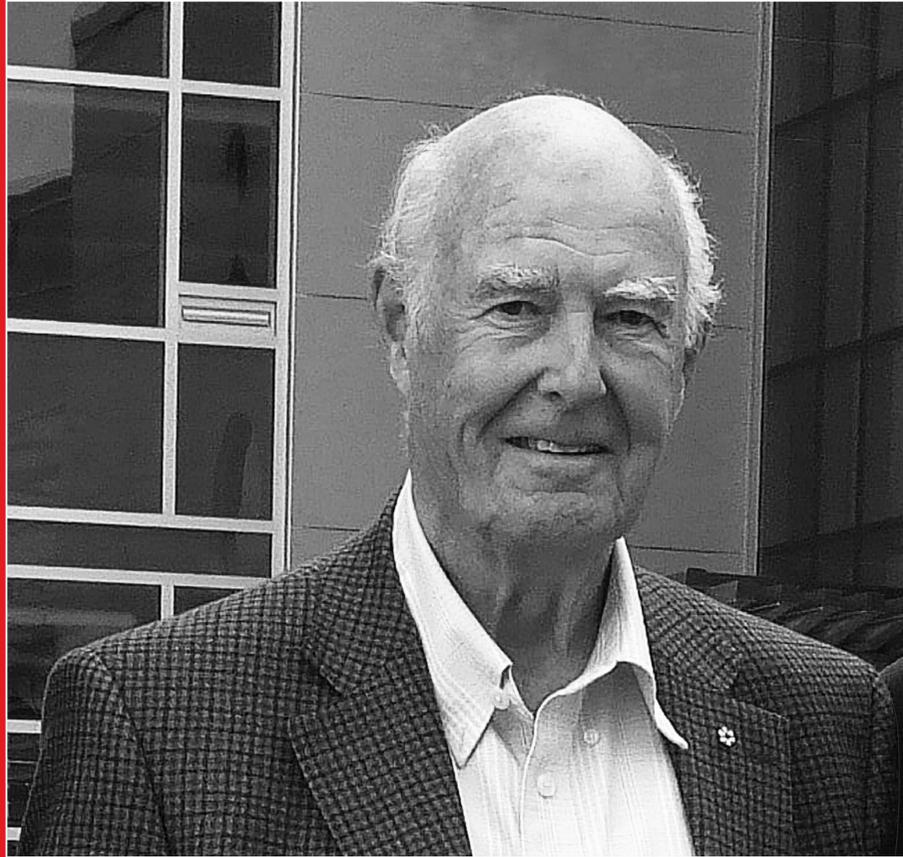# BRENTWOOD
COLLEGE SCHOOL

2017

Old Brentonian

Lifetime Achievement

Award

Honouring an Old Brentonian who has had a distinguished career and is recognized as a leader in his/her profession and/or society

Alastair Gillespie

CLASS OF 1941

Following four exceptional years at Brentwood, Alastair Gillespie served as a wartime naval officer (a fighter pilot in the Fleet Air Arm) for four years, and then proceeded to McGill and Oxford (on a Rhodes Scholarship) and later, the University of Toronto's Business School. These experiences helped prepare him for stellar careers in both business and public service.

In 1950, Alastair started with Toronto-based W.J. Gage & Company Limited, moving up rapidly to Vice President and a Director. Simultaneously he taught Marketing courses at U. of T.'s Business School, and started an automatic vending company on the side. Thirteen years later he joined the conglomerate Canadian Corporate Management Limited as Vice-President and served as the President of several of its operating subsidiaries.

In 1968, Alastair was elected to the House of Commons in the first Trudeau government. Re-elected in the general elections of 1972 and 1974, he served for eight years in all three of Pierre Trudeau's cabinets; in 1971, as the first Minister of Science and Technology, from 1972 to 1975 as the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and from 1975 to 1979 as Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

He returned to business in 1980 as Chairman of the brewer, Carling O'Keefe Limited, Chairman of the National Westminster Bank of Canada, and Chairman of Scotia Coal Synfuels consortium. He also founded Scotia Synfuels Limited to buy and rehabilitate the former Gulf Oil Refinery at Point Tupper, Nova Scotia. As a retirement project, he became a co-owner of Creemore Springs Brewery Ltd. in Creemore, Ont for several years. He also served as a Director on a number of other commercial, public and private corporations, as President of the Canadian Opera Company and as a Director of a number of not-for-profit community enterprises.

In 1999, Alastair Gillespie was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.