



CITATION

Honorary Fellow Award – Sharon Brintnell

Sharon Brintnell started her illustrious career in 1964 after receiving her diploma in Occupational Therapy. Her love for education started to blossom in 1970 as she became lecturer for the Division of Occupational Therapy, School of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Alberta.

In addition to her teaching and research activities, Professor Brintnell served as Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy for three terms totalling over ten years, and as Acting Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, in 1990-91. As Director of the Occupational Performance Analysis Unit (OPAU) at the University of Alberta, Professor Brintnell's clinical and research activity has focused for the past 25 years on understanding the impact of illness and injury, both mental and physical, on a person's engagement in productive activity at home and in the workplace.

But her commitment to the profession does not stop with preparing future occupational therapist to enter the workforce. Professor Brintnell has also devoted her career to promoting the profession of Occupational Therapy and has demonstrated exemplary leadership over her career.

She has demonstrated exemplary leadership over her career. She was the President of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) from 1978-1980. During her term, Professor Brintnell initiated the process and served on all of the Health Canada task forces responsible for developing the Canadian Occupational Therapy Guidelines for Client-Centred Practice, chairing the volume on mental health. She also was a contributing author to the CAOT publication of *Enabling Occupation I*, which became a landmark document for Canadian occupational therapists and has expanded to be adopted by many countries.

Since 1988, Sharon has developed a substantial international focus in professional human capacity building. Her major initiatives were to help establish occupational therapy programmes in Kuwait and Indonesia.

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Professor Brintnell is an exemplary ambassador for Occupational Therapy at the local, provincial, national and international level. She has been tirelessly promoting the profession

for the past 40 years with the same vibrant passion and generosity. In the words of her colleagues, she lives and breathes occupational therapy literally day and night! Her level of energy is contagious! Her passion for our profession is equal to her love and dedication to her family and friends. For these reasons, she is a most worthy recipient for the Honorary Fellow Award.