



## In Memoriam

CAMPNEY, Alan Farnsworth (1929 - 1999) Age: 70

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A Fraser Institute Press Release at the time of his death; (19 August, 1999)

"Fraser Institute Founding Chairman Passes Away. Long-time friends and supporters of The Fraser Institute were saddened by the death in August of the Institute's immediate past and Founding Chairman, Mr. Alan Farnsworth Campney.

Mr. Campney was called to the Bar of British Columbia in 1955, and went on to specialize in private international law. In this capacity, he was a pioneer in the development of Asian trade. He helped the Nippon Steel corporation enter the North American market, and also assisted the Nissan Motor Company with its North American development. For these and many other services, in 1997 the government of Japan conferred upon Mr. Campney the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun.

In Vancouver, Mr. Campney practised with the firm Campney & Murphy, where he was, successively, associate, partner, managing partner, and associate counsel. In 1984 he left active law practice to devote himself full-time to business.

Mr. Campney gave generously of his time to The Fraser Institute, on whose Board of Trustees and Executive Advisory Board he continued to serve after stepping down as Chairman in 1986. In that year, the Institute conferred an honorary lifetime membership on Mr. Campney. In his eulogy to Alan Campney, Michael Walker, The Fraser Institute's Executive Director, said, "The long habit of living leaves us unprepared for death - particularly of one who has been a close part of our life. The compensations for the pain of the loss of this close connection are the many gifts which, in the cycle of life, we have received from Alan. His optimism, his joy of life, his unique perspective ... but also his industry, his sage advice, and his investment in our ideas.... We shall miss him for what he added to our lives professionally and personally."

Mr. Campney was 70 years old. He is survived by his wife Barbara and their three daughters."

Alan Campney was indeed the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fraser Institute after its formation in 1974. He was the Chairman for 10 years and was associated with the Institute right up until his death in August, 1999 at the age of 70. In 2014 the Institute celebrated its 40th Anniversary and is considered the #1 ranked "Think Tank" in Canada. One of its earliest accomplishments was to calculate what has become known as "Tax Freedom Day". "In his 1976 address to the Institute's Annual General Meeting, Fraser Institute Chairman Alan Campney said that the Institute book *How Much Tax Do You Really Pay?* "may well prove to be our most effective publication." History has proven him correct. Today, almost every adult Canadian knows that Tax Freedom Day is the hypothetical date on which average Canadians have paid their tax bill for the year and started working for themselves. Few Canadians realize, however, that Canada's Tax Freedom Day is an idea born in The Fraser Institute and its work on fiscal policy."

Alan Campney was a 1950 BComm Grad from Queen's and was Commissioned as a SLT(S), seniority 6 Feb '50. He was a 1954 LLB Grad from UBC. He was also a Director of numerous companies including Canadian Airlines, Banque National de Paris (Canada) B.C.Forest Products, Genstar Corp., Marathon Realty Company, and Vancouver Port Corporation. Alan had led the Vancouver Board of Trade's first mission to Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Romania. He assisted in establishing the Canada-Japan Business Co-Operation Committee and had been an active member of the Pacific Basin Economic Council. He was also awarded the Canadian Chancellery approved, Order of the Rising Sun

(Gold Rays with Rosette) by the Government of Japan in 1997.  
Not mentioned elsewhere is that he was President of the Plimsoll Club in 1968 and Chairman of the Vancouver Board of Trade in 1973.

WAC  
December 14, 2017