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MEDIA RELEASE

Anne Giardini to be installed SFU chancellor in June

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Business leader, lawyer, author, arts patron, SFU alumna assumes role as SFU prepares to enter its 50th year.

Simon Fraser University's Board of Governors has announced that forestry executive, lawyer and writer Anne Giardini, Q.C., will become the university's 11th chancellor in June, 2014.

Ms. Giardini will be installed as chancellor on June 13, when the term of the current chancellor, Dr. Carole Taylor, concludes. Dr. Taylor has served as SFU chancellor since June, 2011.

"I am very honoured to have been selected for this prestigious position, and am tremendously energized by SFU's vision to be Canada's most community engaged research university," says Ms. Giardini. "A chancellor plays a unique role, and I plan to be a tireless advocate for SFU's students and alumni, and the vital contributions they make to B.C.'s economic prosperity and social well-being."

Since 2008, Ms. Giardini has been president of Weyerhaeuser Company Limited, after previously serving as Weyerhaeuser's Canadian general counsel. She holds a B.A. in Economics from SFU, LL.B. from UBC, and LL.M. from Cambridge University (Trinity Hall).

Ms. Giardini served on SFU's board of governors from 2009-2014 and was a member of the Federal Advisory Council for Promoting Women on Boards in 2013. Her distinguished record of community service includes such varied roles as chair of the Vancouver International Writers Festival, board member of the Writers Trust of Canada and honorary patron of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada.

Recognized for her contributions to Canadian business, philanthropy, arts and culture, Ms. Giardini received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and a Lexpert Zenith Award in 2013. In 2011, she received the Robert V.A. Jones Award recognizing leadership in corporate counsel practice, and was named one of Canada's 25 most influential lawyers.

"We are exceptionally fortunate to have a leader of Anne's stature and reach across industry, community service and the arts join SFU in this capacity," says chair of SFU's board of governors, Lynda Brown-Ganzert, who led the university's chancellor search committee. "Anne's deep knowledge of SFU, coupled with her keen understanding of how a university education prepares graduates for success in today's dynamic economy, will be significant assets to SFU as it approaches its 50th anniversary in 2015, and beyond."

A long-time leader within Canada's resource industry, Ms. Giardini, serves on the boards of B.C.'s Council of Forest Industries, the Alberta Forest Products Association, the Forest Products Association of Canada, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc.

Her mother, renowned author Carol Shields, served as chancellor for the University of Winnipeg from 1996 -1999, making Ms. Giardini a second-generation chancellor.

Simon Fraser University is consistently ranked among Canada's top comprehensive universities and is one of the top 50 universities in the world under 50 years old. With campuses in Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey, B.C., SFU engages actively with the community in its research and teaching, delivers almost 150 programs to more than 30,000 students, and has more than 125,000 alumni in 130 countries.

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