

Bill Gates Visit to UW

9:00AM, Tuesday, February 21, 2008, Hagey Hall, University of Waterloo

Speaking notes for David Johnston

- Good morning! I'm so pleased to see the number of high-school students, 200 of you, who are here this morning and of course the UW students who are giving up part of their precious Reading Week to attend today's very special event. I would also like to welcome our faculty members.
- Today's event is also being broadcast live in the Davis Centre to approximately 500 people, and I would like to welcome those in the overflow area.
- I would also like to welcome those students, alumni and friends around the world who are tuning in on MSN from their desktops where today's event is being streamed live. It's wonderful to have you all here today.
- To say that our speaker needs no introduction is probably the understatement of the year, but permit me a few words as we get this show on the road.

- We are happy to welcome Bill Gates back to the University of Waterloo today. He first visited UW in 1989 and again in 2005, when the University of Waterloo was his only Canadian stop on a tour of North American universities.
- His presence here is motivated solely by his desire to spend time speaking with you, the talented leaders of tomorrow, about the importance of education, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- Only a few months ago, the University of Waterloo was honoured to receive a \$12.5 million dollar gift from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to help foster the expansion of our visionary Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing.
- I believe that Bill recognizes that the success of a university, a corporation, a nation, even a society rests on how well we build talent from the ground up. Early outreach is key.

- Bill, on behalf of the University of Waterloo I would like to thank you for your vision and your generosity, and I'm happy to announce that in honour of your gift and your appearance here today we will be planting a tree in your name in front of William G. Davis Computer Research Centre.
- I know your enthusiasm for education in Waterloo remains as strong today as it was in 2005 when you visited here last. We are deeply honoured to have you with us today, an individual who personifies the ideals of entrepreneurship we strive for at the University of Waterloo. Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome, Mr. Bill Gates.