



Dr. Roberta Bondar

The first Canadian female astronaut, physician, scientist and photographer, Roberta Bondar was aboard the space shuttle *Discovery* for its January 1992 mission, realizing a personal dream and capturing the imagination of millions. Upon returning to Earth, Bondar wrote *Touching the Earth*, a book in which she speaks of her space experience and her love of the planet.

For almost 20 years, Dr. Bondar has been on the scientific forefront in how the brain adapts to unfamiliar environments. She headed an international team at NASA for over a decade that researched the connections between astronauts recovering from the microgravity of space and neurological illnesses here on Earth, such as stroke and Parkinson's disease. Her techniques have been used in clinical studies at Harvard Medical School and the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Bondar participated in the National Gallery of Canada's landmark exhibition, "Science and Photography: Beauty of Another Order", and she photographed all of Canada's national parks for a major book entitled *Passionate Vision: Discovering Canada's National Parks*, published by Douglas & McIntyre. Her book *Canada: Landscape of Dreams* is now in its second printing.

Dr. Bondar now applies her insights and lessons learned from the unpredictable environment of space to today's constantly changing business environment. She created HyperThink™, a perspective and process that helps companies make adaptive decisions when entering uncharted territory.

Among her numerous distinctions, Dr. Bondar has been honoured as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame for her pioneering research in space medicine, named by *TIME* magazine as one of North America's Best Explorers and recognized with the Order of Canada and the NASA Space Medal. In addition, she has received 24 honorary doctorates from Canadian and American universities. Dr. Roberta Bondar is truly a renaissance woman.