

Nova Scotia Branch

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Loyalist Tidings

Winter 2024

Volume 6, Issue 2

Editor's Message

Welcome to the last 2024 issue of Loyalist Tidings.



*I thank everyone for their guidance and support
with the NS Branch of the UELAC.*

*Wishing all members of the NS Branch of the UELAC
Happy Holidays and All the Best in 2025.*



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Brian McConnell, UE, retires as President of the Nova Scotia Branch - UELAC.



Brian was born in Ottawa, Ont and received, with Honours, his B.A. in History at Queen's University. He then obtained his LL.B. from Dalhousie University's School of Law, graduating in 1985. Brian's career as a Lawyer began in 1986 till his retirement in February 2021.

Brian is an active volunteer, supporter of the UELAC, researcher, author and publisher. He joined the NS Branch of the UELAC and became Secretary for the NS Branch in 2014. He then took on the role as Branch President in 2015, as well as Dominion Trustee (2015-2019). While President, he also took on the position as Dominion VP for the Atlantic region (2019-2021).

In June 2024, Brian was elected as a Trustee of the Admiral Digby Museum in Digby, NS.

Brian is a member of Royal Canadian Legion and life member of Monarchist League of Canada. He is also a life member of Clan Donald Canada and is a life member of the Ulster Historical Foundation.

He was a member of 84th Regiment (Royal Highland Emigrants) re- enactment group and organized the Loyalist Encampment by 84th Regiment (Royal Highland Emigrants) at Annual UELAC Dominion Conference in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, in July, 2016. Brian was also a member of King's Orange Rangers re-enactment group.

Brian acts as administrator for the NS Branch - UELAC website, and the FB page and group (2015- present) which he created and administrates to encourage and promote interest in the United Empire Loyalists including other FB pages: United Empire Loyalist Monument in Summerside, PE; UE Loyalists Day in Ontario; Loyalist History of Nova Scotia; Loyalists of Digby, 1785; Loyalist History of Eastern Ontario; St. Peter's Church & the Loyalists; Loyalist Cemetery at Bear River, Nova Scotia; United Empire Loyalists Cairn at Middleton, Nova Scotia; Old St. Edward's Church & the Loyalists; Loyalist Cemetery at Port Mouton, Nova Scotia; Remsheg Loyalists; Old Loyalist Cemetery, Digby. Brian sits as Volunteer Chair (2022 – present) of the Old Holy Trinity Charitable Trust in Middleton, NS, which maintains the oldest substantially unaltered church in Canada built by United Empire Loyalists that was constructed in 1789.

Brian volunteers with Find -A -Grave and has added graves of over 1200 United Empire Loyalists in NS, NB, ON, PE. and PQ.

Brian is a Past Provincial Grand Master of a Grand Black Chapter of the Royal Black Knights of Ireland in Canada He also was an administrator for the Rootsweb United Empire Loyalists Genealogy Group.

Brian is the author of over 40 historical and genealogical articles and stories published by Loyalist Trails, weekly email newsletter of UELAC, and also in Loyalist Gazette since 2014.

Has articles are published online by the Loyalist Institute, University of New Brunswick, including Finding Loyalists in Parish Records at <https://loyalist.lib.unb.ca/atlantic-loyalist-connections/finding-loyalists-parish-records>.

Brian has published articles online by Historic Nova Scotia including Captain Jacob Getcheus, Master of Ships supporting American Patriots, Loyalists, British, and Black Loyalists at <https://historiconvascotia.ca/items/show/175>

His articles about Loyalists have been published in the Nova Scotia Genealogist by the Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia to assist genealogical research into United Empire Loyalists.

Brian has authored six books to promote and encourage interest in United Empire Loyalists and the UELAC being:

- ❖ 1. Loyalist History of Nova Scotia, On the Loyalist Trail;
- ❖ 2. Loyalist Gravestones & Cemeteries of Nova Scotia, Annapolis & Digby Counties;
- ❖ 3. The Loyalists of Digby;
- ❖ 4. Old St. Edward's Church & the Loyalists;
- ❖ 5. The United Empire Loyalists & You;
- ❖ 6. The First Church, Old Holy Trinity in Middleton, Nova Scotia.

Some of Brian's books have been donated to local museums and can be purchased at Admiral Digby Museum in Digby, and Macdonald Museum in Middleton.

His books are available for research purposes at Loyalist Collection, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton and at Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia in Dartmouth, NS. Three of his books are available to borrow from public library system in Nova Scotia and all books can be purchased online from Amazon or signed copies directly from him.

Brian has given Historical presentations to the UELAC branches, NS Genealogical Society, museums, and historical associations.

Brian has researched and prepared over 100 videos about activities of UELAC and history which are available for free viewing on YouTube under account of Brian McConnell, UE.

Brian has received the following awards:

- Certificate for Contributions to Law from NS Barristers' Society, 2012
- Certificate of Volunteer Service from Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, 2016
- Certificate for Volunteer Service (C.B.A. Association), 2019
- Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal (Nova Scotia), 2023



Brian is the 5th great grandson to **Loyalist James Humphrey** (1739-1801) who was from New York state. James Humphrey was listed on the Jessup's Rangers' muster roll as a private in 1781. He settled in Canada in Township No. 6, Edwardsburgh. There is a monument at Johnstown, Ont, which has James Humphrey's name inscribed on it. The above monument and plaque are dedicated to the disbanded Soldiers and Loyalists who appeared on the Muster Roll from 1784 in Johnstown, Ont., and reads as *"Return of Disbanded Troops and Loyalists settled in Township No. 6 Mustered this 13th day of October 1784"*.

Brian will remain with the NS Branch - UELAC as Past President and Director. We look forward to Brian's support and expertise going forward. We thank him for his past commitment to chairing and administrating in-person and Zoom meetings.

And wishing him all the best in his future endeavors.

Submitted by,
Linda Jobe
Secretary



NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH EXECUTIVE

David Decker UE, Acting President & Membership Chair

Brian McConnell UE, Past President

Linda Jobe UE, Secretary & Newsletter Editor

Jill Mattinson UE, Treasurer

Margaret Nickerson-Dorey UE, Genealogist

Linda Jobe UE, Assistant Genealogist

Upcoming Event

2025 UELAC Conference

July 10-13, 2025

Saint John, New Brunswick

The 2025 UELAC Conference Committee is pleased to announce that the 2025 UELAC CONFERENCE will be held in Saint John NB, July 10th-13th,2025. The conference will be hosted at the Delta Hotel in downtown Saint John beside the harbour.

Some of the highlights will be guest speakers Dr. Leah Grandy and Loyalist Trails contributor Stephen Davidson. There will be tours of Trinity Anglican Loyalist church, the Old Loyalist cemetery, The Black Loyalist History Centre, and the Loyalist House. The Gala Dinner will feature speaker and newly appointed honorary fellow Dr. Bonnie Hoskins. We will cap off the Conference with a Drumhead church service at Trinity Church with DeLancey's Brigade.

There will be free time to tour downtown Saint John to take in the stores, restaurants, markets, the container village of artisans on the newly renovated harbour front. Details concerning registration will be announced soon, so mark your calendars now and join us for a great summer conference!

- Conference Committee



Genealogy Corner

Welcome to Genealogy Corner.

For the year 2024 we had several Loyalist Certificate Applications approved.

Below I have listed the approved applications:

- 1) Loyalist Wait Wright (Darlington, Ont), applicant Dr. Lynton Stewart
- 2) Loyalist Henry Siteman (Ship Harbour, NS), applicant Peggy Chapman
- 3) Loyalist James Cosman (Sissiboo, NS), applicant Connor Withers
- 4) Loyalist Christian Hennigar (Upper Kennetcook, NS), applicant Caroline Hensel

Due to the Canada Post strike not all certificates have been mailed. Once the strike has resolved the certificates will be mailed by the UELAC in Ontario.

We thank everyone for their patience.



Last Post

Tribute to David Hill Kanowakeron Morrison UE (1954 – 2024)



David Hill Kanowakeron Morrison UE, who passed away on October 16, 2024, was a cherished member and leader of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC). A resolute Central West Councillor for many years, National UELAC Board Director, and a great historian. David's life was a testament to perseverance, cultural pride, and service to his communities.

Born in Rochester, New York, in 1954, David's journey to uncovering his Loyalist roots began after reconnecting with his birth mother in 1991. This led to the revelation that he was the seventh great grandson of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea), the renowned Mohawk leader and Loyalist. This connection sparked his deep involvement in the UELAC and his work to honour the intertwined histories of Indigenous and Loyalist heritage.

David played pivotal roles in the UELAC. He was a founding member and served as Vice President for the former virtual Bridge Annex Branch and as Grand River Branch Webmaster. His commitment extended far beyond administrative duties; he was instrumental in promoting education about Haudenosaunee culture and Loyalist contributions to Canada. David was also an advocate for Native adoptees and an enthusiastic supporter of Indigenous and Loyalist history.

In 2018, David's remarkable contributions were recognized with the UELAC Dorchester Award, celebrating his excellence in volunteerism and leadership. Throughout his life, he balanced identities as a Mohawk, Canadian Loyalist, and citizen of the United States, bridging diverse cultural perspectives with integrity and grace. David's work left an indelible mark on the UELAC and the communities he served. His passion, wisdom, and dedication will be deeply missed but fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him. May he rest in peace, leaving a legacy of unity, history, and inspiration for generations to come.

Warm Regards,

Carl Stymiest UE
UELAC National President

UELAC Items for Sale

*The following items are for sale. If you are interested in purchasing please send us an email to:
novascotia@uelac.org*



UE Pin \$4 plus shipping



UELAC Badge \$5 plus shipping



UELAC Medal (with Blank Bar) \$20 plus shipping