

Nova Scotia Branch

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Loyalist Tidings

Fall 2021
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GREETINGS EVERYONE!

I am very pleased to be able to communicate with you in this, the first edition of the Nova Scotia Branch Newsletter.

Thank you to Susan Sears for showing the initiative to start this publications and volunteering to take on the role of Editor. Thanks also to everyone else who has contributed to this issue.

Over the last year due to health restrictions as a result of the COVID pandemic, members of Branches of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) have been taking part in meetings online by Zoom. Many of us will miss the personal contact, however these meetings enable members who live at some distance from their Branch and are unable to attend in-person meetings in the past, to now do so.

We did hold our Branch AGM in April and we were very fortunate to have Pamela Wile, Secretary of the Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia (GANS) as our guest speaker. Her presentation was very informative and useful for anyone for their genealogical research.

This year our Annual Conference for the UELAC was also done by Zoom. It proved to be well attended and popular. The plan is that next years' conference from Winnipeg, Manitoba will also be done this way as the effects of the COVID pandemic are still being felt.

Personally, I made presentations via Zoom about the Loyalist history of Nova Scotia to five (5) branches of the UELAC. These presentations included information from three of my books which I have authored, "Loyalist History of Nova Scotia", "Loyalist Cemeteries of Nova Scotia: Annapolis & Digby Counties", and "Loyalists of Digby". In August 2021, I completed a fourth book entitled "Old St. Edward's Church & the Loyalists". Author signed copies of any of these books can be purchased from the Admiral Digby Museum in Digby, NS or by sending an email to me at brianm564@gmail.com. My books are also available for purchase online from Amazon in Kindle, hard cover or paperback.

On December 1, 2021, I will be giving a Zoom presentation for the Governor Simcoe Branch of the UELAC concerning the subject of the "Loyalists of Digby". Members are welcome to attend and watch. Details of the time and how to attend the Zoom meeting will be released in the "Loyalist Trails" email newsletter. A post will be made on the Branch Facebook page.

Finally, I hope all members are having success with any Loyalist research or inquires they are making. As well, it is my wish that you are able to take enjoyment from learning more about our Loyalist heritage and ancestry.

Stay safe and healthy,

Brian McConnell, UE
President, NS Branch



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CERTIFICATES ISSUED

It is estimated as of April 2021 that there have been 64 application for certificates since October 2019.



There were approximately 19 certificates issued between April 2021 and September 2021. There are still many more in progress!

Margaret Nickerson-Dorey, Branch Genealogist, reports that there was an uptick in applications this year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been more challenges with the pandemic, as the good folks in the Dominion office had to work from home offices, and were not able to into the main office, only to check mail, so getting certificates out took longer than usual. That being said, using technology to receive applications digitally and fully online in the midst of the lockdown.

NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH ~ AGM

On Saturday, April 10th the Annual General Meeting was held virtually, via Zoom. We had approximately 22 members join from all over! We are also joined by members of the Victoria, BC branch.

The meeting started a few minutes prior in order for members to ensure they had a connection, video sharing and microphones on! This gave everyone a brief moment to say hello and welcome to each other prior to the meeting.

We started the meeting with a presentation from Pamela Wile, Secretary of the Genealogy Association of Nova Scotia (GANS). Pamela treated us to a slide show of information regarding the facility located in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. She shared a bit of information regarding what they do, what information you can find there and online and how to reach GANS. Many of our members had questions for Pam and it was overall a really informative and helpful presentation. If you would like additional information about GANS,

please visit their website at: <https://novascotiaancestors.ca/>

Minutes will be circulated before the next meeting for approval at the next meeting, to be determined.

From the previous Branch meeting, held **October 5, 2019**, in person at the West Hants Historical Society Museum in Windsor, Nova Scotia, prior to COVID-19, it was announced the passing of Elizabeth Cromwell, founding President of the Black Loyalist Museum in Birchtown, NS in October, 2019 at the age of 75. She left behind a legacy of preserving Black history and culture in Nova Scotia. She had been appointed to the Order of Canada in 2017.

Also, the Branch was informed that Alma Hayward had passed away in June 2019 at the age of 77. She was a former Branch Secretary for 17 years and a proud member of the EULAC.

Ray Blakeny presented a poster to Brian McConnell and advised he will donate a Loyalist plaque to the Branch.



QUEEN ELIZABETH SENDS MESSAGE TO CANADIANS ON NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

*The day honors the victims and survivors of
Indigenous residential schools in Canada*

On Thursday, September 30th, the first ever National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, Queen Elizabeth posted, "I join with all Canadians on this first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to reflect on the painful history that Indigenous peoples endured in residential schools in Canada, and on the work that remains to heal and to continue to build an inclusive society," remarked the Queen on the Royal Family Twitter page in both English and French.

The day was created through parliamentary legislation to honour the victims and survivors of Canada's Indigenous residential schools.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

This is the first time that the members had a chance to meet virtually via a Zoom call!

The UELAC Nova Scotia Branch currently has 147 members in good standing. This makes us one of the larger branches as far as membership goes. However, it would be fantastic to increase membership.

Why join? If you have an interest in Canadian history, perhaps distant relatives that were Loyalists, an interest in the American Revolution. You do not have to be a Loyalist descendant to join, you do not have to be Canadian to join! We have members from other parts of Canada as well as the United States and other countries around the world!

Types of memberships

\$50 per annum for individuals

\$70 per annum for a family living at the same residence

\$25 per annum for Student

\$50 per annum for Institutions

Anyone joining after July 1 to Oct 31 is entitled to a 50% discount.

Please contact Marian Munroe, Membership Chair at genmar10@hotmail.com for forms and payment options.



Loyalist Badge

BEHIND THE BADGE

The Badge is part of the complete armorial achievement, but whereas the Arms and Crest identify the armigerous body corporate itself as such, the Badge may be licensed by the Dominion Council for use by Members in token of membership of the Association. Similarly with the Badges of the Canadian Armed Forces, they are essentially Badges of the Crown which the Crown allows and licenses to certain persons in token of association with it in certain capacities for certain periods. Likewise with other Badges used in the administration of governmental agencies, such as that of the Customs and Excise Department. Badges arose at an early period in heraldry, and were first used to denote retainers and adherents. The Red Rose of Lancaster and the White Rose of York are, possibly, among the best known. The Rose of England, the Thistle of Scotland, the Shamrock of Ireland, the Leek of Wales and the lily or Fleur-de-lis of France have all been upheld as such for hundreds of years now. Canada has inherited this use of Badges, as already mentioned.

The UELAC badge structure is within a Wreath quarterly of Maple Leaves Gules and Oak Leaves Vert fructed Or charged with four Crosses form the letters and figures G III R also Gold.

TWINNING OF THE BRANCHES

In 2021, the UELAC Nova Scotia Branch, “twinned” with the Victoria, BC branch.

Frans Compeer, UE (Victoria) and Brian McConnell, UE (Nova Scotia) became friends after meeting at the Dominion Conference in 2015. In 2020, while serving on the Dominion Council together they had a discussion to ‘twin’ the branches so that the branches can team up for presentations and any special events that may come up.

This is a great way to stretch coast to coast and share and benefit from mutual meetings, presentations, and so forth.

Both Branch Executives agreed and the rest is history.

Welcome to our friends and fellow United Loyalist members out in sunny Victoria!



Q & A

What is a primary source?

Answer:

A birth and marriage certificates, deeds, leases, diplomas or certificates of degree, military records, and tax records. For example, a primary source for your birth date is your birth certificate.

REMEMBERING HRH PRINCE PHILIP

THE LOYALIST ROSE

This antique rose, identified as "Maiden's Blush" of the Rosa Alba family, is illustrated in many Renaissance paintings.

It was taken to England from Damascus during the Crusades. In 1773, John Cameron of Clunes and Mary Cameron of Glen Nevis brought the rose with them when they emigrated to Sir William Johnson's estates in the Mohawk Valley of New York.

In 1776, John Cameron joined the King's Royal Regiment of New York. After the Revolution, the family carried the rose with them on their 230-mile trek over the Appalachians to the Cornwall area. It grows today in the Ottawa Valley in the gardens of the descendants of John and Mary Cameron.

Two hundred years later in 1976, Ethel MacLeod, a descendant, registered "The Loyalist Rose" with the International Registration Authority for Roses. She donated it to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada to mark the Bicentennial for the American Revolution and the coming of the Loyalists to Canada.

It is a cupped very double fragrant pale pink rose fading to white, bushy, densely branched blooming well in June.

Source: Branch President's Manual.



Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was born Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark. He is the youngest of five children and the only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark and Princess Alice of Battenberg.

After his family was exiled from Greece when he was a baby, Philip was raised and educated in France, Germany and the United Kingdom. He served in the Royal Navy during World War II up until his wife Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne in 1952. After the end of his active service, Philip remained involved in the military, serving as the Admiral of the Fleet beginning in 1953, when he was also appointed Field Marshal and Marshal of the Royal Air Force.

Philip met then-Princess Elizabeth when she was 13. The pair married in 1947, five years before she ascended to the British throne. Ahead of their wedding, Philip became a British subject, after renouncing his claim to the Greek and Danish thrones. He was then given the title of Duke of Edinburgh. In 2009, he became the longest-serving British

consort. He and Elizabeth are the longest-married couple in the history of the British royal family, after more than seven decades together.

The prince shares four children, Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, with Her Majesty. They have eight grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren with more on the way.

He was given the title and office of Lord High Admiral, the titular head of the Royal Navy in 2011 to commemorate his 90th birthday. Philip stepped down for public service six years later in August 2017 at the age of 96.

The duke died two months shy of his 100th birthday on April 9, 2021.



NOVA SCOTIA UEL CEMETERY SIGNAGE PROJECT

In 2018, a proposal was put forward that a project be undertaken to erect signs at the entrance to Nova Scotia cemeteries to indicate 1st and 2nd generation United Empire Loyalists buried there as funding is available from the National organization for this type of project. A committee was formed comprised of Jill Mattinson, Deborah Trask and Brian McConnell. A preliminary report was presented at the 2019 AGM listing the eligible cemeteries from previous sources. The proposal was put over until the next meeting citing a better and more accurate method is required to identify the UEL burial grounds. Unfortunately, the 2020 AGM was cancelled due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions. At the Zoom AGM held in April 2021, Jill put forth a motion to postpone this project indefinitely as the time is not right due to COVID restraints. The 250th anniversary of the departure of the first Loyalists to Nova Scotia will be in 2026 and it was proposed we plan something for that milestone in our Loyalist history. During an informal discussion, Jill and Deborah agreed that before any signage is planned, we require more information about the 1st and 2nd generation Loyalists through an actual data gathering project; and most of all, we need to be sensitive to current issues regarding race and ethnicity. We also discussed re-researching the rules around the placing of signs in cemeteries. An example is the Old Burying Ground in Halifax which contains the graves of many loyalists but is a National historic site and may not permit the placing of signs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2022—Annual Dominion Conference

“Eye on the Heart of the Continent” (May 26-29, 2022)

Conference 2022 will be hosted by Manitoba Branch via online

May 2023—Annual Dominion Conference

“Where the Sea Meets the Sky” (June 1-4, 2023; Richmond, BC)

Hosted by the four Pacific Region Branches of the UELAC

Hybrid of online and in-person

Dates to Remember:

Flag Day—Tuesday, February 15, 2022

NB Empire Loyalist Day—Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Victoria Day—Monday, May 23, 2022

United Empire Loyalist Day in Manitoba—June 12, 2022

United Empire Loyalist Day in Kingston, ON—June 12

St. Alban's United Empire Loyalist Memorial Church, Aolphustown, ON—June 16

Loyalist Day (Canada)—June 19 (Ontario, Saskatchewan, Edmonton, AB)

United Empire Loyalist Day in British Columbia—Friday, July 22, 2022

Old Hay Bay Church, Napanee, ON—Last Sunday in August

GENEALOGY

A secondary focus of the Nova Scotia Branch is the genealogy of the Loyalists. To help those who are interested in proving their loyalist descent in order to earn a UE Certificate or Loyalist Descent Certificate which many people frame and display proudly, there are several members who have developed genealogical expertise and who are willing to direct and assist

those who wish to explore their family histories. For assistance please contact Branch Genealogist, Margaret Nickerson - Dorey, by email at:

margaretdorey.ue@yahoo.com

From here, she can guide you to applicable forms, fees and what information you need to get started on your application.

WE WANT YOUR STORIES!

If you have an interesting United Empire Loyalist story to share, please send it in! No matter how great or small, if you found an interesting discovery in your family heritage with a Loyalist connection, we want to hear about it!

Please send your stories to: novascotia@uelac.org

You may see your story featured in an upcoming edition.

If you can limit your story to approx. 250-300 words and include a photo (.jpg) if you can.

*The unknown soldier is
unknown only to us*

*To those who loved him
his name is*

Brother

Son

Daddy

He is not forgotten



*“Where are the lands our
fathers kept*

A hundred years ago?

*The homes in which they
sweetly slept*

A hundred years ago?

By other men,

They knew not then,

Their lands are tilled,

Their homes are filled; --

*Yet nature, then, was just
as gay,*

*And bright the sun shone
as to-day,*

A hundred years ago.”

This was read by Dr. GJ Farish at the 1st centennial of the town of Yarmouth NS 09 June 1861.

Source: P. 183, *History of Yarmouth*

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Become a member! Invite your family to join!

UELAC swag can be purchased from the Dominion site at: <http://www.uelac.org/promotion/catalogue.php>

Have you ever considered donating to the scholarship? <https://uelac.ca/scholarship/>

NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH EXECUTIVE

As of April 2021, the NS Branch Executive consists of the following members:

Brian McConnell, President

David Decker, Vice-President

Ann McConnell, Secretary

Marian Munroe, Treasurer & Membership Chair

Margaret Nickerson-Dorey, Genealogist

Carol Harding, Assistant Genealogist

Jill Mattinson, Director

Susan Sears, Director & Newsletter Editor

Linda Jobe, Director

If any anytime you have any questions, please feel free to email the NS Branch at:

novascotia@uelac.org

MEMBER'S STORY

Belinda (Isenor) Wright lives on Vancouver Island and doesn't get home to Nova Scotia too often. Belinda has worked hard on proving her lineage through her mothers side of her family, which is to Captain Edward CRAWFORD of Chezzetcook, Halifax Co., NS. For the first 3 generations particularly, primary records are required. Belinda had just one last proof needed, her mothers proof of parents.

So this summer, when the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, Belinda and one of her sons' travelled to NS to see her mother, Dianne (Crawford) Isenor. Here, she

found her mothers precious original documents that she had saved in an old photo album! Certificates have now all been approved for Belinda and her 3 children. What a gift Belinda has received from her mom, and a wonderful story for her descendants.



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Nova Scotia Branch
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Loyal then, loyal now