

### **Promoting Canadian History Through Horticulture.**

Residents and visitors to Welland have always enjoyed seeing the beautiful flower beds prominently displayed around the city, representing anniversaries and special occasions of non-profit groups. Those wishing to be represented must submit a request for approval and there are always many requests. After a committee considers all applications and makes their choices, Dave Steven, the landscape technician for the City puts his special talents to work to design something appropriate and artistic for each group.

In January, on behalf of the Butler Branch, I spoke to Dave about the possibility of creating a War of 1812 garden at one of the prominent sites in town. He said there were a number of historic groups around the area who would welcome such a thing, had been waiting for someone to approach him, and suggested I make a request in writing.

A few weeks later, I heard back from Dave that the City had approved the request, and that in the meantime, he had been contacted by other interested groups, so the city took ownership of this particular garden. Since it is only possible to be represented once in ten years, that will permit us to apply in 2014 for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UELAC.

Dave was quite excited about the possibilities for this design which allowed him to do something completely different and as you can see from the photograph, he has done an incredible job. Ted and I live very close to this flower bed and watched as Frank Redden and Dave did the planting over several days. From time to time we see Frank trimming the plants to highlight the message and now that we've had a little rain, it is at its best.

Submitted by Ann Huffman,  
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