

2024 Philip E.M. Leith Memorial Volunteer Award

Margaret Strocel UE Chilliwack Branch UELAC

There are people who volunteer for organizations for the joy of it and not just for the recognition. Margaret is one of those very generous people. She gives the most precious commodity there is, and that is her time. Often we overlook the basic work that makes a group successful. But that is not the case here.

We want to make sure that Margaret knows what a wonderful contribution she has made to our branch over the years. And that we are very grateful.

Margaret joined the Chilliwack Branch in the mid late 1990's. She appears in numerous archived pictures especially attending the Conference events across the country. Traveling with her many new loyalist friends.

And she jumped in to help at every level. Jobs taken on for the branch include: Social Convenor, Recording Secretary, Director, sitting on various committees to organize BC conferences and local branch events like, 25th branch anniversary. Many good ideas have come from her suggestions at management meetings. She stepped up for food prep, service and clean up, decorating tables and setting up displays. She was always busy.



She was so tenacious about searching for and proving her Loyalist ancestor. This was finally achieved in July of 2020 to Donald Cameron. She then ensured that all five of her children applied for and received the same recognition at a celebration for her 90th birthday in August of 2022.

At the same time she has been active in her church.

In November of 2016 she received the Order of the Dioceses of New Westminster - "in honour of people who have distinguished themselves in living out their baptismal identity and purpose in an exemplary way thru service in their parishes, and communities in the diocese".

We are lucky to have had her as part of our branch for so long and are so pleased to be able to nominate her for this recognition.

**Marlene Dance UE,
President, Chilliwack Branch UELAC**