



1st Virtual Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) Launches in Unique Cross-Border Online Event!

A virtual place where real people meet!

UE Loyalist Bridge Annex, UELAC's 1st Virtual Branch officially launched on June 9th with a unique cross-border launch event. With the slogan: "A virtual place where real people meet," the board of UELAC's newest and first virtual branch launched in an online event that bridged international borders, generations, technology and tradition. UE Loyalist Bridge Annex board members posted photos, social media message and even had live feeds from two conferences taking place simultaneously. David Hill-Morrison (VP) and Patricia Groom (Treasurer) attended the UELAC Conference in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, while the Jennifer DeBruin (President), Amanda Fasken (Marketing & PR), and Charlene Widrick (Genealogist) attended the American Revolution Conference in the Mohawk Valley in Johnstown, New York, USA.

The choice of the term *Annex*, rather than branch, was born out of the philosophy of creating a virtual meeting place where discussion and collaboration would be at the forefront of learning, sharing and promoting the legacy of the United Empire Loyalists. While this branch will host no physical meetings or regular events, they do plan on creating a robust online community that will result in the creation of virtual and physical events, collaborative projects, and support education. Having recently attained their incorporation through the Ontario Historical Society (OHS), UE Loyalist Bridge Annex is also in the process of applying for charitable

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UELAC 2021
CORNWALL, ONTARIO

status in order to support their mission to create unique and dynamic educational opportunities.

Excerpt from UE Loyalists Bridge Annex website:

“More engaging than an online forum, this Branch offers unique opportunities for members to determine how and when they would like to experience UELAC. Through the use of online technologies, we’ll be offering a variety of services aimed at assisting, informing, educating and entertaining members on the shared interest of acknowledging, celebrating and perpetuating the sacrifices of our Loyalist ancestors. Together, we’ll bridge gaps that sometimes prevent members from participating and sharing their contributions through conventional Branch memberships. Due to the trans-border nature of the internet world, we’re excited to open UELAC up to new communities and Nations which may have not been offered as accommodating invitation as they should have been. Moreover, we hope to stimulate interest in Loyalist history and heritage among those who perhaps have never considered how intricately bound their own history and heritage is with respect to the Loyalist experience. More than simply a ‘British Canadian thing’, Loyalist history includes all walks of life along with undeniably diverse national and ethnic backgrounds. Of particular note, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy played a critically vital part in defending and aiding their Loyalist friends and neighbours. In time for the official launch will be a new online membership management system which will allow members to join UE Loyalists Bridge Annex as their primary or secondary branch, and they will be able to pay online, e-transfer or through traditional methods (cheque/money order). The website will continue to evolve and will come to include exclusive member features in the near future.”



UE Loyalist Bridge Annex Board of Directors at UE Loyalist plaque re-dedication in Cornwall, Ontario, Canada, on August 12, 2018.

L-R: David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison UE (VP), Patricia Groom UE (Treasurer), Jennifer DeBruin UE (President), Amanda Fasken UE (Marketing & PR), Charlene Widrick UE (Genealogist)

Meet the Board of Directors at:
www.uelac.org/UELBridgeAnnex



“Completely surprised and deeply appreciated. Those were my initial thoughts upon learning of the Dorchester Committee's decision for 2018.”

— David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison UE

L-R: Gerry Adair UE, Prairie Regional VP shakes hands with David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison, while Barb Andrew UE, Past-President of UELAC looks on.



United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

UELAC Lord Dorchester Award

“The UELAC Dorchester Award established October 2007 by Dominion Council exemplifies Volunteer Excellence and Participation, by conferring recognition on recipient(s), for their lengthy contribution to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. Exclusive to the UELAC membership, this Award salutes the “best in volunteerism” amongst our members within the Association.” — www.uelac.org

2018 Dorchester Award

By David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison UE

The Dorchester Award “exemplifies *Volunteer Excellence and Participation*, by conferring recognition on recipient(s), for their lengthy contribution to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. Exclusive to the UELAC membership, this Award salutes the “best in volunteerism” amongst our members within the Association.”

Recognition by one's peers is a humbling experience and volunteerism takes on a broad spectrum of definitions.

One could say, you the reader, are volunteering your time simply by reading this. You're interested enough to read about our Association and its functions, which by itself is a component of participation.

Attending meetings is another act of volunteerism because it fosters a sense of camaraderie and identity. It takes a collective effort to raise awareness and continue to honour and celebrate the Loyalist history and heritage that we share... and share with our fellow Canadians and Americans who support UELAC.

Those who've attended Dominion conferences, AGM's, regional meetings and public events in the name of Loyalist pride might also be considered volunteers. For many, as the years pass it would be far easier to sit back comfortably and not have to deal with the effort and expense of travel.

Somehow, the motto of the Association resonates within us: *Ducit Amor Patriae*. 'The love for my country leads me'. We intentionally and willingly make room in our personal free time despite the endless options and obligations

that tug at us in other directions.

Volunteerism is something as simple as reading newsletters or the weekly *Loyalist Trails*... or it can involve serving in a Branch Executive position or committee. With few exceptions, volunteering is the source of energy that drives the Association.

As Bridge Annex develops and grows to the vision we've imagined, we hope to provide more opportunities designed to engage our members. By being a virtual Branch, we have the flexibility and freedom to explore new technologies and methods aimed at making our Branch as available as pulling up our website whenever and wherever you choose.

Regardless of how different Bridge Annex may be, one thing remains the same. We need to rely on volunteers to provide organizational and operational support, but more importantly, we must rely upon members to voluntarily support Bridge Annex by occasionally (or frequently!) dropping in and adding their thoughts, suggestions or simply to spread the word to keep the memories of the Loyalists alive and honoured.



Joseph Thayendanegea Brant



David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison UE at French River Provincial Park
Alban, Ontario, Canada

"The French River was the superhighway for centuries of First Nation communities along its path. Steeped in history, heritage and culture, the French River is alive with spirits and the spiritual."

French River Provincial Park:

<http://www.ontarioparks.com/park/frenchriver>

By that gesture, we all are worthy and charged to be Lord Dorchester's emissaries.

And each act of celebrating and perpetuating United Empire Loyalist is deserving of an award.

My deepest thanks and most sincere appreciation goes to all those in the Association who've supported and encouraged me over the years. From one side of Canada to the other, I owe a debt of gratitude for this remarkable honour.

Hopefully, my grandfather Joseph Thayendanegea Brant is proud of me for having recognized the efforts, challenges and successes he and his Loyalists comrades experienced in their lifetimes.



'Loyalist Ties Under Living Skies'

UELAC Annual AGM and Conference

June 7-10, 2018

Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Branch of UELAC was the gracious host for the 2018 Dominion Convention and AGM at Temple Gardens Hotel and Spa in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and Bridge Annex was represented by members Trish Groom UE (Secretary and Treasurer) and David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison UE (Vice President).

Thursday morning's closed Genealogy and Membership meetings were followed by the evening's opening ceremony at CFB 15 Wing, just a few minutes south of Moose Jaw. The Hospitality Suite became the lounge where conference members could relax and catch up on news and events of their respective regions.

The main meeting and dining hall were extremely accommodating and provided an area where raffle items, UELAC clothing and effects and various Branch presentation tables allowed for a casual browse.



**UELAC Members
enjoying one of the
many presentations at
the annual gathering.**

Friday morning began the conference in full swing with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police featured in 'The Trek West', followed by an Open Forum presented by Dominion Genealogists Peter and Angela Johnson who gave an informational and entertaining topic on Loyalist research.

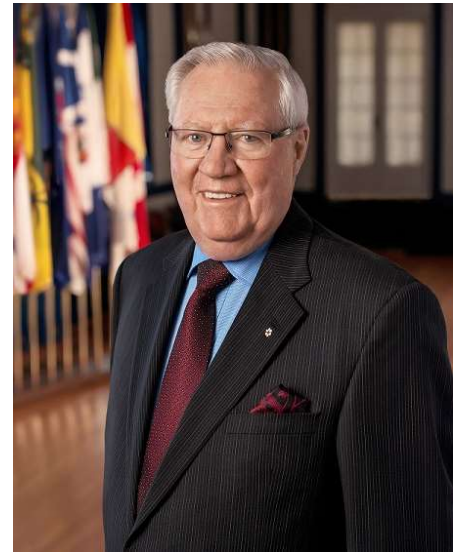
At the conclusion of the Dominion Genealogist presentation, a UE certificate was presented by Dominion President Barb Andrew UE to Vancouver Branch's newest UE member, Jamie Bethune UE, assisted by Diane Faris UE and Carl Stymiest UE (pictured right).



Friday afternoon featured two tours: the first choice was trip to a working farm, finishing with a tour of Moose Jaw's many building murals. The second tour was to the Western Development Museum of travel, a Burrowing Owl Display and travel to the Wakamow Conservation area.

Meals, of course, were a time to share events and conversation over exceptional food. Friday evening's Saskatchewan dinner was a buffet-style feast that left no one hungry.

A surprise to many, our dinner was made even more memorable and enjoyable by the special guest of His Honour the Honourable W. Thomas Molloy, O.C. S.O.M., Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan (pictured right) who brought greetings and welcome to the assembled conference and AGM members.



Moose Jaw Mayor Fraser Tolmie (pictured left) was also in attendance and expressed his warm welcome to the gathered Association and guests.

After dinner was enjoyed by all, the night was capped by a surprise of a 'Royal' appearance by none other than 'Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth'.

A very humorous impersonator entertained the entire group with a tastefully absurd rendition of our Sovereign.

It was a night of great fun and fond camaraderie after a day of learning and exploring Southern Saskatchewan.

Those needing to retire after a hectic day did so in the luxury of the Temple Gardens Hotel guest suite.

Others chose the relaxing waters of the hot mineral spring pool, while the Hospitality Suite bustled with refreshments and lively socializing.

Friday night fun, Loyalist style.

Second from left:

The Hon. W. Thomas Molloy, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Far left:

Moose Jaw Mayor Fraser Tolmie.

Seated in front:

'Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II'



For non-delegates of the AGM, Saturday was free to explore the many sights and attractions that Moose Jaw has to offer tourists and visitors. One of the more unique and popular attractions are the (in)famous Tunnels of Moose Jaw. These subterranean passages under the downtown section of the city were once the hidden world for mobster Al Capone's bootlegging operation ('The Chicago Connection') and the refuge for Chinese immigrants who did the laundry for Moose Jaw's aboveground residents ('Passage to Fortune').

Moose Jaw has an extensive collection of murals painted on the sides of buildings - an artform more widely accepted than the usual urban graffiti.

Shopping - a favourite past-time for those without baggage restrictions - was available with a wide diversity of options. Visitors to the prairie province of Saskatchewan who browsed the local Real Canadian Superstore might have been amazed by the bounty and variety of fresh seafood that was available... at even more surprisingly modest prices.

For delegates to the AGM, Saturday was reserved for business first.

The 2018 UELAC AGM followed a familiar script, starting with the Call to Order, Reception of Colours and Royal Anthem. The formalities of reports, the 'All in favour?' and 'All opposed?' eventually gives way to new business, this year including a new motion calling for a policy establishing an honorific position of 'Honorary Fellow', replacing the retired 'Honorary Vice President'.

After explaining the rationale and scope of the new policy, Dave Hill-Morrison UE (Chair of the Honorary Fellows Committee) fielded questions and comments, after which the motion was called, voted upon and duly passed.

Next, Dave presented the first candidate's name for this honour: Waterdown teacher, author, Monarchist and First Nations researcher and confirmed trusted ally, Mr. Nathan Tidridge.

The nominee was unanimously acclaimed by the AGM.

There was much discussion surrounding the state of the transitioning Loyalist Gazette from a out-of-house contracted setup designer to an in-house effort and the need for reining in costs. As with many issues, the challenge presented by change creates the major objection but evolution, by definition, implies change. Refusing to adapt and manage change is a self-defeating exercise for any organization.

Prior to the confirmation of the new Board of Directors was called, outgoing Dominion President Barb Andrew UE gave a moving and heartfelt expression of appreciation to the Association and her Board of Directors. The new slate of proposed Directors and Executive was ratified by the AGM delegates.

After the swearing in of the new Board, incoming Dominion President Sue Hines UE, on behalf of the Association, thanked Past President Barb Andrew UE for her years of dedicated service.

With the closing the of the business of the AGM, the National Anthem was proudly sung, the colours



Mr. Nathan Tidridge

Photo Credit: www.canadiancrown.com

were retired and the AGM was officially adjourned.

A buffet lunch was served and the balance of Saturday afternoon was free for rest, relaxation or more socializing.

The true pinnacle of the conference is the Saturday evening banquet and gala. Attendees are encouraged to dress in period attire or more formal dress. A pre-dinner parade of these members is lead by the entry of the colours of the Association: the Canadian flag, the Union flag and the Haudenosaunee flag.

The solemnity of the toasts to Her Majesty, to Canada and to the Loyalist ancestors affirms the ongoing conviction of allegiance and dedication which are hallmarks of the Association.

After an exquisite served dinner, Dominion Genealogist Peter Johnson entertained the attendees with a narrated video slide presentation. Following Peter's well-received program, it was time for special awards and acknowledgements.

This year's Dorchester Award was presented to David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison UE of Grand River Branch and Vice-President of Bridge Annex. "Completely unexpected, but deeply appreciated", was Dave's reaction upon receiving the engraved crystal plate.

A tradition was followed, where the conference host Branch 'passes the baton' to next year's host Branch. The Sir Guy Carleton Branch of Ottawa will be hosting the 2019 'The Capital Calls' conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton Gatineau-Ottawa in Gatineau. Sylvia Powers UE of next year's host Branch accepted the challenge and best wishes.

After a few closing announcements, the colours were retired and many members did the same.

Others 'retired' to the soothing waters of the mineral waters, while still others chose to spend their last night of the conference in the Hospitality Suite, enjoying a cool beverage and snacks to cap off another conference gala.

Sunday morning brought the period attired parishioners to church services at Zion United Church where a post service lunch was served and enjoyed.



For more info: www.uelac.org/SirGuyCarleton

The 2018 'Loyalist Ties Under Living Skies' conference and AGM will be fondly recalled for many years. The casual informality of the host Branch and host city was balanced by the luxury of a spa resort with its exceptional service, facilities and food.

Bridge Annex looks forward to a greater presence in Gatineau next year. We anxiously look forward to hosting the 2021 Conference in Cornwall's NAV Centre. We'll see you in Gatineau!

New UELAC Public Relations Campaign Focuses on Evolution

Connect – Engage – Collaborate

While our roots lie in the conflict of the American Revolution, our future lies in being a meeting ground for people of all background with an interest in this part of our North American story.

Together we will bridge past, present, and future through shared learning, discussion and collaboration. By exploring our history and the human stories within it (men, women, children; cultures; military), we will create opportunities to learn from, and of, the past, while understanding our part in the story and ensuring future generations have the opportunity to do the same.

We're evolving!

Are you ready to *Join the rEvolution*?

public.relations@uelac.org



SOLD OUT!

Fort Plain Museum's

American Revolution

Mohawk Valley

Conference

June 7 - 10, 2018

SOLD OUT!

**4th Annual American Revolution
Conference in the Mohawk Valley
Continues to Gain Popularity
as a 'go-to' Event**

The American Revolution Conference in the Mohawk Valley, hosted by Fort Plain Museum and Historical Park, has once again exceeded all expectations. Since the first conference in 2015, this now annual event has proven popular with both Americans and Canadians interested in not only exploring the story of


the American Revolution in this area so rich in history, but also in their Patriot and Loyalist ancestors, many attendees often having both in the family tree. In fact, the conference not only provides opportunities to learn more, but has reconnected families torn apart by this war.

In 2015, organizers Norm Bollen, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Brian Mack, Member of the Board of Fort Plain Museum & Historical Park, had planned to hold the conference at the Fort Plain Museum, but even before the conference began, they had to find a larger venue to accommodate the overwhelming interest. The Arkell Museum in Canajoharie, New York, was a beautiful location for the inaugural conference, and the speaker roster was impressive. Each year the conference continued to grow and the third and fourth annual conferences were held at Fulton-Montgomery Community College in Johnstown, New York. However, four years on, even this larger location proved too small. Despite having a theatre capacity of 200, the 4th annual conference quickly sold out!

The conference has continued to evolve, and this year, in response to the growing diversity of interests of the attendees, they added a Genealogy Day. Presentations about genealogy-related topics were offered at a number of venues throughout Friday, and attendees enjoyed a variety of topics that allowed for both exploring Patriot and United Empire Loyalist ties to the region. This added feature was in addition to their already impressive offerings of bus tours, gala dinner, book market, cocktail reception, and of course, the speakers who delivered dynamic presentations on a variety of topics related to this complex war.



Jennifer DeBruin UE delivering *Spies, Traitors & Heroes: Loyalist Espionage in the American Revolution* at the 4th annual American Revolution Conference in Johnstown, New York.

 LISTEN to a podcast about Loyalist Spies and the American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley Conference at The Historians hosted by Bob Cudmore.

<https://soundcloud.com/obudmore/jennifer-debruinthe-historiansfriday-july-6-2018>

"Jennifer DeBruin is the author of three historical novels and is working on a non-fiction-book on Loyalist espionage during the American Revolution. Many Loyalists ended up, as did DeBruin's ancestors, settling in Canada. She was a speaker at this year's conference on the American Revolution sponsored by the Fort Plain Museum."

- Originally Broadcast: Friday, July 6, 2018-Historians Episode 222

Among the speakers at this year's conference was Jennifer DeBruin UE, UE Loyalist Bridge Annex President. Her presentation, "*Traitors, Spies & Heroes: Loyalist Espionage during the American Revolution*," had many connections to the Mohawk Valley and focused on the intrigue and clandestine activities of both professional spies and average citizens who acted as such, in particular, the Smith family of spies and their associates. The full roster of speakers was impressive and each both entertained and informed the audience in equal measure:

- Edward G. Lengel: George Washington and the Burning of New York City, 1776
- Eric H. Schnitzer: "Hessians" at the Battle of Bennington, 1777
- James L. Nelson: Benedict Arnold's Navy: The Story of the Rag Tag Fleet that Lost the Battle of Valcour Island and Won the American Revolution

- Don N. Hagist: Redcoats Along the Mohawk: British Soldiers in Western New York, 1777-1783
- Bruce M. Venter: Benedict Arnold's Nemesis: Col. John Brown's Fateful Journey to the Mohawk Valley
- Jennifer DeBruin: Traitors, Spies & Heroes: Loyalist Espionage in the American Revolution
- Glenn F. Williams: Sir William Johnson, the Iroquois Confederacy and Lord Dunmore's War
- John Buchanan: Two Warriors - George Washington and Sir William Howe
- Wayne Lenig: The Tryon County Committee of Safety

The Loyalist or Patriot panel discussion provided interesting insight into the various reasons why individuals might have chosen one side or the other in a war that can be categorized in its truest sense as a civil war. Many families in the Mohawk Valley and beyond were faced with the prospect of meeting people they knew on the battlefield. Loyalties could often depend on who you were called before, the Committee of Safety (American Patriot) or British commanders, and if called before the other, loyalties could shift once again.



As the only female on the panel, Jennifer's answer to the question, "Which side would you have chosen, Loyalist or Patriot?" elicited laughter when she offered, "In that time, I would be on whichever side my husband told me to be on."

The outcome of the panel discussion was that most panelists would side with the British, though the majority of the audience were in favour of being Patriot, the reasons varied greatly. It certainly was an interesting study in delving deeper into the reasonings for going to war.

The 5th Annual American Revolution Conference will held on June 6 - 9, 2019.

Watch for details at: Fort Plain Museum & Historical Park: <http://www.fortplainmuseum.com/>

Also attending the 4th Annual American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley this past June were UE Loyalist Bridge Annex Board Members,
L-R: Amanda Fasken UE, Charlene Widrick UE, Jennifer DeBruin UE

In fact, Amanda, Charlene and Jennifer are all descended from common UE Loyalist ancestors, once of the Mohawk Valley. Here they pose in front of Fort Johnson, Johnstown, New York, a colonial prison that most likely held one or more of their ancestors during the American Revolution.

"Fort Johnstown was originally built as a gaol (jail) under the direction of Sir William Johnson in 1772. It was fortified and stockaded during the American Revolution and it served as a place of refuge on the New York frontier for the local inhabitants. Today it stands as a reminder of the battles fought in gaining independence."

- http://www.mvls.info/ispy/johnstown/joh_site08.html



Experiencing the “Battle that saved Canada.”

Battle of Crysler’s Farm Re-enactment Weekend

By Amanda Fasken UE

The Battle of Crysler’s Farm reenactment weekend returned on July 14th and 15th with the crackle, boom and military pageantry of yesteryear. The battle took place in the shadow of the moving local monument commemorating the November 11, 1813 victory over an American invasion. During the “Battle that saved Canada”, British, Canadian and Indigenous Allies numbering 1200 defeated an attacking American force of 4,000 men on the muddy fields adjacent John Crysler’s farm, near present-day Morrisburg. Many of these men came from Loyalist families who committed themselves to defend the British Crown and their lands for the second time. The Americans’ failure to conquer Canada evoked a powerful sense of vindication for many Loyalists who survived both conflicts.

Re-enactors across Ontario and New York State came and braved the heat to re-create history. Also on hand were a period blacksmith, a stone cutter and many period sutlers peddling their wares. Spectators were encouraged to participate in the English Country Dancing demonstration and children's muster.

The reenactment runs every other year, the next being 2020. For more information please visit www.cryslersfarm.com



Haudenosaunee-British Alliance during the American Revolution

by: Kanowakeron Hill UE

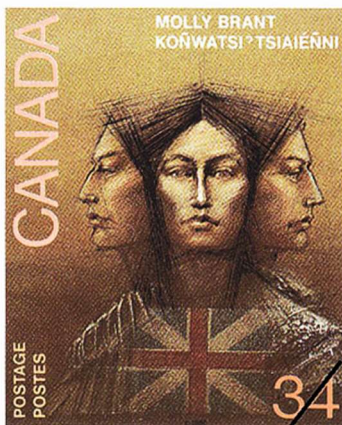
Prior to and during the Revolutionary War, few families were so influential to the Haudenosaunee-British alliance than the Brants and the Johnsons.

Molly Koñwatsiätsiaiéñni Brant (b.abt.1736, d.1796) and her brother, Joseph Thayendanegea Brant (b.1742, d.1807), would serve as liaisons, delegates and advisories that serve the British cause without compare.

Sir William Johnson (b.1715, d.1774), Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Six Nations, used a sense of duty with a solid measure of respect to develop a relationship that - if not overtly balanced - was at least one that bore some semblance of equality that was lacking in the land-



Thank you to David Kanowakeron Hill-Morrison, UE Loyalist Bridge Annex, Vice-President, for donating a Loyalist Flag and Haudenosaunee Flag to our branch. We were proud to have both on display at the recent UE Loyalist plaque re-dedication in Cornwall, Ontario



Portrait of Molly Brant depicting the three facets of her life as Iroquois, Loyalist and European.

Designed by Sara Tyson for 1986 Canada Post stamp

greedy Colonists. His marriage to Molly Brant would have far reaching implications, most notably to the education and advantages he afforded to her brother Joseph.

Upon the death of Sir William, his eldest son John Johnson (b.1741, d.1830) would inherit his father's title and land holdings. As Sir John Johnson, he would also assume the responsibility of maintaining the loyalty of the Haudenosaunee to the British... or at least persuade them to be neutral.



Sir William Johnson

As the unrest grew to outright hostilities in 1776, Molly fled north to Cataraqui (Kingston) and with the confiscation of Johnson Hall in Johnstown by the rebels, Sir John moved with his family north, settling in Mount Johnson (Mont St-Gregoire, Québec) and began raising the King's Royal Regiment of New York (Provincial Corps).

Seizing the territories of the Haudenosaunee - ostensibly placing them in trust until the hostilities were over - the rebels would eventually reason that the Loyal Haudenosaunee were enemy combatants and as such, the spoils of war would leave them with virtually no land holdings after the Treaty of Paris of 1783.

There were no Haudenosaunee invited to take part in this treaty that not only ended the war and created a new country, but would also strip them of a land base on which to live.

In 1784 and refugees within their former territories, some 2,000 Haudenosaunee followed Joseph Brant west to the relative safety of Fort Niagara to wait for the tract of lands along the Grand River to be declared theirs.

Other Mohawks, particularly from the Fort Hunter area of the Mohawk Valley, would flee north across the St. Lawrence River, to begin their new lives in a tract of land known as Tyendinaga on the Bay of Quinte, so named for Joseph Brant who was the primary negotiator and spokesman pleading the case for his people to the British Crown.



Joseph Thayendanegea Brant

The Dorchester Proclamation of 1789 stipulated that,

"N.B. Those Loyalists who have adhered to the unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, and all their children and their descendants by either sex, are to be distinguished by the following capitals, affixed to their names: U.E. alluding to their great principle the unity of the Empire."

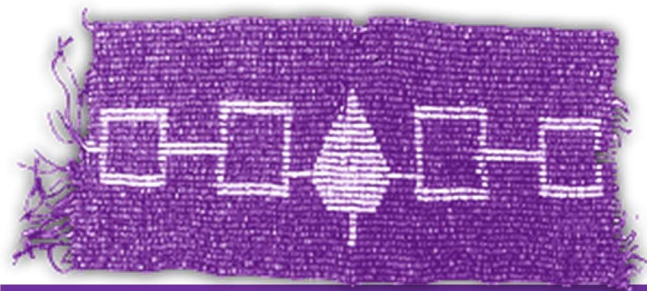
Essentially, this defined who could be considered a United Empire Loyalist and by any assessment, this most certainly included the Haudenosaunee people who sacrificed and suffered losses as a result of aligning with the British and not the rebels.

This heritage is as much a part of the history of how and why the Haudenosaunee arrived and began to live in what would become Canada as it is of those non-Native comrades who chose to be loyal as a matter of preference or simply conscience.

While the history of the Haudenosaunee in the immediate area of Akwesasne stems primarily from a separate migration from Kahnawake near Montréal beginning in 1755, after the Revolutionary War there were some Mohawk people who chose to settle in the existing community of Akwesasne rather than begin an entirely new community at Tyendinaga.

Thus, it's entirely probable there are families on Akwesasne who are entitled to claim their United Empire Loyalist heritage if they so choose. Indeed, given the centuries of marriages between the various Haudenosaunee communities, it stands to reason there are Mohawks who are United Empire Loyalists on each of the communities.

It's important to recognize and understand the relationship between the First Nations and the Canadian Monarchy; officially, it's a well-known fact that the people of the First Nations are not 'subjects' of the Crown, rather, they are considered 'Allies' of the Crown.



The flag of the Iroquois represents the Hiawatha wampum belt. The belt is comprised of thirty eight rows, having a heart as a great tree in the center, on either side there are two squares, all are connected with the heart by white rows of wampum. The belt is the emblem of unity among the Five Nations.

The first square on the left represents the Mohawk Nation, Keeper of the Eastern Door. The inner square on the left, nearest the heart represents the Oneida Nation. The white tree in the middle represents the Onondaga Nation. This tree also means that the heart of the Five Nations is single in loyalty to the Great Law of Peace. The Great Peace is lodged in the heart, meaning that the Haudenosaunee council fire is to burn at Onondaga, serving as the capitol of the Haudenosaunee. It also means that the authority is given to advance the cause of peace. The inner square to the right of the heart represents the Cayuga Nation. The last square, the one furthest to the right represents the Seneca Nation, known as Keeper of the Western Door.

The two lines extending from each side of the squares of the belt, from the Mohawk and Seneca Nations represents a path of peace that other Nations are welcome to travel, to take shelter beneath the Great Tree of Peace, and join the Iroquois Confederacy.

Source: <http://iroquoisnationals.org/the-iroquois/the-iroquois-flag/>

It's been said that if a Mohawk likes someone, that person has a friend - an ally - for life; they will stand by their friend through any adversity.

Given the history of Haudenosaunee warriors fighting in all wars and conflicts around the world, few can argue of the pride and honour that is given to the Haudenosaunee who could have just as easily ignored their friends in need, yet rose to the challenge and given the ultimate sacrifice.

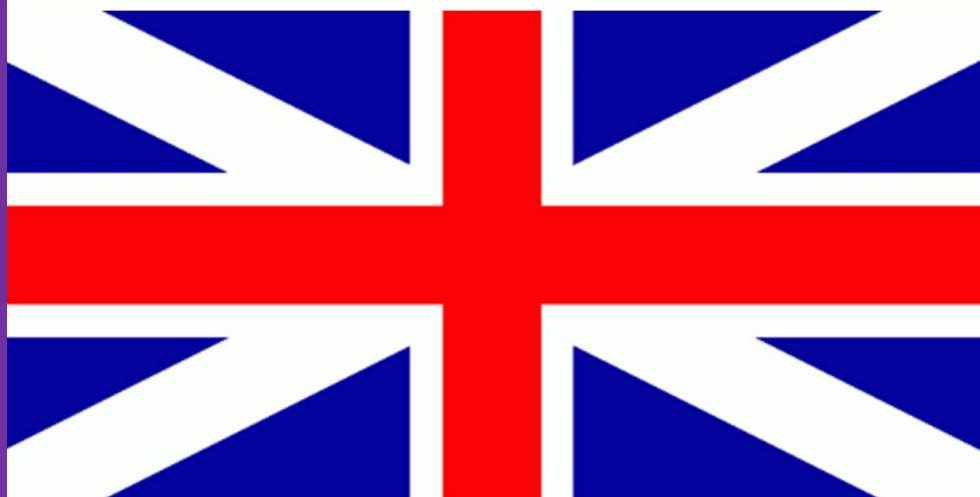
It's this sentiment that United Empire Loyalists are anxious to preserve.

It's also easy enough to speculate what was the compelling rationale that went through the minds of people who've been dead for centuries, but in reality, this is as pointless as imagining descendants 200 years from now will be capable of accurately assessing what motivates each of us today.

The heritage of the United Empire Loyalists is a mark of honour that pays tribute to ancestors who chose to take a defiant stand for a principle.

For those who choose to claim and celebrate this, the UELAC is always eager to welcome and assist them.

Loyal then. Loyal now.





UE Loyalist Plaque Re-dedication in Cornwall, Ontario, draws many to honour early settlers

by Jennifer DeBruin UE

On Sunday, August 12th, about 100 people from Canada and the U. S. attended the re-dedication ceremony of the 1934 Loyalist plaque at the Cornwall Community Museum/Wood House, notably the location made famous in the James Peachey drawing, *"Encampment of Loyalists at Johnstown, a new settlement on the banks of the St. Lawrence River in Canada, taken June 6th, 1784."* Just as the Loyalists had once gathered in New Johnstown, now renamed Cornwall, Loyalist descendants, re-enactors, and community members came together to honour the sacrifice and legacy of these early Ontario settlers.



Image Above Left: Sue Hines UE, President of UELAC welcomes guests as Master of Ceremonies Jennifer DeBruin UE and re-enactors of the 84th Highland Emigrants and King's Royal Regiment of New York (KRNNY) look on.
Image Above: 1934 UE Loyalist plaque now on display at the Cornwall Community Museum.

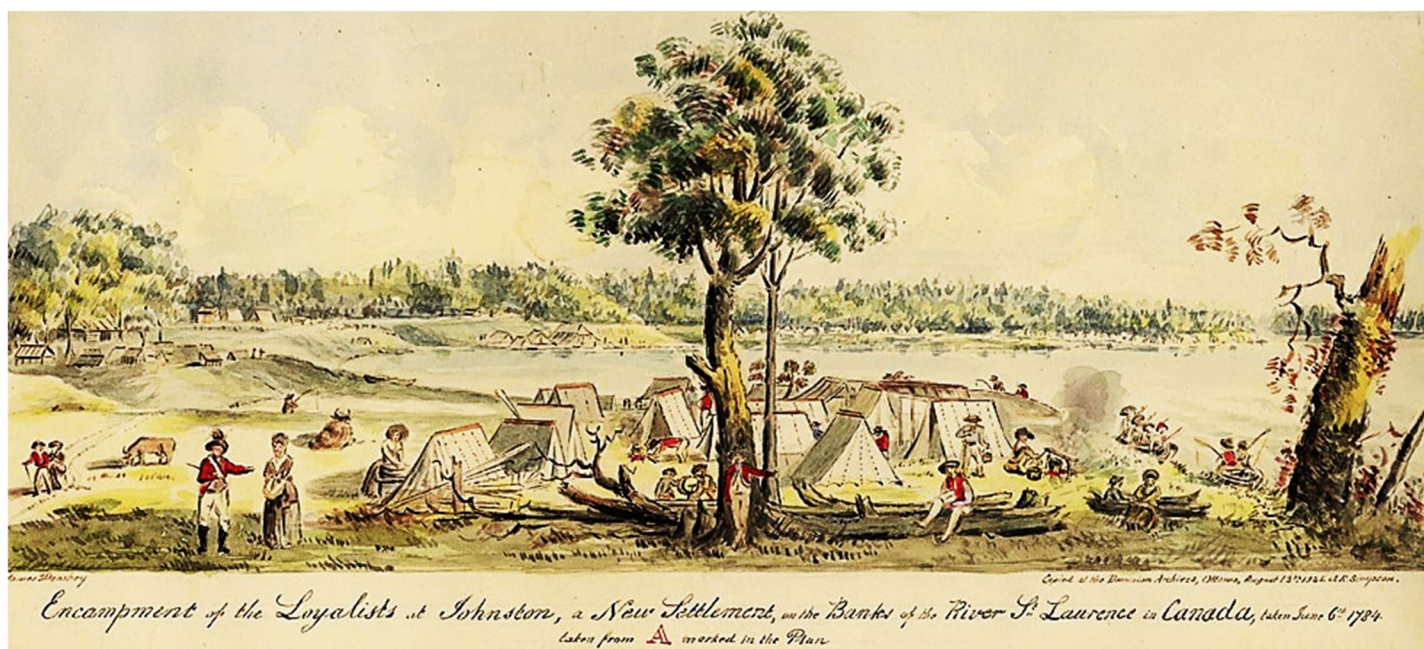


Image Source: www.archives.gov.on.ca

Re-enactors stand in front of Cornwall Community Museum/Wood House
Photo Credit: Sue Moss UE



A joint venture of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SD&G) Historical Society and the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC), the event provided an opportunity to showcase this important site in Canadian, and particularly Loyalist, history. In 1784, the United Empire Loyalists and their Mohawk allies began to build and settle their respective communities in the area, and though the devastation of war during American Revolution

left its mark, these early settlers had an eye to the future and toiled to make homes of once forests. Cornwall grew into a city that has continued to welcome those long settled and those newly so.

History was brought to life through the speeches, displays, and involvement of numerous re-enactors. The crowd stood at attention as the reenactors of the 84th Highland Emigrants and the King's Royal Regiment of New York (KRRNY) marched in the colours, led by a piper of the 84th, a moving site that harkened back to the past being honoured. The organizers were pleased to see several women re-enacting as well, and the



star was without a doubt the youngest re-enactor most had ever seen, as six-week old baby dressed as so many young ones of Loyalist times.



Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Stormont, Dundas and South Glengarry, Mr. Jim McDonell

The event formally began with a prayer by Rev. Johnston of St. John's Presbyterian Church, a Loyalist-established congregation in Cornwall, and was followed by several dignitaries sharing a few words about the importance of such a gathering, including: UELAC President, Sue Morse-Hines; SDG Highlanders Regiment Hon. Col. Jim Brownell; Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Stormont, Dundas and South Glengarry, Jim McDonell; Cornwall Mayor, Leslie O'Shaughnessy; and Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Historical Society President, Wes Libby UE. A special announcement was made by the board of UE Loyalist Bridge Annex, UELAC's first virtual branch, that they will be

hosting the 2021 UELAC Conference in Cornwall, news which was greeted with enthusiasm by those gathered. In addition, a number of members from Sir Guy Carleton Branch in Ottawa attended, and Beth Sweetnam, a member of the organizing committee of “The Capital Calls,” UELAC 2019 Conference in Ottawa/Gatineau, shared information on how to be part of this upcoming opportunity to continue sharing in the legacy of the Loyalists.

Following the ceremony, which ended with an honour guard firing by the 84th and KRRNY re-enactors, dignitaries and guests enjoyed refreshments, conversation, museum tours, and exploring their Loyalist roots at the UELAC display.

In addition to the combined efforts of the SDG Historical Society and UELAC to bring this event together, there were many who supported this through various contributions, including, the City of Cornwall and Cornwall Tourism, the many Re-enactors, Premier Medics (first aid), YourTV Cornwall (cable tv), and all who attended from near and far. It was a

wonderful way to bring legacy to life, and an event organizers and attendees will not soon forget.



Keith Lindsey, Re-enactor, King's Royal Regiment of New York (KRRNY)



A soldier/re-enactor of the 84th Highland Emigrants making new friends.



“Did you know that UELAC provides scholarship support to postgraduate students?”

The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship provides support to young people who are currently enrolled in a program of graduate study and have a heart for history.

Two scholarships of \$2,500.00 are offered each year to qualified candidates undertaking a program in relevant Loyalist history research. With your financial support, we can do more. Your donations will have a direct impact on education and research in the field of Loyalist studies.

Since 2005, eleven graduate students have furthered their academic careers in Loyalist history research through the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Loyalist Scholarship.

<http://www.uelac.org/scholarship/scholarship-challenge-2018.php>



Cornwall hosting national Loyalist conference

By Article by Sophie Poirier Photo Credit: Kevin Lajoie

Reprinted Courtesy: www.CornwallTourism.com

Cornwall will be hosting an event of historic proportions.

The City will play host to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) 2021 conference, 'Join the rEvolution,' with upwards of 400 people from across Canada and the U.S. expected to attend the event from May 27-30.

"We're thrilled to be hosting this national conference in Cornwall given the City's own Loyalist history," said Jennifer DeBruin, President of the United Empire Loyalists Bridge Annex, the host branch for the UELAC 2021 conference in Cornwall. "In the spirit of the conference theme of 'Join the rEvolution,' we will be building bridges beyond our membership to develop a conference that features exciting opportunities to engage individuals and partners locally, regionally and internationally."

The announcement was made during Sunday's re-dedication ceremony for United Empire Loyalist plaque at the Cornwall Community Museum. It was a fitting venue as the museum is in the same general area where Loyalists first drew their lots to settle the Cornwall area in 1784.

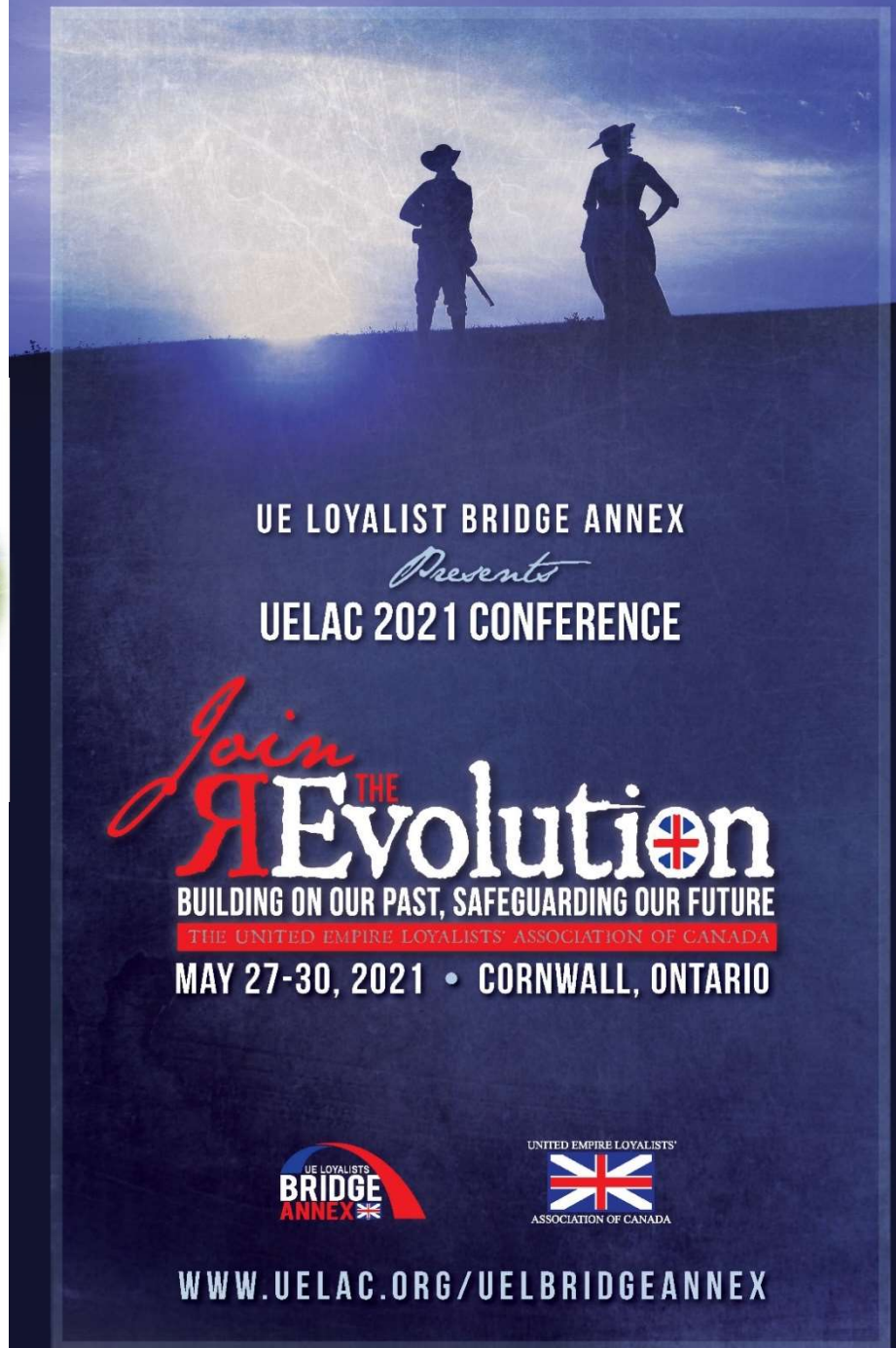
"It's important to us that we create a conference that makes UE Loyalist descendants and other interested residents feel excited about exploring the past by using a mixture of traditional and new features, and inviting others beyond our membership to join us," added Mrs. DeBruin.

The conference will be held at the NAV Centre and the sprawling facility will play host to conference lectures, a Loyalist encampment and more. Conference organizers are also planning additional community activities for delegates such as boat cruises and bus tours.



**NAV Conference Centre & Hotel
Cornwall, Ontario**

“This is a terrific opportunity to showcase our community and an important part of our past,” said Kevin Lajoie, Tourism Coordinator with Cornwall Tourism. “We’re hoping the community-at-large will embrace this conference and help give our visitors an experience they will never forget.”



UE LOYALIST BRIDGE ANNEX
Presents
UELAC 2021 CONFERENCE

Join THE Evolution
BUILDING ON OUR PAST, SAFEGUARDING OUR FUTURE
THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
MAY 27-30, 2021 • CORNWALL, ONTARIO

UE LOYALISTS' BRIDGE ANNEX
UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

WWW.UELAC.ORG/UELBRIDGEANNEX



SUBSCRIBE to UELAC's weekly e-newsletter. It's FREE!

Loyalist Trails is a weekly online publication that is full of Loyalist and Loyalist-era history. With so much to find online, let UELAC do the work to finding some of the best reads of the week.

<http://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Trails/Loyalist-Trails-index.php>



Want to be a contributor to
Bridge Annex Times?

Help us keep history alive!
Submit your stories and
photos for upcoming issues.

Submit a Story or Photo Series: Have a story idea or photo series you believe others would enjoy? Be part of our team of storytellers.

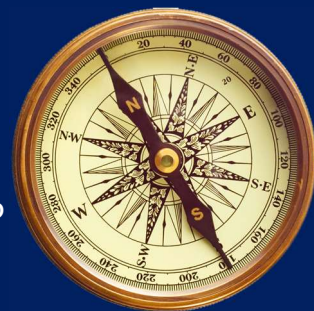
We are looking for historic and genealogical content of interest to our membership and subscribers in order to share the experience and legacy of the United Empire Loyalists and related histories. Submissions may include: Loyalist histories, profiles of Loyalist descendants (historic and present day), relevant community events, history-related travels (photo series or article), stories from the American Revolution, and more!

You don't need to be a professional writer or photographer to submit. We are here to share our stories, if you need help with your story idea, we can help. **Submission Guidelines:**

<https://www.uelac.org/UELBridgeAnnex/newsletter/>

NEXT ISSUE of Bridge Annex Times:
November 2018

Exploring the Past



In each issue we'll provide you with tips and/or resources to help help you with your research.

Three Rivers: An excellent website providing detailed information and numerous links for your research in Mohawk, Schoharie and Hudson regions.
<http://threerivershms.com/>

Take a closer look... The Mohawk Valley and the American Revolution:

<http://www.threerivershms.com/mvinrevolution.htm>

Loyalist Collection: Library and Archives Canada

"The term "Loyalists" refers to American colonists who remained loyal to the British Crown. Many of them served under the British during the American Revolution (1775-1783). Loyalists settled in what are now the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Ontario. The Archives in each of these provinces will have records relating to Loyalists. Note that German Troops under the command of the British Forces were not Loyalists. Library and Archives Canada holds a variety of sources relating to the United Empire Loyalists who settled in Canada after the American Revolution (1775-1783)."

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/loyalists/Pages/introduction.aspx>

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← When you become a member, you can download, print, and frame your membership for all to see. Makes a great conversation piece!

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