Loyalist Northern Lights

Newsletter of the Edmonton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Across the rolling prairies, with their quiet lakes and rushing rivers, to the foothills of Northern Alberta; in the shadow of Canada's majestic mountains and beneath dancing Northern Lights; this is the newsletter of the most northern branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, the hardy descendants of those resistant and brave souls that gave up all they had to remain steadfast in their beliefs and loyal to the British Crown in a time of great political upheaval in what would later become the United States. These Loyalists settled in the eastern part of what would become Canada then moved to the west in succeeding generations.

Vision of the Edmonton Branch:

To enrich the lives of Albertans through fostering public awareness of our national history, and, in particular, of the United Empire Loyalists and their contributions to Canada.

"N.B. Those Loyalists who have adhered to the Unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard [IN AMERICA] 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."

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President's Remarks:

Well, I do hope everyone enjoyed their summer and I hate to be the one to bring evil tidings, but Christmas is less than 3 months away and there has already been frosting and snow this week in the mountains. October is just days away and it is well past the time for me to get ready for the fall agenda. Unfortunately, Dorothy and I have been ill with pneumonia over much of the summer, so we did not have the time or energy to do much of anything.

I want to welcome a new member to the branch. Blayne Vankleek has recently joined us from Mayerthorpe. Blayne welcome to the branch and I look forward to your input into branch activities and projects. For membership that gives us a total of 67 members registered this year with 9 being first time members.

As I am sure you are aware, the former American Colonies are getting ready to celebrate the semi-quincentennial of their rebellion against the Crown. The celebrations south of the border will build to a crescendo over the next 7 years, beginning with the anniversary of their ill-advised declaration of independence next year, to the anniversary of the Treaty of Paris in 1783, which ended the war and gave rise to the Loyalist migration. Perhaps we should have members select events over this period and make a presentation to the group at one of our meetings. An item for further discussion.

Date	Schedule of Events Remainder 2025	Location
15 Sep 2025	*Formation of Butler's Rangers ~ 1777*	*Anniversary*
20 Sep 2025	*Cessation of Hostilities in North America ~ 1783*	*Anniversary*
16 Oct 2025	*Burgoyne Capitulation ~ 1777*	*Anniversary*
17 Oct 2025	*Arrival of the Fall Fleet at St. John ~ 1783*	*Anniversary*
18 Oct 2025	➢ **Branch General Meeting 2:00PM**	**Church at 6919-83 Street**
25 Oct2025	➢ **AGS Edmonton Family History Fair**	**LDS Church 14325-53 Ave**
9 Nov 2025	*Lord Dorchester's Order in Council ~ 1789*	*Anniversary*
11 Nov 2025	➢ **Remembrance Day Parade ~ UELAC Wreath Laying**	**Location TBD**
15 Nov 2025	➢ **Branch General Meeting 2:00PM**	**Church at 6919-83 Street**
13 Dec 2025	➢ **Branch Meeting & Christmas Function 12:30 PM**	**Church at 6919-83 Street**

Date	Schedule of Events 2026	Location
1 Jan 2026	➢ New Year's Levee	Government House
21 Feb 2026	➢ Branch Annual General Meeting 2:00PM	Church at 6919-83 Street
18 Apr 2026	➢ Branch General Meeting 2:00PM	Church at 6919-83 Street
1 May 2026	*Formation of the King's Rangers ~ 1779*	*Anniversary*
4 May 2026	*Loyalist Landing 1783 ~ Shelburne, Nova Scotia*	*Anniversary*
18 May 2026	*Arrival of the Spring Fleet at St. John ~ 1783*	*Anniversary*
TBD	➢ AGM for UELAC – Zoom Hybrid ??	TBD
16 Jun 2026	*Adolphustown Landings ~ 1783*	*Anniversary*
19 Jun 2026	*Formation of King's Royal Regiment of New York ~ 1776*	*Anniversary*
27 Jun 2026	➢ Loyalist Day Luncheon and Tree Visit 2:00PM Weather permitting	Picnic in the Park
TBD	➢ UELAC National Conference (Virtual & Live) ??	TBD
18 Jul 2026	➢ BBQ with the President Weather permitting	37 Highridge Way Stony Plain
15 Sep 2026	*Formation of Butler's Rangers ~ 1777*	*Anniversary*
19 Sep 2026	➢ Branch General Meeting 2:00PM	Church at 6919-83 Street
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1 Jan 2027	➢ New Year's Levee	Government House

Branch Activities & Projects:

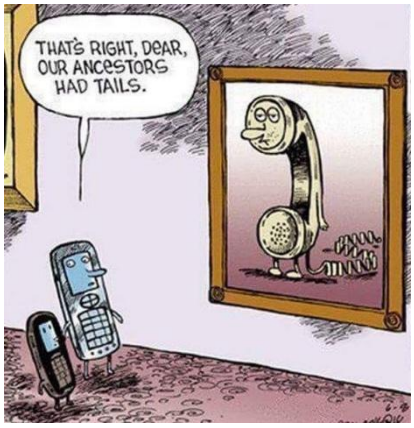
Centennial Project revisited:

Many of you will recall that we published a book for the UELAC Centennial in 2014 entitled *"Loyalists Descendants to Alberta."* As we now have several members who did not have a chance to contribute at the time, it was suggested by the executive that perhaps it was time to revisit the project and expand the content of the book. The stories already contributed will remain in the new edition, but the project will be open to any alterations desired by the original contributor. We also intend to reach out through the Alberta Genealogical Society and other family history organizations to seek material from individuals and various communities across Northern Alberta for further stories related to the Loyalist descendants and their migration to Alberta. If you need help to write the story, please ask and we will find a way to assist you so that your story may be told. I will be the facilitator for this project but will need all of your assistance to produce a truly remarkable edition. Work on this project will be done both at the general meetings as well as other times arranged with myself.

Web Page Changes:

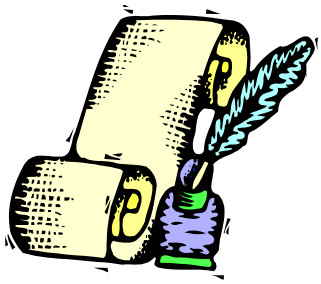
In response to numerous requests from Branch members, the table of contents and a sample of a chapter narrative of the centennial project have been posted to the web page. In the fall there will be a meeting on how to proceed with the revision of the book project led by the President. If there are other recommendations for changes to the web site, please forward them to the president for consideration. We want to make our outreach the best that is possible in order to fulfill our mission.

Period Clothing:



If there is any interest, Marcia will be available to help with any questions you may have in the area of period clothing. I believe that if the majority of our regular members were to appear at events in period dress, it would go a long way to accomplish the mission of the Association and the Branch. At present we have very few outside events planned however that will change as members become more engaged. It would be great if we were able to participate in community activities and parades once again in period dress.

Certificates Presented:



After several years of record-breaking certificate applications, 2023 and 2024 slowed to a crawl with only five applications being approved in total. Then in 2025 another banner year with 15 applications approved so far and still three months to go. This has been one of our best years yet and we currently have several certificates to present at our next general meeting in October.

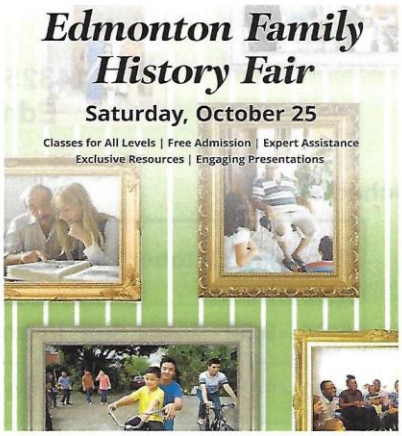
Picnic in the Park & BBQ:

The weather and sickness were against us this year and the Picnic in the Park at the Legislative Grounds as well as the BBQ with the President had to be cancelled. We will program both events for next year, hopefully with better results.

Edmonton Family History Fair 2025

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Alberta Genealogical Society Edmonton Branch have collaborated to present a one-day FREE Family History Fair on Saturday, October 25th from 9:00 am to 4:10 pm, at the Church located at 14325 – 53 Ave NW, Edmonton.

An exciting lineup of classes over a variety of topics presented by experienced researchers will provide valuable and helpful direction for your genealogy journey.



Saturday, October 25th
9:00 am to 4:10 pm

14325 – 53 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB

Edmonton Branch Executive 2024

President: Robert Rogers UE

Vice President: Chris Rogers UE

Secretary: Dorothy Rogers

Newsletter Editor: Robert Rogers UE

Treasurer: Robert Rogers UE

Genealogist: Marcia McLean UE

Membership Chair: Robert Rogers UE

Period Clothing: Marcia McLean UE

Webmaster & Tech: Chris Rogers UE

Social Affairs: Dorothy Rogers

Project Facilitator: Robert Rogers UE

Standard Bearer: Michael Miller

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Edmonton Branch Honourary Patron:

The Honourable Salma Lakhani AOE, B.Sc.
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

UELAC Region Representation:

Prairie Region VP: Barb Andrews UE
Prairie Region Councillor: Elizabeth Adair