

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 descendants of those hardy 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 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.

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President's Remarks:

Well due to Covid, this year continues to be as long and disappointing as the last for the Edmonton Branch. The pandemic has again prevented us from meeting in person and it would appear it is not finished with us yet. To state the obvious, it has been two years since we had a full meeting, except for the brief and disappointingly attended one in April. We are going to try something different in the fall with the introduction of the option to attend meetings remotely via Zoom.

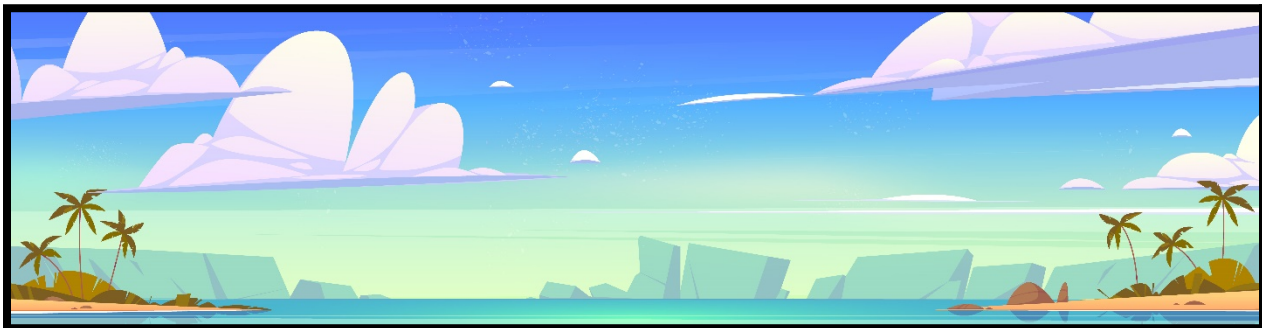
A Dominion motion was passed recently that allowed for the purchase of equipment to facilitate the use of zoom technology for the Branch use, thus allowing more people to attend meetings without safety concerns. A vote at our last meeting to purchase equipment in accordance with the directive was passed and the Branch has purchased the necessary equipment. We will start zoom meetings this fall and there will be more information on the program soon along with instructions for the use.

I really want to hear from you, the members. Do you feel secure enough to have meetings with precautions (masks, social distancing, etc.). I believe it is possible, but I really want to hear from you. We are going to try once again to conduct research meetings to help with genealogical issues. There are several things that can be done to assist members in such an environment without suggesting all Branch members attend. **Please send me an e-mail at (president@ueledmonton) with your point of view on these two proposals before the next scheduled meeting on 17 September.** The meeting will go ahead as scheduled but the program may possibly be altered if there is a lack of interest.



Last year at the end of the 2021 membership year we had a membership of 69 that was made up of 25 individual members and 42 members from families plus 1 friend and 1 student. At the halfway point of the 2022 membership year, we have a total of 77 members, an increase of 8 over last year's total. This number is made up from 32 individual members, 42 members from families plus 3 friends. We have 9 new members and 2 prospective members so far this year. We also have 8 individual members that have so far failed to renew for the current year.

On the last page of the newsletter you will notice that our Executive has shrunk in size once again and some members are filling several positions. It is time again to ask for members to step forward and allow their name to stand for office. We are a mature organization but there comes a time when the workload just becomes too much and people ask to retire. Remember many hands make light work.



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 have several members who did not contribute stories before, 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 will be open to changes if 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 in Northern Alberta for further stories related to the Loyalist descendants. If you need help to write the story, please ask and we will find a way to assist you so your story may be told. Marcia has agreed to be the facilitator for this project, but she will need your assistance to produce a truly remarkable edition. Work on this project will be done at the extra meetings mentioned above in addition to the genealogical assistance planned.



Period Clothing



You will notice from the Calendar of Events that we added an extra three meetings, one about every other month. These are not business meetings but Project, Period Clothing and Genealogy workshops specifically designed to assist our members with Loyalist certificate applications, the creation of your own period clothing and work on the book project. If there is interest, Marcia and I will be onhand to assist with any questions you may have in these three areas as well as general questions about the Association and Branch activities. I believe if the majority of our regular members were to appear at events in period dress, it would go far to accomplish the mission of the Association and the Branch. At present there are very few outside events planned however that will change as Covid concerns are lifted. It would be great if we were able to participate in community activities and parades once again in period clothing. The first two workshops we planned were poorly attended. If this is something considered valuable to Branch members, please attend.

Certificates Presented:

After several years of record-breaking certificate applications, this past year has slowed to a crawl with only five applications approved. There are new members however and we expect these numbers to increase.



Dominion & Prairie Regional Conferences:

“Where the Sea meets the Sky,” the UELAC Dominion Conference next year will be held in Richmond, British Columbia, hosted by the Pacific Region Branches on 1-4 June 2023. It will be a hybrid or joint style of conference as it will offer in-person and on-line or zoom events. The venue for the conference will be the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel. Flight discounts have been arranged through Air Canada and WestJet. Registration forms will be available in the fall. Further details will be published on the Dominion website.

Planning is also underway for a Prairie Regional Conference to be held on zoom sometime in the fall of this year. Details will be provided by our Regional Vice-President when planning is complete.



Recommendations:

While members receive the Loyalist Gazette twice a year, some may not realize there are other resources available from Dominion through the webpage and other areas. The first is the weekly newsletter called “**Loyalist Trails.**” This newsletter is filled with information about the Association and Loyalist History and has contributors from the larger membership of the Association that many find very useful. To subscribe send your email address to Doug Grant at loyalist.trails@uelac.org.

Another great source of information is the “**UELAC Loyalist Directory.**” This is a searchable database of United Empire Loyalists and in some cases their complete family histories, compiled by members of the Association and can be a significant source of information for those searching for family connections. This database is available to members through the Dominion webpage. If you have not been in this database for some time, it may be worth another look as it has recently been extensively revised.

Another interesting resource are the newsletters of the various Branches of the Association. These can be accessed through the Dominion webpage in the member’s section. Our newsletter has not been posted there yet but will be shortly.

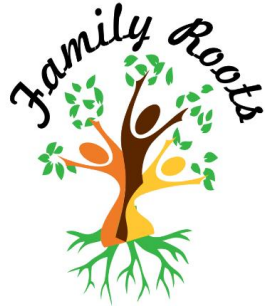
Another stimulating and very useful resource is the “**Journal of the American Revolution.**” This publication is published at least monthly and contains interesting and thought-provoking articles about the history of the Revolution. It will engage members in the detail about the American Revolution. To subscribe send your e-mail address to todd@allthingsliberty.com

Another recommendation is “**The King’s Colour, A Broadside of Early Upper Canada.**” This is a periodic document containing interesting material on early Canadian history post the Loyalist migration. To date twelve issues have been published, produced in Cornwall, Ontario, by Stuart Manson. An e-mail subscription can be obtained through stuartmanson.wordpress.com.



The Alberta Family History Society is holding a conference in Calgary on October 1. See notice on the next page.

Alberta Family Histories Society presents



Making Connections

AN IN-PERSON GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 1, 2022

Crossroads Community Centre, Calgary



DAVE OBEE

Squiggly Lines and Spit:
How DNA is changing
family history research

The Geography of
Genealogy (Canadian
Research)

KIM ZJALIC

Preserving Your Photo
Legacy

JILL BROWNE

Planning Your Family
History Trip, Brick
Walls and All

\$65 (\$75 for non-members)

Includes lunch, digital syllabus and access to recordings for one week

For more information and to register: www.afhs.ab.ca

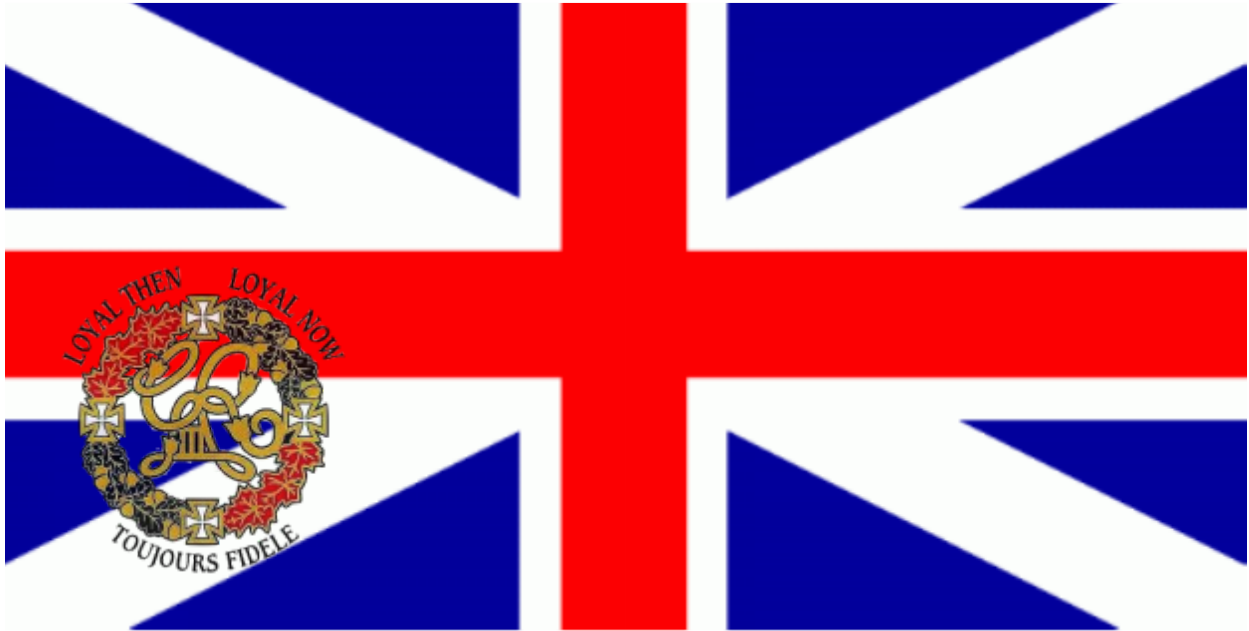
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<i>Date</i>	<i>Schedule of Events</i>	<i>Location</i>
26 Feb 2022	☐ Branch Annual General Meeting Cancelled	Church at 6919-83 Street
19 Mar 2022	☐ Workshop (Clothing & Genealogy) Cancelled	Church at 6919-83 Street
9 Apr 2022	☐ Branch Annual General Meeting	Church at 6919-83 Street
23 Apr 2022	☐ AGS Virtual GenFair	Grande Prairie
1 May 2022	<i>Formation of the King's Rangers ~ 1779</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
4 May 2022	<i>Loyalist Landing 1783 ~ Shelburne, Nova Scotia</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
18 May 2022	<i>Arrival of the Spring Fleet at St. John ~ 1783</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
14 May 2022	☐ Workshop (Clothing & Genealogy)	Church at 6919-83 Street
26-29 May 2022	☐ UELAC Virtual National Conference	Winnipeg, Manitoba
16 Jun 2022	<i>Adolphustown Landings ~ 1783</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
19 Jun 2022	<i>Formation of King's Royal Regiment of New York ~ 1776</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
25 Jun 2022	☐ Loyalist Day Luncheon and Tree Visit Cancelled	Picnic in the Park
23 Jul 2022	☐ Branch Summer BBQ Cancelled	Home of President
15 Aug 2022	<i>Formation of the Queen's Rangers ~ 1776</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
15 Sep 2022	<i>Formation of Butler's Rangers ~ 1777</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
17 Sep 2022	☐ Branch Fall General Meeting	Church at 6919-83 Street
20 Sep 2022	<i>Cessation of Hostilities in North America ~ 1783</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
15 Oct 2022	☐ Branch Fall Banquet Postponed till December	Location TBD
16 Oct 2021	<i>Burgoyne Capitulation ~ 1777</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
17 Oct 2022	<i>Arrival of the Fall Fleet at St. John ~ 1783</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
9 Nov 2022	<i>Lord Dorchester's Order in Council ~ 1789</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>

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11 Nov 2022	☐ Remembrance Day Parade ~ Wreath Laying	Location TBD
19 Nov 2022	☐ Workshop (Clothing & Genealogy)	Church at 6919-83 Street
10 Dec 2021	☐ Branch Christmas Function ~ Potluck	Church at 6919-83 Street
1 Jan 2022	☐ New Year's Levee	Government House

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How to reach us:

UEL Edmonton e-mail: info@ueledmonton.ca
UEL Edmonton Website: www.UELEdmonton.ca

Dominion Headquarters:

Website: www.uelac.org or www.uelac.ca
E-mail: dominion.office.admin@uelac.org

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 UE

Edmonton Branch Executive 2022

President: Robert Rogers UE
Vice President: Chris Rogers UE
Secretary: Dorothy Rogers
Newsletter Editor: Robert Rogers UE
Treasurer: Earle Fladager
Genealogist: Marcia McLean UE
Membership Chair: Robert Rogers UE
Period Clothing: Marcia McLean UE
Webmaster: Chris Rogers UE
Social Affairs: Dorothy Rogers
Project Facilitator: Marcia McLean UE

