

WILLIAM CHARLES MIKEL, B.C.L., K.C.

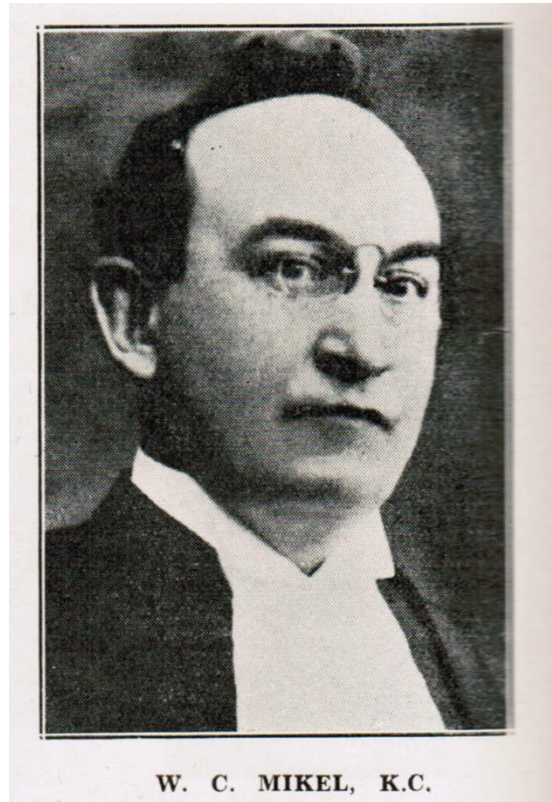
Inducted 2014

William Charles Mikel was born on March 3, 1868 to William Young Mikel and Matilda Wilson. After his early education he served in the militia and was appointed as Captain of the 15th Battalion, Argyle Light Infantry of Belleville in 1885. He graduated from Trinity College of University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Civil Law in 1897 and was appointed to the office of King's Counsel at Osgoode Hall in 1908. He was elected as president of the Ontario Bar Association in 1912. Mikel practiced law in Belleville for many years, and was appointed as magistrate for the city of Belleville in 1926, and for the County of Hastings in 1927. In 1928 he was appointed as a special examiner for the Supreme Court of Ontario.

In addition to his legal profession, Mikel became actively involved in municipal politics in Belleville. Over the years he served as auditor, city clerk, and alderman, and was elected as President of the Ontario Municipalities Association in 1907 to 1908. He was later elected as mayor of the Town of Belleville for 1924 to 1925.

Mikel also had a keen interest in Loyalist and early local history. He was a direct descendant of Godlove Mikel UE, who settled in Ameliasburgh. Mikel became very involved in the United Empire Loyalist Association, and served as dominion vice-president, as well as President of the Belleville Loyalists. He became a life member of the UEL in 1930. He presented an address and paper to the Association in 1922 which was also published and was titled "*Some Bay of Quinte Reminiscences*". Mikel was involved in the planning of the Belleville Old Boy Reunions in 1910 and 1920. In 1924 to mark the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists, a group of Loyalists in Belleville, led primarily by Mayor W.C. Mikel UE, constructed the monument to the Loyalists still located in downtown Belleville and held a large anniversary event attended by thousands. Letters of invitation from Mayor Mikel to attend the event were delivered by hand to dignitaries across Ontario and even to the president of the United States by two of our former Hall of Honour inductees, Alan Dempsey and Gwen Lazier. A commemorative booklet was put out to mark the event, largely due to the efforts of Mikel. He was on the committee to celebrate the 145th Anniversary of the Loyalists, held in Deseronto in 1929, and served as president of the Belleville Centennial Celebrations in 1934. Mikel was co-author of the family genealogy "*Godlove Mikel: Historical Notes Concerning One of the Old Log Cabin Families*" published in 1930. His greatest work was "*City of Belleville History*" which he published in 1943.

W.C. Mikel was married to Lillian M. Ewen in 1896 in Belleville, and they had two daughters: Audrey who died young in 1902, and Marjorie, born in 1912. Mikel died on October 22, 1950.



W. C. MIKEL, K.C.