

“The United Empire Loyalists & You”

Presentation

Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
October 27, 2018

By
Brian McConnell, UE



TOPICS:

1. WHY DO THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS MATTER?
 - who were they, where did they come from and what did they mean to Nova Scotia
2. WHAT DOES THE NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH OF THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA DO?
3. HOW DO YOU OBTAIN YOUR LOYALIST DESCENT 'UE' CERTIFICATE?
 - Branch membership
 - Researching your Loyalist Ancestors
 - Applying for the 'UE' Certificate
4. SUMMARY
 - Can the Nova Scotia Branch of the UELAC help you find a Loyalist ancestor?
 - How long will it take?
 - How much will it cost ?

1. WHY DO THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS MATTER?

By 1784 after the end of the American Revolution an estimated 30,000 refugees who had remained loyal to Britain and King George III had arrived in Nova Scotia. (1) They are now known as United Empire Loyalists. Their arrival led to the creation of the separate province of New Brunswick, named after the House of Brunswick of which King George III was descended. These refugees came from many cultures and ethnic backgrounds including English, Irish, Scottish, German, Dutch, and African.



**Map of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick & Cape Breton, published October 10, 1794
by J. Stockdale, Piccadilly, England. Author: Morse, Jedidiah.**

(1) "A Short History of the United Empire Loyalists" by Ann Mackenzie, M.A. accessed October 13, 2018
<http://www.uelac.org/PDF/loyalist.pdf>

In Halifax Harbour at Dartmouth, Nova the Eastern Battery had been built. It was a fortification to help protect the area. Over 500 soldiers who were members of the King's Orange Rangers were stationed there during American Revolution. This was a regiment formed in 1775 in Orange County, New York from Loyalist volunteers. A Company was also sent to Liverpool. At the end of the American Revolution the regiment was disbanded and many settled in Nova Scotia.



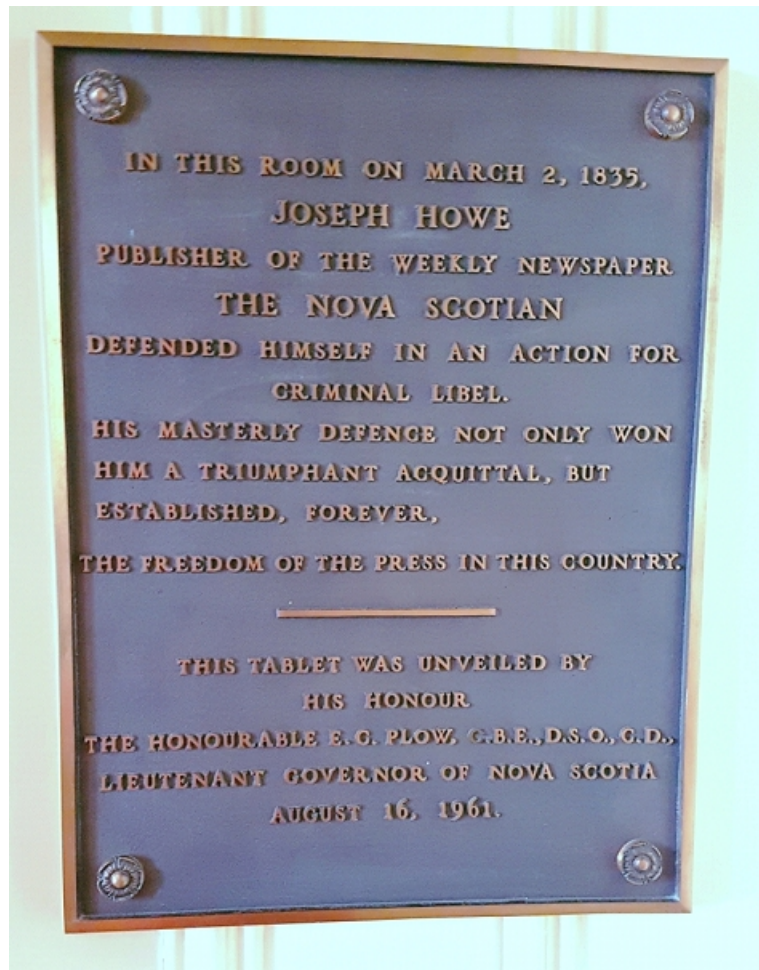
Ships preparing to depart for Louisbourg in 1757. Eastern Battery appears on right.

At the Old Burying Ground in Halifax there are graves of many Loyalists including John Howe (1754 - 1835) who had been a Printer in Boston prior to the American Revolution. He supported the British Crown and departed for Halifax. Howe arrived at Halifax in 1779 and set up a printing shop, where he published the first issue of the *Halifax Journal* in December 1780. In 1801, Howe was rewarded for his loyalty by appointment as the King's Printer and in 1803 he became deputy postmaster for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island.



**Gravestone of Loyalist John Howe
in Old Burying Ground at Halifax, NS**

The son of John Howe was Joseph Howe (1804 - 1873), who became a prominent journalist, politician and public figure in Nova Scotia. He was also responsible for establishing the right of a free press in Canada. It has been observed that *“the most lasting influence upon Howe was exercised by his father, loyalist John Howe, whom he once described as “my only instructor, my play-fellow, almost my daily companion.” The one member of his family who sided with Britain in revolutionary times, John Howe had a reverent, almost mystical, attitude towards the British connection, and he passed this attitude on to his son.”* (2)



**Plaque on wall outside Library, formerly Court Room
of Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, in Provincial Legislative Building, Halifax**

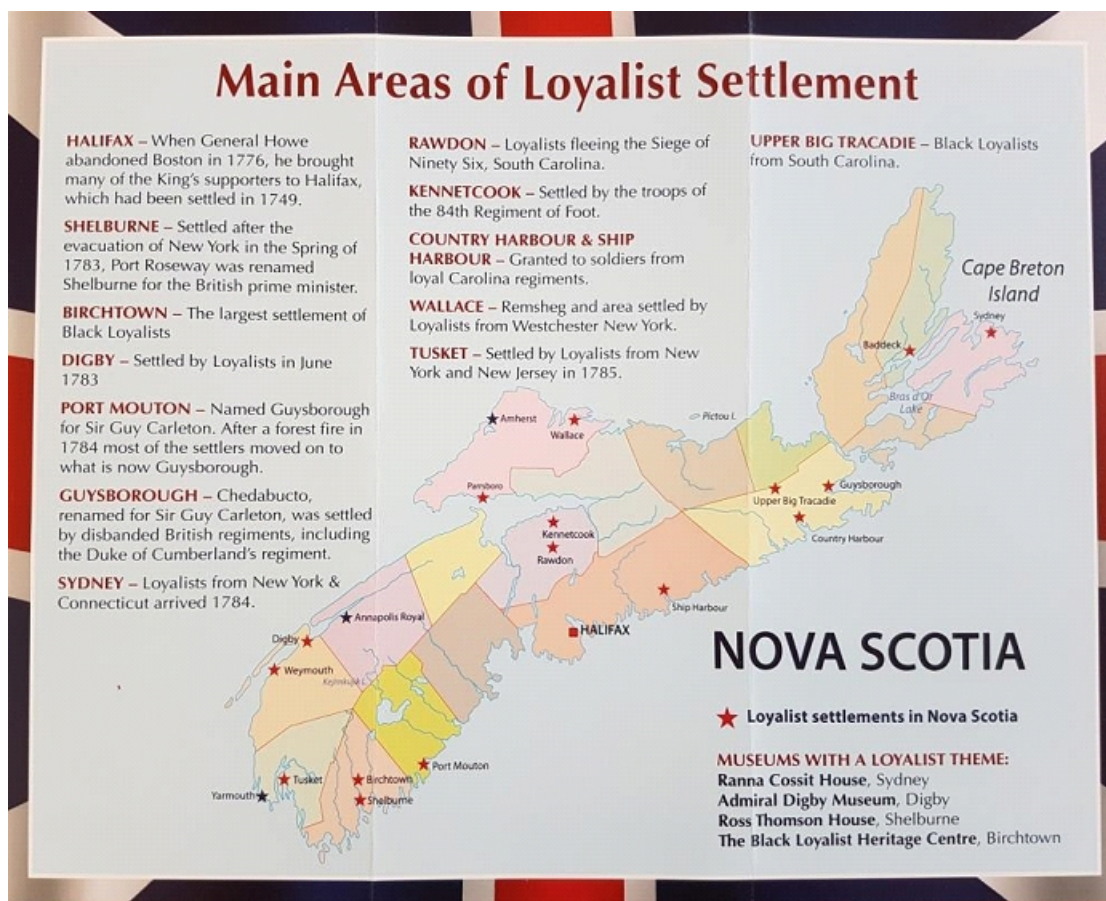
(2) J. Murray Beck, “HOWE, JOSEPH,” in Dictionary of Canadian Biography, vol. 10, University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003–, accessed October 13, 2018, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/howe_joseph_10E.html

At the Nova Scotia Branch meeting in September, 2018 held in Acaciaville, Nova Scotia, two Certificates of Loyalist Descent known as UE Certificates were presented by Branch Genealogists to members who had traced their loyalist lineage to a United Empire Loyalist. In the past two years over 15 Loyalist ancestors have been proven each year by members of the Branch.



Pictured left to right, Branch Genealogist Carol Harding, Linda Jobe, Carolyn Simpson, Assistant Branch Genealogist Margaret Nickerson - Dorey

A Map prepared by the Nova Scotia Branch highlights the areas of Loyalist settlement in Nova Scotia. It also indicates museum locations with a Loyalist theme.



2. WHAT DOES THE NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH OF THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA DO?

All Branches of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada are guided by a Mission Statement.

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is to preserve, promote and celebrate the history and traditions of the United Empire Loyalists.

We will accomplish our Mission by:

- 1) Uniting, in a Canadian-based association, descendants of families who remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolutionary War, as well as persons interested in the Loyalist era and early Canadian history.
- 2) Supporting the collection and cataloguing of documents, books, artefacts, memorabilia and genealogical data relating to the United Empire Loyalists.
- 3) Facilitating and publishing research related to the United Empire Loyalists in the form of historical and family research journals, books, newsletters and digital media.
- 4) Providing Loyalist education resource materials and encouraging research through scholarship support.
- 5) Assisting in the construction and preservation of Loyalist monuments and memorials in Canada.
- 6) Participating in projects and activities which honour and celebrate the legacy of the United Empire Loyalists.

*This mission statement was adopted at the Annual General Meeting May 30, 2015.
See: <http://www.uelac.org/about.php#mission>*

The Hon. Alfred Gilpin Jones (1824 - 1896), born in Weymouth, Nova Scotia, son of Guy Carleton Jones, was the first President of the Loyalist Association of Nova Scotia founded in 1897. He also became a successful business person, politician, and public servant.



**Memorial Plaque to Hon. Alfred Gilpin Jones in
St. Paul's Church, Halifax**

The Nova Scotia Branch was granted its' Charter on March 8, 2014.



Nova Scotia Branch members have met for meetings around the province including in Digby, Upper Sackville, Shelburne, Tusket, Halifax, Port Mouton, Aylesford, Acaciaville, and as pictured below while attending a tour of the Old St. Edward's Loyalist Church and Museum in Upper Clements.



**Inside Old St. Edward's Loyalist Church
in Clementsport, Nova Scotia**

Members can submit their research and names of loyalist ancestors to help build the Online Loyalist Directory maintained by the United Empire Loyalist Association. It now includes over 7,000 names. Since it has been estimated the number of Loyalists who came to Canada exceeded 50,000 it is a work in progress.

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Google Custom Search

INFORMATION ON THE LOYALISTS

Quick Jump — Loyalist Directory

A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

Loyalist Directory: Christopher Harrison

(For a short explanation of each row, click on the row title ex. "surname")

Surname :	Harrison
Given name :	Christopher
Rank :	
Where Resettled :	County of Annapolis in the Province of Nova Scotia by 1784. Later 1799 in York Mills, Upper Canada (now part of Toronto ON).
Status as Loyalist :	
Proof of Loyalty :	
Notes (Expunged, Suspended, Reinstated) :	
Regiment :	Christopher was Conductor of Stores and Wagon Master in the Quarter Master General's Department for the entire war (probably in the New Jersey/New York area, but all we really know about the location was that he enlisted at Brunswick, New Jersey)
Enlistment Date :	7th December 1776
Date & Place of Birth :	England
Settled	Hunterdon County, New Jersey

Online Loyalist Directory can be found at
<http://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Info/Loyalist-Info.php>

The Loyalist Gazette is published twice yearly by the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada and provided free to members. It contains articles of historical and genealogical information as well as news about Branch activities.



To learn more about the Loyalist Gazette and other publications see <http://www.uelac.org/publications.php>

Providing Loyalist education resource materials and encouraging research through scholarship support is integral to our mission to preserve, promote and celebrate the history and traditions of the United Empire Loyalists. The Nova Scotia Branch supports these efforts and has been recognized for its' support of the Loyalist Scholarship Endowment Fund.



A National Conference is held in June each year where members from the Branches gather to attend genealogical and educational workshops, and take part in annual meeting. The location of the Conference is different each year and hosted by a local Branch. In 2018 it was held in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.



3. HOW DO YOU OBTAIN A LOYALIST DESCENT 'UE' CERTIFICATE?

In order to obtain a Loyalist Descent 'UE' Certificate you first must be a member of a Branch.

Application for Membership

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Date of birth _____

Please select one: ☐ Individual membership ☐ Student membership ☐ Family membership ☐ Institutional membership

Membership fees:

Full year	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$70.00	\$50.00
After 1 July	\$25.00	\$12.50	\$35.00	\$25.00

Student membership is available to full-time students under the age of 25.

If you have selected a family membership, please provide the names of other family members.

Please provide the following information for our files. Continue overleaf if necessary.

Name(s) of Loyalist Ancestor(s)	Where settled / Burial site
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- Future dues notices should be sent by: ☐ E-mail ☐ Regular Mail
- The Branch Newsletter should be sent by: ☐ E-mail ☐ Regular Mail
- May we give your contact information to "distant cousins"?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

"Distant cousins" are persons who are researching ancestors that you may have in common.

Membership is handled by Branches only. Regular members are those who are interested in the aims and purposes of the Association, whether or not they are of Loyalist descent.

To receive a Certificate, which certifies your descent from a Loyalist Ancestor, the Certificate Application must be approved by the Genealogical Committee of the Dominion Council. The Certificate Application forms are available to members from the Branch.

Please make your cheque payable to the **Nova Scotia Branch, U.E.L. Association** and mail it with this form to:

The United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada
Nova Scotia Branch
PO Box 421
Halifax NS B3J 2P8
Canada

After you are a member of a Branch, if you are interested in proving descent from a United Empire Loyalist you will want to consider first who qualifies.

Who Qualifies as a Loyalist descendant?

General guidelines are:

(A) Either male or female, as of 19 April 1775, a resident of the American colonies, and joined the Royal Standard prior to the Treaty of Separation of 1783, or otherwise demonstrated loyalty to the Crown, and settled in territory remaining under the rule of the Crown; or

(B) a soldier who served in an American Loyalist Regiment and was disbanded in Canada; or

(C) member of the Six Nations of either the Grand River or the Bay of Quinte Reserve who is descended from one whose migration was similar to that of other Loyalists.

Being a proved Loyalist descendant confers no special status in Canadian or other society, but many members use the post-nominal letters "UE" after their name, in consequence of Lord Dorchester's Order in Council in 1789, conferring recognition of the service of the Loyalists in defense of "The Unity of Empire."

Source: <http://www.uelac.org/membership.php>

The Branch Genealogist and Assistant Genealogist can assist and guide you through the process of research.

WORKSHEET					
Applicant Line of Descent From a Loyalist Ancestor					CONNECTION and PROOF
Loyalist Ancestor:					
Service to Crown:					
Loyalist Status by:					
Where & When Settled		Year & Loc. Born	Year & Loc. Married	Year & Loc. Died	
Applicant	Name				
2	Parents				
	Mother				
3	Grand Parents				
	Mother				
4	1 st Great Grand Parents				
	Mother				
5	2 nd Great Grand Parents				
	Mother				
6	3 rd Great Grand Parents				
	Mother				
7	4 th Great Grand Parents				
	Mother				
8	5 th Great Grand Parents				
	Mother				

Muster Rolls are one example of proof of Service to the Crown for a Loyalist. Roll below shows a Company of King's Orange Rangers in 1777 stationed in New York.

Master Roll of Capt. Coffin's Company in the King's Orange Regiment
commanded by Lt. Col. Raymond Aug. 1777

No.	Names	Rank	Company	Present	Discharged	Refused	Refused	Refused	Refused
59	John Coffin Capt	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	Paul Coffin 1st Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	James Coffin 2nd Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 3rd Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 4th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 5th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 6th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 7th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 8th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 9th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 10th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 11th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 12th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 13th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
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	William Coffin 71st Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
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	William Coffin 97th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 98th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 99th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						
	William Coffin 100th Lieut	2nd	in the 1st of the 1st						

Abstracts in Capt. Coffin's Company taken from the Master Roll
of the several dates marked at the top of each Column

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Another example of proof of service to the Crown can be a Petition by a Loyalist for land. The one below was made by Lieutenant John Cameron of the King's Orange Rangers in Sydney, Nova Scotia and accepted in 1797.


To His Honor David Matthews Esquire
President of His Majesty's Council and Commander
in Chief in and over the Island of Cape Breton
and its Dependencies &c. &c.

The Petition of John Cameron Lieut. K. O. R.
Humbly sheweth
That Your Petitioner having a small Family and
never made any application before Therefore Prays
Your Honor and Council will be pleased to Grant
Your Petitioner the Lott of land adjoining to Mr
Paines at Cow Bay for myself and Family agreeable
By his Majesty's Proclamation and in so doing Your
Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever Pray
(Signed) John Cameron
Lieut. K. O. Rangers
Sydney 8th June 1797
I wish to serve all the Inhabitants as far as in
my Power - And as Mr. Cameron has a large family
I am willing to give him Permission to occupy five
hundred acres of land at Cow Bay adjoining the land
formerly possessed by a Certain Person by the name of
Lance. until His Majesty's Pleasure shall be known
True Copy of the original 8th June 1797 (Signed) D. Matthews
Matthews Register

When you decide that you have completed your research and wish to submit an Application for a 'UE' Certificate you will complete and file the Application Fee Form.

<u>Certificate Application Fee Record</u> Nova Scotia Branch - UELAC	
<i>Applicant: Please fill out this form and include with your payment to the address below. It will assist the Branch Treasurer in processing your application fee.</i>	
<i>** Email the Genealogist: cmharding@bellaliant.net when you send it.</i>	
Name of Ancestor(s): _____ _____ <u>Certificate Application Fee:</u> \$50.00 for each application	Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
Applicant's Name: _____	
Address: _____ Country: _____	
_____ Postal/Zip Code _____	
Email: _____	
Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____ Cell (____) _____ - _____	
Make Cheque or Money Order payable to: <u>"Nova Scotia Branch UELAC"</u> .	
<u>Mail this completed form with your Certificate Fee to:</u>	
Nova Scotia Branch of PO Box 421 Halifax NS B3J 2P8 Canada	Please advise if you require a receipt: Y___ N___ (Otherwise, your cancelled cheque will be your receipt)

The Application with your personal information, choices about how you wish your Application processed, and your research is filed with the Branch Genealogist who forwards it to the Dominion Genealogists for review.

 The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada UE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION	
BRANCH NAME & MAILING ADDRESS: _____	
BRANCH GENEALOGIST NAME & EMAIL: _____	
ANCESTOR Name for UE Certificate <small>*REQUIRED. Given, Middle (optional), Surname. No titles (eg. Dr., Mr., Capt.); using Sr. or Jr. is HELPFUL</small>	
Location settled as UE Loyalist after 1783 _____	
APPLICANT Name for UE Certificate <small>*REQUIRED. As you wish it to appear on UE certificate</small>	
APPLICANT Full Legal Name <small>Surname, Given, Middle (Optional: Maiden, other)</small>	
Applicant's Full Address <small>Including Postal Code</small>	
Telephone Number	Email Address
OATH OF ALLEGIANCE (Citizens 12 years of age or older of countries with the Queen as Head of State) [Optional] I, _____ do swear (or affirm) to remain loyal and give true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____	
CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE of CERTIFICATE APPLICATION and AFFIRMATION (all applicants) 1. The approved certificate application and accompanying proofs of lineal descent of accepted members become the property of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. 2. I agree to NOT share openly or publicly, or publish in or on any medium any completed application or part thereof without permission of the UELAC regardless of the contents that pertain to living or deceased persons. (All completed forms are the property of the UELAC.) 3. Information contained in the certificate application and accompanying proofs of lineal descent, excluding any personal data on living persons and those born within the previous 110 years, will be added to the UELAC online Loyalist Directory. 4. Information contained in the certificate application, and accompanying proofs of lineal descent, excluding any personal data on living persons and those born within the previous 110 years, will be made available through Branch Genealogists to UELAC members claiming descent from the same Loyalist line. UELAC in its sole discretion may publish the information in either hardcopy or electronic media.	
Permission for UELAC to Use Information 1. Publish my name in the Loyalist Gazette. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Add my name to the online Loyalist Directory. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Share my contact details with other UELAC Branch Genealogists. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant does affirm that the said _____ (name of ancestor) is his/her Loyalist ancestor, and the statements as set forth in this application are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. Further, the applicant acknowledges, understands and accepts the conditions of acceptance, and permissions as indicated. Signature _____ Date _____ <small>Applicant of legal age, or parent/legal guardian</small>	
APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE APPLICATION	
Accepted by Branch Genealogist (Print Name & Branch below) Name & Branch: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____	Approved by Dominion Genealogist Signature: _____ Date: _____

Form: July 2018

The Application asks you to list your ancestral lineage and proofs which will also be copied and provided.

2				
Membership Paid: _____		First Certificate: \$ _____	Other Certificate \$ _____	
I, the applicant, request that my additional unproven family information be stored by the branch and shared according to UELAC privacy regulations: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				
Accepted by Branch Gene.: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				
NOTES: 1) If merging and adding a generation, complete new pages 1 and 2. Renumber pages to avoid having to retype all the details. 2) Use available generation sections in sequence for the additional generation information. Some generation sections can be left blank. 3) Always use page 7 for the Loyalist Ancestor Generation. Consider pgs 6A & 6B for Loyalist's Children & Grandchildren.				
MERGE: Closely Related Family Members Descended from this Loyalist Ancestor				
Name	Branch	UE Certificate MC #	Date	Merge at Gen. #

MERGE: with certificate application for myself for another Loyalist Ancestor				
Name of Loyalist Ancestor	UE Certificate MC #	Date	Merge at Generation #	

Generation -- : APPLICANT				
Applicant's Name at Birth <small>SURNAME, Given, Middle</small>		Spouse's Name at Birth <small>SURNAME, Given, Middle</small>		
Date of Birth <small>DD --- MMM YYYY</small>		Date of Birth <small>DD --- MMM YYYY</small>		
Place of Birth <small>City/Town, Township, County, Province</small>		Place of Birth <small>City/Town, Township, County, Province</small>		
Date of Marriage <small>DD --- MMM YYYY</small>		Date of Death <small>DD --- MMM YYYY</small>		
Place of Marriage <small>City/Town, Township, County, Province</small>		Place of Death <small>City/Town, Township, County, Province</small>		
Children's Full Names		Children's Birthdates		
1.		1. Date: --- Place of Birth: <small>(City/Town, Township, County, Province, Other)</small>		
2.		2. Date: --- Place of Birth: <small>(City/Town, Township, County, Province, Other)</small>		
3.		3. Date: --- Place of Birth: <small>(City/Town, Township, County, Province, Other)</small>		
4.		4. Date: --- Place of Birth: <small>(City/Town, Township, County, Province, Other)</small>		
Proof of the Applicant to Parent Relationship				
DOCUMENT TYPE*		DOCUMENT DETAILS (Not citation)**		
<small>**State BIRTH, BAPTISM, MARRIAGE or DEATH only **Authority (eg Church / Prov), Name of person, Event (B/B/M/D), Location, Date</small>				
<small>Form: July 2018</small>				

The final page will include information on your Loyalist Ancestor.

[illegible]

When your Application is approved by the Dominion Genealogists a “UE” Certificate will be sent to the Branch Genealogist for presentation, if possible.



**Gregory Hussey receiving ‘UE’ Certificate
from Membership Chair & Treasurer Marian Munroe**

The 'UE' Certificate includes Lord Dorchester's 1789 Proclamation, the Loyalist Badge, and the Armorial Bearings of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. It is signed by the President and Secretary of the Association.



4. SUMMARY

(i) Can the Nova Scotia Branch help you find a Loyalist Ancestor?

Branch Genealogist and Assistant available to guide and assist. In 2017 there were 19 'UE' Certificates issued.

(ii) How long will it take?

After research completed between 2 - 3 months to obtain 'UE' Certificate.

(iii) How much will it cost?

A single membership is \$50, if student \$25 and for a family \$70.

When you apply for 'UE' Certificate fee is \$50.

FURTHER REFERENCE

Articles:

McConnell, Brian, “The Hon. Alfred Gilpin Jones & the Loyalists of Nova Scotia”.
<https://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Info/extras/Jones-Elisha/Hon-Alfred-Gilpin-Jones-and-the-Loyalists-of-Nova-Scotia-by-Brian-McConnell.pdf>

McConnell, Brian, “Loyal Then - Loyal Now”,
<http://www.uelac.org/events/Loyal-Then-Loyal-Now-by-Brian-McConnell.pdf>

Videos:

“Certificate of Loyalist Descent (United Empire Loyalists)” by Brian McConnell, UE
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AykLFrk3v8>

“United Empire Loyalist Certificate of Descent Presentation” by Brian McConnell, UE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZzhpi1I_w0

Website:

Nova Scotia Branch of United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada
<http://www.uelac.org/NovaScotia/>

Facebook:

Nova Scotia Branch of United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada
<https://www.facebook.com/novascotiaunitedempireloyalists/>