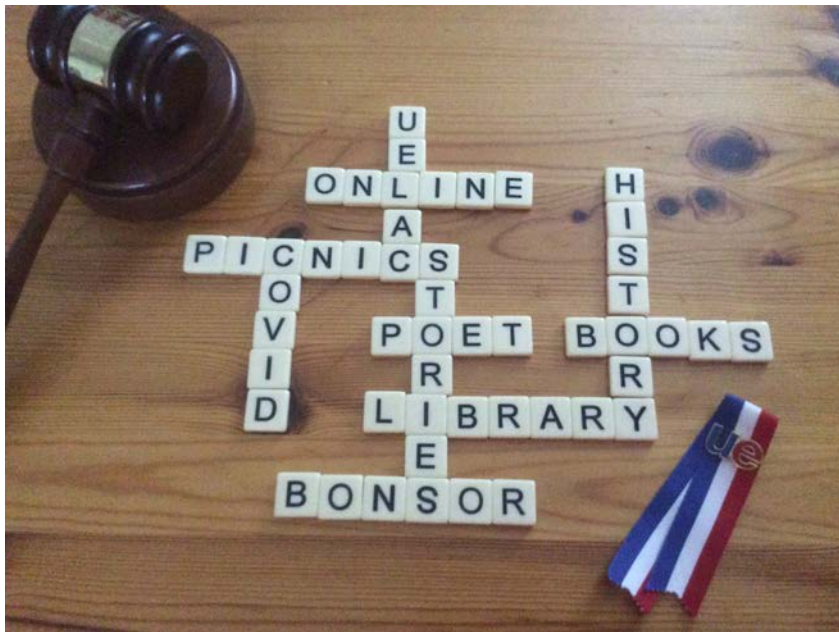




The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Vancouver Branch

Summer update for members
during the
COVID -19 social distancing.



[Loyalist Day Picnic Cancelled
for 2020. Page 1](#)

[Poetry for a pandemic then
and now. Page 2](#)

[News about the Loyalist
Collection - BCGS Library.
Page 3](#)

[Update from our Genealogist
Page 4](#)

[Find a Grave activity / 2023
Conference Planning. Page
5](#)

[Branch statistics / Message
from the editor. Page 6](#)

Loyalist Day Picnic in New Westminster cancelled for 2020

Due to our current health crisis the City of New Westminster has put limits on the number of people who can gather at their picnic shelters. The limited number is well below what normally see at our picnic. The Office Assistant for Queen's Park Facilities was very helpful and based on her information the Branch Executive agreed on the cancellation. The rental cost as been applied to our anticipated rental for next year. We have enjoyed this picnic since the first one was held in Queen's Park in New Westminster in 2012. We look forward to being able to gather in 2021.

Distance

Backwards
To the wars
Spanish flu
Shaking the world to its core

Forwards
Toward uncertainty
Pandemic on repeat
After a century

Years past
Set in stone
Demure picture
In black and white

Years ahead
Set in sand
Shaking hands with fear
To know we will win
This game of time

And distance

KD Little UE
June 7 2020



**UELAC Vancouver Branch
Poet Laureate**

Kirra Little UE





BC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOGUE includes the Loyalist Collection.

The **BCGS Walter Draycott Library** and Resource Centre – now officially known as the BCGS Genealogical Library - has a permanent space for the its genealogical collection which now numbers over 18,000 books, magazines, maps and other printed materials. In October of 2015 the Board voted to accept the UELAC Vancouver collection that had been boxed and stored for sometime. In August 2016 the UEL collection was dedicated and a celebration was enjoyed by as many of us who could fit into the space.

Discovery of resources is the key to making the best use of a collection. Although there is something rewarding about browsing the physical collection you will be pleased to hear that the BCGS Board has invested in a very good online catalogue system that does not require a login to use. It is a true OPAC – an Online Public Access Catalogue. <https://www.bcgs.ca/resources/>

Using the keyword “Loyalist” I came up with 352 hits. You can do relevance ranking of that full list. For instance you could have the list display by date published in descending order.

A column on the left of the page of displayed results allows you to filter or narrow this large set of results by Book (290) Video (4) etc. You can also select one or more specific authors. Clicking the box next to FRYER, Mary Beacock displayed all 5 of her books held by this library.

The company behind this effective catalogue is *ResourceMate*. – a library automated software solution for small collections. It will also allow the BCGS to upload MARC (Machine Readable Cataloguing) files to OCLC.

I would encourage Vancouver Branch members to visit the library. Check their website for the address, hours and any temporary changes due to COVID-19. Our Branch has a BCGS Affiliate Genealogy Society Membership. (#5538).





Carl Stymiest UE, Pacific Region
Vice President with
Vancouver Branch genealogist,
Linda Nygard UE

Dear Members,

I hope that everyone is staying safe and finding some rainbows in all this craziness. I continue to work with members on their applications, and once again, many of you are stuck on that final proof. **Cheryl** will have to wait for offices to open in Ontario before she can order two wills on microfilm via Interlibrary Loan - from Library and Archives Canada. **James** is our new member from Oregon. I am working with his son **Brett**. Their Loyalist is unusual as he died in battle in South Carolina and never made it to Canada. Once again, we are stuck on one proof. **Glenn** has a dozen Loyalists but there always seems to be that difficult proof in each of his families. Right now "Cousin Glenn" and I are working on John Hartle - our common Loyalist. **Jan**, also in Oregon, has a ghost ancestor - Riley Haskins. Everything comes together except for this one generation. It is a real puzzle and shouldn't be this hard. **Carl**, I will get that final GPA put together soon... As for those other members who have taken a break from their applications, let me know when you are ready to go again - or if you have found any new evidence.

Dominion Office is **almost** ready to accept applications electronically. Each of the 27 branches will have their own Drop Box at Dominion Office. Members will submit their cheque or credit card payment via mail or electronically. I will still need to meet with members so we can both sign the applications before they are sent electronically to Dominion Office. I have two applications ready to send to the Vancouver Branch Drop Box - **Steve** from Washington and **Mary** in Surrey. **Tom's** application has been approved but no certificates will be sent until Dominion Office reopens. Everyone is working from their home.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Hope that your circle is slowly starting to widen. I am still waiting for the day I can hug my grandkids. For now an "air hug" across the room will have to do.

Take care and stay safe. I miss our meetings, events, and especially my Loyalist friends. **Linda Nygard UE. Vancouver Branch Genealogist**



A message from **Donna Little UE**
Secretary 2020, Vancouver Branch



Your secretary has kept in touch via Facebook, but also by my favourite pastime, Taphophilia! Yes, via [FindAGrave.com](https://www.findagrave.com), one foot in the past, I have connected to more individuals in the past 2 months than the last four years. Helping fellow UEs with either linking more family, entering them or simply assistance and understanding of the database.

It's been amazing under CoVID19 Quarantine, which began pretty much on my birthday, the number of picture requests that have been recently completed.

Cemeteries became a place to find solitude, social distancing and connect or reconnect to our historical roots. Even to recall other pandemics or tragedies. Breathing life into our historical roots.

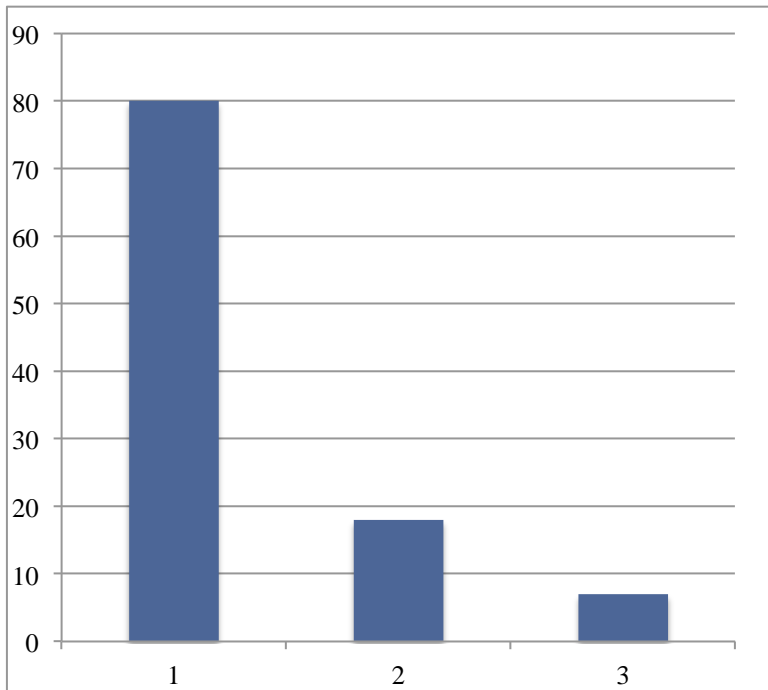
Be Proud to be Canadian. We have much to be thankful for. As Our Queen has uttered, "***We will meet again***"

Other members of the Vancouver Branch executive are busy with the vital early planning for the 2023 Dominion Conference that will happen in the Vancouver area in **2023**. Thank you **Coco Aders-Weremczuk**, **Diane Faris UE** and **Carl Stymiest UE** the 3 co-chairs of the conference.

Loyalists across Canada plan ahead for the annual Dominion Conferences!

This year the conference in Winnipeg was cancelled and we have experienced our first virtual Annual General Meeting via Zoom, a business video communication system that was developed to make remote collaboration easier and more reliable. As easy and reliable as virtual meetings are, UELAC members are now looking forward to May 27-31, 2021 in Cornwall, Ontario.

You can learn more about next year's "in person" conference by viewing the conference video [here](#).



Here is a look at our numbers.

Thank you to each of you for your membership. During this time when we cannot gather together for meetings and social events I want you to know that your support is very important to the Branch. We still have expenses that are being met by your 2020 membership fee.

80 Paid UELAC Vancouver Branch members for 2020.

18 Members do not live in the BC Lower-Mainland.

9 Members are new to the Branch for 2020.

Hello from Christine Manzer UE, President Vancouver Branch and newsletter editor.

Creating this newsletter with a Word template was new territory for me in April. Now I am on the 3rd COVID-19 issue and really quite enjoying it. With social isolation I have the time to struggle through the process - making good use of the “Undo”.

Please know that any spelling errors or format anomalies are my responsibility.

Do you have something you would like to share?

Send me your greetings, comment, photo or article and I will work it into an upcoming issue.

The new logo at the top of this page was designed by Amanda Fasken the Public Relations Chair for the Dominion Board.