



THE  
PACIFIC

Loyalist

VANCOUVER BRANCH

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS'  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

April / May 2022



Save the Date.  
Our 2022 BC  
Loyalist Day &  
Platinum Jubilee  
Celebration will  
take place on  
Sunday, July  
24th at Queen's  
Park in New  
Westminster-  
Picnic Shelter #2.

Bring your own lunch  
and chair. Guests  
always welcome.



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## “From Heartbreak to Hope in the Heart of the Continent”

Vancouver UELAC members, please go to [uelac.ca](http://uelac.ca) to see the full information about the 2022 Conference and Dominion AGM happening virtually this year. The Notice of the AGM is copied below and also on the website. Register and join the meeting at the correct time for your time zone. If you are new to UELAC you will gain knowledge of the organization as a whole and meet some great people.

The 2022 Conference dates are May 25– 29. Click on the conference image found at [uelac.ca](http://uelac.ca) for the registration form. Thank you to Mary Steinhoff, chair of the Conference Planning committee who joined us from Manitoba by Zoom at our April 19th meeting. Her overview of the conference was inspiring.



### Notice of Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting (hereafter called the Meeting) of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (hereafter called the UELAC) will be held on **Saturday, 28 May 2022** at **11:00 a.m. ET**. This will be a **Virtual** meeting using computer software designed for that purpose. Further details regarding participation will be available on or before the end of April. The purpose of the Meeting is:

- To consider the financial statements and reports of the UELAC
- To elect directors
- To receive the report of the auditor and appoint an auditor
- To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Meeting or as required by legislation

**UELAC Members planning to attend the virtual meeting must register in advance.** Complete the Registration form available in the members' section at [www.uelac.ca](http://www.uelac.ca). The completed form must be received by the Dominion Secretary by noon on 21 May 2022.

**UELAC Members unable to attend the Meeting may vote by proxy.** By completing, signing and dating the Proxy form available in the members' section at [www.uelac.ca](http://www.uelac.ca), any member of the UELAC may appoint a proxy holder to attend and act in the manner and to the extent authorized by this proxy. **The proxy due date varies** according to the membership (or non-membership) of the proxy holder, but it may be as early as 8 May 2022; please see the proxy form for details.

**NOTE: To be valid, proxies must be signed, scanned & emailed or mailed by regular post**, to the Dominion Secretary. The Secretary will acknowledge by e-mail any received proxies.

UELAC Dominion Secretary,  
J. Tuskin, UE  
78 – 24 Fundy Bay Blvd.,  
Toronto, ON, M1W 3A4.

[dominion.secretary@uelac.org](mailto:dominion.secretary@uelac.org)



## Writing through the long winter leaves an unexpected legacy for Mavis's family.

There are years when waiting for Spring to arrive and for the soil to warm up seems to take forever. However, this winter something different was on the mind of one of our members. The well organized and always motivated Vancouver Branch member **Mavis Pickett UE** was gifted an assignment that, at first must have reminded her of the essays and projects she assigned her students during her many years as a teacher.

The gift came from her grandson and family and is called **Storyworth**. Once a week her family chooses a question to inspire Mavis to write. At the end of a year her stories will be bound into a beautiful keepsake book.

Here is more in Mavis's own words: "**Storyworth** makes it easy to record family stories and have them published in a book. Each week for a year the writer is given a suggested story title and is encouraged to record it along with pictures. The writer can use the suggested title or use one of their own. I was fortunate to receive this app for Christmas and have found it a most interesting gift. It has brought a lot of forgotten experiences to mind. The search through old albums for pictures to accompany the narrative has brought back many memories. My grandson, who has helped me post my pictures, has become very interested in the stories, and has suggested titles. It has also given us very enjoyable and important time together every week. My daughter has commented on things that she did not know about. A surprise to me as they have all been things I thought she was aware of. It has been an important project for me and it is one I look forward to accomplishing each week. It is indeed the gift that keeps on giving."

Below are photos of the beautiful garden that Mavis dreams about during the winter and plants and tends from early spring until the last leaves fall. While we wait for a chance to see the finished book here are two photos of Mavis's garden for you to enjoy.



# Presidents of the Vancouver Branch UELAC - 1932 to 1942

As of early 1932, Vancouver members of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada held their memberships through the Toronto branch. Then on March 30th of that year an advertised meeting was held to determine if a Vancouver branch could be formed. Fifteen Chartered members were necessary to form a local branch. This was the small beginning of the Vancouver branch. This branch became officially recognised on October 6th of that year - with *twenty* members. The following were the first five Presidents of the Vancouver branch UELAC - each ones' term in office being noted:

Of these, two were in B.C. prior to 1900 - Pioneers!

## **1932-35 Prof. Walter Noble Sage UE, BA, MA, PhD, FRHS**

Walter Sage was born in 1888 in London, Ontario. Following his studies at Magdalen College, Oxford, England and at University of Toronto, he lectured at Calgary College (1913) and Queens University, Kingston (1915). He then began as assistant professor at University of British Columbia in 1918. He became associate professor there in 1921; then professor of History in 1928, and head of the department in 1932.

He authored "The Story of Canada" (1929) and was co-author of "Sir James Douglas and British Columbia" with George M. Wrong and Chester Martin.

He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society; also a member of the Canadian Historical Association, the American Historical Association, and the British Columbia Historical Association.

## **1935-37 Lt-Col. William Senkler Buell UE, CBE**

William Buell was born in 1868 in Brockville, Ontario. He studied at Upper Canada College and Osgoode Hall, Toronto. He read law with Fraser & Reynolds of Brockville and Moss, Hoyles & Aylesworth of Toronto. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1891, and of British Columbia in 1893.

In the autumn of 1914 he went on active service. He was Lieutenant-Colonel with the 4th Canadian Battalion. He was wounded at Ypres in April, 1915. He commanded the 3rd Reserves Canadian Battalion from July 1916 to May 1919. Decorated, Commander Order of the British Empire; Chevalier Legion of Honour; Colonial Officer Long Service; President of Vancouver Military Institute, 1925-26.

Upon returning to BC in 1919, he resumed his practice of law. He was first a partner of Senkler, Buell & Van Horne, then Buell, Lawrence & Johansson as of May 1926.

## **1937-39 Rev. Dr. Harry Ralph Trumpour UE, BA, MA, BD, DD**

Harry Trumpour was born in 1879 in Napanee, Ontario. He was educated at Napanee College Institute; University of Toronto; Wycliffe College, Toronto; and Union College, Vancouver.

He was Rector of St. Helen's Church, Vancouver, 1908-11; assistant in Greek, UBC, 1927-28; Principal, Anglican Theological College of B.C., 1936

## **1939-1940 Mr. William Carey Ditmars UE**

William Ditmars was born in 1865 in St. Catherines, Ontario. His education was that of the Public school system.

When he arrived in Vancouver in 1891 he represented the Vancouver branch of the John Doty Engine Company of Toronto, doing so until 1897. He next became office manager for Armstrong & Morrison (1897-1900), and afterwards became a full partner with the firm (to 1924).

During his time there, Armstrong & Morrison constructed the Fraser River bridge, New Westminster; the Great Northern, Granville St. and Main St. bridges over False Creek; also the Columbia River bridge, Trail, B.C.; the Kettle Valley Railway bridge, Hope, B.C.; and the Pitt River bridge, Coquitlam, B.C.

He was an Honorary chairman of Vancouver General Hospital and a member of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. He was also a member of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, where, auspiciously, the Vancouver branch UELAC held its 75th Anniversary celebration in May 2007!

## **1940-42 Prof. Merton Yarwood Williams UE, BSc, PhD, FGSA, FRSC**

Merton Williams was born in 1883 in Bloomfield, Ontario. He received his BSc. in mining engineering at Queens University in 1909, then his PhD in Geology at Yale in 1912.

He was appointed to staff of UBC as an associate professor of Paleontology and Stratigraphy in 1921; raised to the rank of professor in 1923, and then to head of the department in 1936. He also held a second term as UELAC Vancouver branch president, 1944-46.

These are the men under whose leadership the Vancouver UEL branch grew during its' first ten years of existence - each one of these men also having made significant contributions to the betterment of B.C. society as well.

The second decade of the Vancouver branch began with Miss Bessie P Choate - a Charter member in 1932 - holding the office of President. She was the first of several notable women presidents in the history of this branch.

Sources:

Who's Who in British Columbia, 1940-41  
The Loyalist Gazette, 1932.

- researched by: Marvin Millis UE

## Branch History and the ongoing protection of that history.

As the Branch evolves and changes and we have the joy of welcoming members from across Canada and the United States to our meetings via Zoom.

A way to have in-person meetings with Zoom participants is being investigated.

It is hard to believe that it was 90 years ago that the first Vancouver meetings were held.

Be sure to read about the Branch Presidents from 1932 - 1942 on page 3.

Keeping documents, handling and storing them correctly allows us to honour our history.

**Please read the announcement on page 6** about the Vancouver Branch's need for someone to be the liaison with the City of Vancouver Archives. The Branch is very fortunate to have documents archived and cared for there. A new volunteer will receive all the assistance they will need.



## The Pacific Region family of Branches

- **Victoria Branch** - the oldest cousin at 95 years
- **Vancouver Branch** – only 5 years younger – will be celebrating 90 years in October 2022
- **Chilliwack Branch** – Chartered in 1990 celebrated 30 years in 2020
- **Thompson-Okanagan Branch** the youngest in our Region celebrated 25 years in 2020



## **Notice of an open position with the Vancouver Branch.**

***Branch Archivist – aka Vancouver Branch contact person with the City of Vancouver Archives. (COV)***

As per our negotiated contract with City of Vancouver Archives, we are able to deposit files of as noted below into the Vancouver Branch Archives at the COV repository for preservation.

<https://searcharchives.vancouver.ca/united-empire-loyalists-association-of-canada-vancouver-branch-fonds>

- Binder of Minutes, Newsletters and specific correspondence for the Past Five Years
- Phillip E M Leith UE award files
- UELAC Grant documents and other financial records
- Loyalist Proclamations from City of Vancouver or the Province to Vancouver Branch
- Files of past years' documents donated to Vancouver branch by former members.
- Pacific Region Conference programs
- Labeled photographs
- Other specially prepared documents such as the UE Certificate Muster Roll (2 pages) for Vancouver Branch's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of their Charter

The City of Vancouver Archives is located at 1150 Chestnut St, Vancouver, BC V6J 3J9  
Phone: 604-736-8561

### **Requirements for this volunteer position:**

- A keen interest in preserving the Branch history.
- Access to a vehicle for the occasional appointment to deliver items as noted above. (Intake is only once every few years)
- Willingness to remind the Executive and Secretary of the importance of maintaining the files until such time as they can be vetted and handed to the COV.

### **Note on privacy:**

All our membership's PRIVATE files are at the Vancouver Archives under the UELAC Vancouver Branch from 1932- 2010. These are NOT placed online for public viewing because of our Privacy Laws according to Canadian Law and UELAC Privacy Policy.

As these files remain sealed they always remain under the ownership of the Branch. The files are only viewable by the member owner, the Branch President and the Branch Genealogist at the time.

Enjoy this clip from our history files. The date was 1989.

**O**n August 20th, eighteen members of the Vancouver Branch stepped back into 1890's at Elgin heritage park in Surrey B.C. It was a perfect day: the Nickomekl river and North Shore mountains beyond reflected the clear sunlight. The children collected sour apples from an overgrown orchard and got to ride on a sailing boat in the river. Joan Fishleigh displayed her new grandchild. The adults, some in eighteenth century attire, shared their contributions to the fest at picnic tables and then toured the historic Stewart Farmhouse, which was furnished in the manner of 1890-1920. Those who were not ashamed of their age exclaimed “ I remember that!” at the sight of some bygone object, like a tin-lined ice box. An unexpected bonus of our tour was the Hooser Weaving Centre, which had a historic collection of looms and a sample file of diverse weaving techniques and cloth decoration. The picnickers then retired to the benches to reminisce, gossip and to drowse—it was a happy return to less hurried pace of life. By Peter N. Moogk, President of Vancouver Branch.



With all the work our Branch Genealogist does for each of us as we prove our United Empire Loyalist ancestor(s) and lineage you may be surprised to learn that she also spends time with her watercolour paints.

The painting above was done this spring and depicts Galbraith House in New Westminster, BC. Linda has a good story to tell about one of those top windows. Be sure to ask her. But for now, scroll down to page 8 to read her Genealogy report as presented at the April meeting.



## Report from Linda Nygard UE, Branch Genealogist.

### Certificates waiting for in-person Presentation

**Christine Williston Wright UE** for Loyalist John Bailey WILLISTON and **Carl Szymiest UE** for Loyalist William WISHART

### Actively Working on Certificates

- **Richard Cosby** - One difficult proof
- **Glenn Johnson** - Almost complete
- **Mason and Hayley Morris** (Janet White UE's grandchildren)
- **Larry Peters UE** for Loyalist Grimmer; close
- **Doug McCallum** for Richard Price - Finished
- **Catherine Roberti** for Jacob Holder - waiting on final proof
- **Marianne Iberg** for William Drake - Almost complete

### New Members actively working on Certificates

- **Brad Cunningham** for Johann DeBeck
- **Bob Graves** for John Brown
- **Tina Marie Storms** for Jeremiah Storms
- **Trey Higgens** for Frederick Praught - One final proof (GPA)\*

*So many members are very close to completing their certificate applications. Very often there are one or two difficult proofs. All I can tell you is that there are those "bingo" moments. Collect everything on the parent/child connection that you can find. Although a census is not a Primary Proof, it does show siblings. If we cannot find the parent/child connection, sometimes we can show the parent/child connection with two or three of the siblings on the Census. This is a good start to a \* Genealogical Proof Argument. - these can be quite complicated. I need a clear mind when I work on a GPA and often, until I am working on this proof, I am not sure if what I have is enough to make a good argument.*

The Pacific Loyalist is your newsletter. Suggestions, comments and stories are always welcome.

Please contact the current editor - Christine Manzer - cemanzer@mac.com

Photographs taken at meetings and events by our Branch photographers may appear in this newsletter.

Those who do not want their photos used should let the photographer know.

### **Vancouver Branch Executive February 2022 – February 2023**

*President & Director: Coco Aders-Weremczuk*

*1st Vice President & Director: Christopher Wilcott, UE*

*2nd Vice President & Director: [vacant]*

*Treasurer & Director: M. Diane Rogers*

*Secretary & Director: Linda Drake, UE*

*Genealogist: Linda Nygard, UE ; Membership: Glenn Smith, UE*

