

Phillip E M Leith Award 2017

Bio of Richard (Dick) Mackey UE

Member of Vancouver Branch since 1988.

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Following Richard's high school graduation, he decided to join the RCMP. He spent 35 years with the force before retiring.

Even though he retired from the Force, Richard was not finished working yet. He became head of security for the Federal Court of Canada, the Vancouver Court Division.

He say, he cannot recall how many years ago, likely decades when he was on a visit to his home and they got to talking about their family history. His curiosity piqued and genealogy became his hobby. It was during his research that he discovered that he had Loyalist ancestors. After researching his family history for a number of years, Dick proved his Loyalist Ancestor with the Vancouver Branch in 1991; MC # 6878-91.

His loyalist, Benjamin FRALICK/FREELICK joined Butler's Rangers in 1778. Benjamin later came from New York to the Niagara Township, Lincoln County, Ontario after the American Revolution.

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Benjamin suffered terribly before leaving his home. The Rebels took his livestock, utensils, furniture and tools and drove his family out. He served in the Butler's Rangers for six years as a sergeant and corporal.

Christian Warner corroborated Benjamin's evidence of his service to the Crown. Consequently, as a sergeant, Benjamin received a land grant of 400 acres consisting of Lot 6, Concession VII, and Lots 6, 7, and 8 Concession VIII Louth Township, Lincoln County.

Benjamin lived on his farm near what is now Highway #8 (Regional Road 81). He died at his farm in December 1804 and was probably buried there in the family plot. That is just a brief summary of Richard's Loyalist ancestor, and more information is available on the Loyalist Directory at www.uelac.org.

Armed with this newfound knowledge, Richard then became very active in the activities of the Vancouver branch after obtaining his UE.

He served as Vancouver Branch's President in 1995, 1996 and 1997.

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Since his retirement, Richard has written his family's history which he generously gave to his family, relatives and the library at his hometown in Port Colborne, Ontario.

It is with great honour and distinction, that the Vancouver Branch presents the 2017 Phillip E M Leith Memorial Award to One of Vancouver Branch's longest supporting members,

RICHARD MACKEY UE