

Presentation of the 2026 Phillip Eric Meric Leith Award



To Ed Curylo, Rose Marie
Curylo UE, and Daniel Curylo
UE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the greatest strengths of any volunteer organization is found not only in those who serve in visible leadership roles but also in those dedicated individuals who quietly work behind the scenes, asking for little recognition while giving so much of themselves. Today, we are honoured to recognize ongoing generosity, commitment, and cheerful service that has enriched the Vancouver Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada for many years.

As Leith Award co-chair with Diane Faris and committee members Donna and Kirra Little and Mary Anne Bethune, it is our privilege to present ...

the 2026 Phillip Eric Meric Leith Award to Ed Curylo, Rose Marie Curylo UE, and Daniel Curylo UE.

For countless branch meetings, educational events, and community outreach activities, Ed and Rose Marie have ensured that members and guests are welcomed with warmth and hospitality. They have personally provided the refreshments, transported supplies, beautifully arranged the serving tables, and, after everyone else has gone home, packed everything away and returned it to their home—always at their own expense and without seeking recognition.

Ed's enjoyment of preparing special treats has become something of a tradition, with members often looking forward to his creative additions to the refreshment table, including his memorable fresh fruit kabobs. These thoughtful touches have transformed ordinary gatherings into welcoming occasions where fellowship and friendship flourish.

In recent years, their son Daniel has continued this family tradition of service. As a co-owner of a craft brewery in Ontario, Daniel and his parents have generously donated beverages to several UELAC National Conferences, and most recently to UELAC Saint John, New Brunswick, in

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2025 with his rendition of " **SWITCHEL**," a historically appropriate and relevant ginger drink for the loyalists as when they moved north, they changed the sweetener from molasses to maple syrup. Daniel continues to demonstrate that the family's spirit of generosity extends well beyond the Vancouver Branch. And let me tell you, the "Switchel" was fantastic and well received.

The Curylo family has also graciously opened the multi-purpose room in their residential complex for our annual Christmas luncheons. While many branch members assist, it is the Curylo's who undertake the lion's share of the preparation, organization, hosting, and, perhaps most importantly, the clean-up that continues long after the celebration has ended. Their willingness to shoulder these responsibilities has allowed our members to enjoy memorable gatherings in an atmosphere of genuine hospitality.

Those who know Ed, Rose Marie, and Daniel describe them with words that perfectly capture the spirit of this award: **positive, welcoming, hardworking, generous, meticulous, dependable, and always smiling.** Their service reminds us that **volunteerism** is measured not only by hours given, but by the kindness, humility, and friendship shared with others.

The Phillip Eric Meric Leith Award recognizes those whose selfless dedication strengthens our Association and exemplifies the finest traditions of Loyalist service. Few families embody those ideals more completely than the Curylo's.

On behalf of the Vancouver Branch and the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, it is my great pleasure to congratulate **Ed Curylo, Rose Marie Curylo UE, and Daniel Curylo UE** as the deserving recipients of the **2026 Phillip Eric Meric Leith Award**.

Please join me in congratulating the Curylo family for their extraordinary dedication, unwavering generosity, and outstanding service to our Branch.

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Ed, Rose Marie and Daniel Curylo receive the award

Sincerely,

Carl Stymiest UE, Leith Award Committee-Co-Chair

Diane Faris UE, Leith Award Committee-Co-Chair

Donna Little UE, Leith Award Committee Member

Kirra Little UE, Leith Award Committee Member

Mary Anne Bethune UE, Leith Award Committee Member