

The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



Highlights of the AGM and Dominion Council Meeting 07 – 10 June 2012

PREAMBLE

Those who had the opportunity to experience the well-run conference, efficiently hosted by Lorraine Cook and Gerry Lane, will verify the enjoyable and memorable experience offered by the organizing committee of Manitoba Branch this June 7 to 10, 2012. From excellent workshops, the elegant reception with the Honourable Lieutenant Governor Lee and Mrs. Lee, to sumptuous fare at the Gala Banquet with entertainment by the Village Green Dancers, this was a conference to remember! A special Jubilee service was held at Westminster United Church to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's sixtieth year. If you missed this service the sermon is posted on *Loyalist Trails*. Thank you to our hosts and their team of willing volunteers for their hospitality and wonderful event planning.

ATTENDANCE

Gloria Howard, Credentials Committee Chairperson, reported that all Branches were represented with eight sending proxies: Abegweit, Bay of Quinte, Halifax-Dartmouth, Heritage, London, Sir Guy Carleton, Sir John Johnson, and Thompson-Okanagan. There were 45 members present with a possible 135 votes. Quorum was met. 25 members attended at the Council meeting in the afternoon.

NOMINATIONS

Robert Collins McBride UE was re-elected Dominion President. Bonnie Schepers UE was re-elected as Senior Vice-President, James Bruce UE will continue in the chair as Treasurer until a replacement can be found and Jo Ann Tuskin UE was re-elected as Secretary. James McKenzie UE was re-elected as Atlantic Regional Vice-President with Dr. Stephen Bolton UE as Regional Councillor. Roy Lewis UE is the Central East Regional Vice-President with Myrtle Johnson UE as Regional Councillor. Sue Hines UE is the Central West Regional Vice-President with David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison UE as Regional Councillor. Gerry Adair UE is the Prairie Regional Vice-President with Barbara Andrew UE as Regional Councillor. Carl Stymiest UE was elected to the

position of Pacific Regional Vice-President with Mary Anne Bethune UE as Regional Councillor. Shirley Dargatz was thanked at the Gala banquet for her years of service to our organization and Regional Vice-President. Her participation at the national level will be greatly missed!

LAST POST

Barbara Andrew, Councillor for the Prairie Region, read the List of UELAC members who have passed away in 2011. The official list is included on the UELAC website.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee consists of the Senior Vice-President, Trustees, the President, Secretary and Treasurer. Bonnie Schepers reported that the Finance Committee is close to implementing investment strategies through negotiations with their financial advisor at Wood Gundy. Following the Conference and AGM, the committee will meet and evaluate several proposals and make a decision in the near future. Adjustments to the number of shares in various accounts will be made to balance risk. Bonnie thanked her committee and especially Dr. Warren Bell and Jim Bruce for their many hours of service to this project. Jim Bruce reminds members that the Canada Corporations Act is being replaced by a new Not For Profit Corporations Act. We have until 2014 to review and revise our Charter, our Articles of Incorporation and all our Bylaws. We must then file a Certificate of Continuance to change our status from Special Act Incorporated to Not-For-Profit Corporation. He also noted that it would be beneficial if all branches told the Administrative Office what insurance they have and outlined a plan to simplify the duties of the Treasurer. He has done a great deal of tidying up old records and streamlining invoicing and accounting. The committee reminds readers that electronic donations are greatly appreciated as a means of supporting the UELAC Charitable Trust and Branch Projects through our Grants programme. Using www.canadahelps.org, members can make donations to both the Dominion and Branch Special Projects. See the Dominion website or *The Loyalist Gazette* for details.

REGIONAL REPORTS

The highlight of the Regional Council reports was the special presentation to Shirley Dargatz by Carl Stymiest of the Proclamation resulting from the Order-in-Council 903 declaring July 22 as Loyalist Day in British Columbia. Shirley thanked Bob Ferguson of Victoria Branch and all others who made this proclamation possible. Sue Hines and the other Regional Councillors will look into modifying the

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Report from the Branch Presidents to clarify the wording when reporting Branch fees. The Dominion fee is \$40.00. The Branch fee should be only what is charged at the local level to the branch members.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH

Each Branch should have at least one person responsible for education/outreach activities.

GENEALOGIST

Doug Grant presented an thought provoking workshop entitled "*Was Jacob a Loyalist*" on Thursday afternoon, sponsored by the Genealogists Support Group. Joan Lucas thanked him for the discussion that ensued.

MEMBERSHIP

Barb Andrew ably oversaw the presentation of workshops during this well attended conference. She would like to thank those who attended the membership workshop and would welcome further discussion by e-mail or letter.

PUBLICATIONS

Bob McBride would like submissions for the Fall 2012 *Gazette* and reminded everyone that the deadline for submissions is August 1st. Doug Grant thanked everyone for continued input for *Loyalist Trails*.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Fred Hayward continues to send copies of our *Loyalist Gazette* to appropriate recipients. He noted that we have established international networks through Twitter and Facebook. We have a UELAC group on Facebook which has a link to the Dominion website.

ARCHIVIST

We are actively seeking a volunteer to fill this important role at the Dominion level. Artefacts will now be stored at 50 Baldwin Street in Toronto.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Bonnie thanked Lorraine Cook and Gerry Lane for their warm reception at the Winnipeg conference and praised the conference website for its special features. She noted that Hamilton will be hosting 2013.

UELAC WEBSITE

Doug Grant noted that there are valuable contributions to our website that are now searchable through Google.

CELEBRATION 2014

David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison presented a UELAC donation stamp issued in 1914 to the

Dominion Archives to be preserved with the Association's artefacts. He also presented the Association with the Haudenosaunee Flag of the Six Nations for use by the colour party at future Dominion occasions. The Sir John Johnson Burial Vault Project is moving ahead with architectural drawings being considered. Fred has asked that Branch submit plans for celebrating 2014 so that activities may be posted online.

GRANTS COMMITTEE

Bonnie Schepers encourages branches to submit applications for branch projects. December 10, 2012 is the deadline for major grants for 2013.

UELAC DORCHESTER AWARD

The Dorchester Award was presented to Shirley Dargatz in recognition for her dedication to Loyalist activities at all levels. This presentation was made at the Gala Banquet by Regional Vice-President, Gerry Adair, and Dominion President, Bob McBride.

PROMOTIONS

Noreen Stapley and her husband, Gord Dandy, were thanked for their ten years of service on this committee. A formal letter of thanks and appreciation will be drafted and sent to them.

MOTIONS APPROVED

Two motions to amend the Bylaws were passed.

PROPOSED UELAC HISTORY BOOK

Roy Lewis welcomes anyone who would like to help with this project.

TIMELINE

The Schedule of Meetings and Deadlines for 2012 - 2013 was approved by Dominion Council.

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Dominion Council Appointments for 2012 – 2013 were approved at the afternoon Dominion Council meeting.

CONFERENCE 2013

The Hamilton Branch will host the Conference "*Welcome to the Head of Lake Ontario*" May 30 to June 2 2013. Ruth Nicholson gave a power point presentation highlighting what to expect from this historic region of Ontario and received the Queen Anne Union or Loyalist Flag at the Gala Banquet.



UELAC Dominion President.