

Trip to Central West Regional Conference, 13 April 2013

My wife, Grietje McBride UE, and I attended the Central West Regional Mini Conference in London, Ontario, on 13 April 2013. After opening comments and a welcome given by June Klassen UE, London Branch President, Sue Hines UE, Central West Region Vice-President, and David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison UE, Central West Regional Councillor,



I presented a workshop with questions and answers about the new Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (CNCA) that the UELAC Executive Committee has been studying since 2011. The Committee, working with our legal counsel, Victoria Prince, has prepared a series of Draft By-Laws, the latest of which formed the back drop for this presentation.

The resulting recommendations, combined with the feedback from the 09 March 2013 Council Meeting, have been



provided to Victoria Prince for the completion of Draft 4 of the By-Laws that will be presented to the AGM on 01 June. More information with questions and answers will be posted to *Executive Notes* for your information and guidance as we move toward amending our By-Laws to comply with the Federal legislation.

Doris A. Lemon UE presented a light-hearted and educational talk about Brock's Walk. Refuting the statement that "*nothing happened in Norfolk County*" she and colleagues, Cynthia Stapells UE and Adrienne Horne UE, researched in great detail Brock's walk from York to Windsor. By serendipity she was able to speak with knowledgeable Fred Blaney who had the Ferdinand Brock Tupper letters and notes about Brock. Norton's journal and the Askin papers were among other helpful sources of information for this ambitious task. Doris Lemon's



enthusiasm for her topic was evident throughout her talk that culminated with a live rendition of Hull's proclamation to the inhabitants of Canada, courtesy of Rodney Craig, and the stirring response from Sir Isaac Brock himself, portrayed by Robert Rennie UE. Doris' thesis that the War of 1812 was all about trade and territory was well supported in the points discussed in her entertaining presentation.

I might add that you can read more about research that Doris Lemon has been working on in the Spring 2013 issue of *The Loyalist Gazette* in her article about Lieutenant (later Colonel) James FitzGibbon. The Ferdinand Brock Tupper letters in the Project Gutenberg eBook of The

Life and Correspondence of Maj-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock, are available with no copyright at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Brock_Tupper.

After lunch and a short business meeting during which Sue Hines UE was re-elected as Regional Vice-President and David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison UE was re-elected as Regional Councillor, UELAC Senior Vice-President, Bonnie Schepers UE, presented a pre-recorded talk about Membership by Barb Andrew UE, UELAC Councillor for the Prairie Region and Dominion Membership Chairperson. Sue Hines UE then led a group discussion where participants reported back to the conference attendees points that may be helpful in promoting membership in our Branches.



Ruth Nicholson UE, Immediate Past President of Hamilton Branch, spoke about the Spring 2013 UELAC Conference & AGM, “*Meet Us At The Head of Lake Ontario*”, being held in Burlington, Ontario. This year’s conference is focussed around the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Stoney Creek. Thursday evening’s theme is based about the local First Nations while on Friday one can learn about the Battle of Stoney Creek, Canadian furs, and early medical remedies. Alternatively, you may tour Fort

George at Niagara-on-the-Lake, and visit the site of Laura Secord’s home and Brock’s monument.

The value of holding Regional Conferences is evident in the sharing of resources and the timely opportunities for Branches to connect and network.

Teamwork positively encourages active members.

Sincerely and loyally yours,

Robert C. McBride UE,

UELAC Dominion President 2011 – 2013.