

## ***“Edmonton Branch Parading in 2011”***

Edmonton Branch entered three parades this year, and had a blast! The first two were rodeo parades, in Leduc on April 30; and St. Albert on May 28. The third was on Canada Day in Fort Saskatchewan. We were fortunate with the weather every time, a bit cool to begin with, but sunny by the end.

A half ton truck was decorated with “The Loyalists. Because they were loyal, we are Canadian” on each door, and a “United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada - Edmonton Branch” banner on each side. A Loyalist and a Mohawk flag flew from the back corners; and a red, white and blue bunting covered the end gate. Several people carried UEL flags. Some rode in the back of the truck, and others walked behind. Everyone interacted with the crowd.

Each parade had eight to twelve participants wearing historical clothing. Where it was allowed, the walkers handed out bookmarks describing the flag to people along the route. Afterwards participants met for lunch in the area, where we again attracted attention in our Loyalist garb.

Fort Saskatchewan was celebrating its own history the same day with the opening of the newly built replica of the original 1875-1885 fort. We found many people with whom to discuss history. Best of all, we WON the prize for best cultural/sports/service group float!

### ***Leduc***





# St. Albert



# Ft. Saskatchewan





Ivy Trumpour UE

Edmonton Branch