

FEBRUARY 2016

Volume 45- Issue 1

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Web site:

<http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>

Link Up



Photo by M.L. Dance UE

A Message from our Branch President

“February 2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of Black History Month (BHM) in Canada”

To celebrate this anniversary, I decided to feature it in this message. The information has been gleaned from portions of the latest edition of the **Ontario Black History Society (OBHS)** online newsletter.

Through the efforts of Dr. Daniel G. Hill of the **OBHS**, **Black History Month** was formally recognized in Toronto by 1979. The idea to have a national **BHM** in Canada was introduced to Jean Augustine, MP and Parliamentary Secretary by Rosemary Sadler, President of the OBHS. It was finally passed in the House of Commons on December 5, 1995, and the first declaration of Black History Month went into effect in February 1996. Why a Black History Month? Quoting Rosemary Sadler from the Ontario Black History Society newsletter, February 2, 2016, she said, “As a people with roots dating back to 1603, African-Canadians have defined, cleared, built and farmed this country; our presence is well established, but not well-known. The celebration of BMH is an attempt to have the achievements of the Black People recognized and told”. Sadler goes on to say that we need a BHM in order to help us arrive at an understanding of ourselves as Canadians in the most accurate and complete socio-historical context that we can produce. As a nation with such diversity, all histories need to be known, all voices need to be expressed.

As United Empire Loyalists, we would say “Amen” to that!

The myriad of contributions that the African-Canadian population has made in our country Canada as well as our Loyalist contributions and all the other histories that make up our Canadian Mosaic, deserve to be touted. In the late 1700’s, Canada became home to about 3500 Black Loyalists who were promised grants of land and other provisions for fighting on the side of the British during the American Revolution. Black Loyalist’s settled mostly in Nova Scotia (which included New Brunswick) in the communities of Hammonds Plains, Beechville, Lucasville, Preston and Africville. Over 2000 Blacks came to Canada during the War of 1812 and they were very instrumental in helping Canada win this war.

Loyally yours
Shirley Dargatz UE

PS: Our next gathering is Feb. 20th. See details on page 2.

ALSO: have you renewed your membership? See page 4 for your renewal form.

Get it in today!



**United Empire
Loyalists' Association
of Canada**

Chilliwack Branch

Your Executive 2016

President: Shirley Dargatz UE

Vice Pres: Marlene Dance UE

Secretary: Margaret Strocel

Treasurer: Judy Scholz UE

Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE

Honourary: Mildred Hall UE

Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE

Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE

Director: Marian Reid UE

Director: Irving Reid UE

Director: Gordon Vance UE

Flag Bearer: Alan Reid UE

Social Conveners: Jan Duelliet &
Emily Thomason

Pacific Regional VP:

Diane Faris UE

Pacific Regional Councillor:

Marlene Dance UE



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Thomas Hooper, Architect

A Heritage Week Presentation by Donald Luxton

Join us as we delve into the life and work of Thomas Hooper, architect of the Chilliwack Museum, a **National Historic Site**.

Donald Luxton, heritage consultant and architectural historian, will share Thomas Hooper's story as we celebrate *Distinctive Destinations* for Heritage Week 2016.



February 19, 2016
7PM
FREE
Chilliwack Museum
45820 Spadina Ave.
chilliwackmuseum.ca

CHILLIWACK
museum & archives

P871

2016 National Conference

July 7 - 10th, 2016

Summerside, Prince Edward Island

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



Link to Conference Website:

<http://www.uelac.org/Conference-2016/Atlantic-Conference-2016.php>



This is the hotel we will be staying in at PEI. And look who is standing guard. Isn't that Brian McConnell UE, President of N.B. branch in uniform and ready for our arrival. This hotel is now full. But there is the Quality Inn nearby. Go to the link above and register.

Calendar of Events for 2016

Clip off and save on your calendar



Meetings are held at Carman United Church Hall, 7258 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, BC.
Trooping of the flag will commence at 11:45am - followed immediately by lunch - then a planned program.

Note any changes to time starting listed below

Luncheon with coffee, tea and juice served at most meetings.

Members are asked to please bring food contributions to the meeting

- 2016** February 20 - Heritage Week and Black History Month - see details above!
- May - 14 - "Finding your Roots" seminar in Abbotsford, BC @ the LDS Church. TBA
- May 21 - Spring Fleet Celebration
- June 18th—Strawberry Social
- July 7-10, 2016 Conference in P.E.I. see above for details.
- July 22 - BC Loyalist Day Flag raising at City Hall

Be sure to send suggestions, information and/or pictures for this publication to: wmdance@telus.net



**United Empire Loyalists'
Association of Canada**

Special Report from Deleine Perrie UE

(picture courtesy of D. Perrie UE)



(above l - Deleine Perrie; r - Alice Ned)

On December 1, 2015 Alice Ned was honoured as the Abbotsford School District's Female Aboriginal Role Model. The honouring was held at the Sumas First Nation Hall in Abbotsford. In attendance were staff from Alice's Elementary school, her middle school and Yale Secondary where she is currently in Grade 12. Also in attendance were families from the Sumas Reserve, District Aboriginal Staff and many of Alice's family and friends.

During the honouring ceremony, Alice's family also wanted to honour 5 women who were important mentors and role models to Alice as she blossomed into the wonderful young woman she is today. I was one of those 5 women.

The 5 of us stood behind Alice as she was being honoured.

As part of the ceremony, we had been blanketed and head wrapped in bandanna (to have a good mind). Then Alice's Mom got up and spoke to each one of us individually and thanked us each for our part in her daughters life.

Needless to say there were lots of happy tears.

The honouring ceremony was very spiritual and the positive energy in the building is one I will never forget. This was an extremely proud moment for me and the reason I love my job. Alice has been accepted to UFV in the Social Work program. She will start in Sept 2016. She has also been taking courses at UFV in her Grade 11 & Grade 12 years in the Health and Human Services program offered with Abbotsford School District and UFV. When she graduates from Grade 12 she will have taken a total of 10 UFV classes towards her degree on top of all her Grade 11 & 12 courses.

NOTE: Deleine Perrie UE works at Yale Secondary School in Abbotsford and her title is "Cultural Support Worker". Alice Ned is Sto:lo from the Sumas First Nation & Cheam First Nation and also from Fountain First Nation by Lillooet.

Dec. 5th - Christmas on a Musical Note! Pictures courtesy of M. Dance UE



Our year came to a close with the final gathering of the year – "Christmas on a Musical Note". Members enjoyed a presentation with the slide show pictures from

our 25th anniversary celebration together with the Nov. 11th gathering and the special presentation Nov. 15th at Government House in Victoria.

Then "The Chilliwack Early Music Consort led by Dale Warr" played a number of selections of early music from the 18th century that our ancestors might have enjoyed at their Christmas celebrations. We also enjoyed a piano solo from Koralee Heibner UE. The gathering ended with the singing of a few Carols and the best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



UELAC Chilliwack Branch MEMBERSHIP FORM 2016

Dear Members.

Firstly, THANK YOU for renewing your memberships this past year.

It is "time" again for us to renew our Memberships for 2016.

As you have heard me say so many times,

"With your membership, you are doing a very good thing.

You are helping to preserve the history of our country and of the Loyalist era in particular".

The annual fees are as follows:

Individual Memberships: \$40.00 (to the UELAC) + \$10.00 (Chilliwack Branch) = \$50.00

Family Membership: \$55.00 (to the UELAC) + \$10.00 (Chilliwack Branch) = \$65.00

(Family membership is for family groups residing at the same address)

Please make your cheques payable to UELAC – Chilliwack Branch

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Please return this portion with your membership:

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code _____

Phone: _____ Email address _____

Loyalist Ancestor(s): _____

Membership Fees:

Please indicate with a tick:

Individual	\$50.00	_____
Family	\$65.00	_____

Please send to:

Shirley Dargatz UE
46486 Uplands Dr.
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4M5

Many thanks for your continued support.

We have had a record year for both membership numbers and for Certificates issued.

Please support us again and we will do even better in 2016.