

**APRIL 2025**

**Volume 14 - Issue 2**

**Bi-Monthly Newsletter**

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

First issue - Just found May 1994

Branch Chartered October 18, 1990



Photo by M.L. Dance UE

## *President's Message*

The weather has been quite interesting this past two months. On February 1st, it snowed and stayed on the ground for a bit. We had a light skiff compared to a few places in the lower mainland that received a few inches. Then it was mostly rain.

But, it was the first day of Spring on March 20th, and there is a lot in bud and in bloom. Especially the snow drops, crocus, forsythia and even early daffodils. I can even see the cherry blossoms and magnolia down the street ready to burst.

This past few days have been sunny and a bit warmer. So out into the garden for "clean-up" time the last weekend of March.

Please have a look at page 2 for our proposed calendar this year. We are hoping to arrange an in person meeting in June and one in October for our 35th anniversary.

We hope you will be able attend.

The Abbotsford Genealogy Society has asked for a UEL presentation in April. So we will be getting the word out and hopefully this can result in a few new members.

Also we are so pleased to advise that our branch membership as of this writing is sixty four. This is eleven more than last year and we still have one family group that we haven't heard from yet. I hope all is well with them, and that we will hear soon with a renewal.

Our numbers include four who are already at work on their Loyalist applications and two others that were just approved to Loyalist John Mersereau.

Two enquiries have come in about Loyalist Joseph Cryderman and Severnus Casselman.

If anyone can help us please contact us. The email address is on page two.

We have also reached out to branches back east for assistance.

Page three has been given to acknowledging members who were nominated and selected to be awarded the King Charles III medal for community service.

**Congratulation to Hans Mulder.**

I am also one of them and so grateful to be selected.

**Thank you to everyone involved.**

**Loyally yours,**

**Marlene Dance UE**

**President, Chilliwack Branch UELAC**



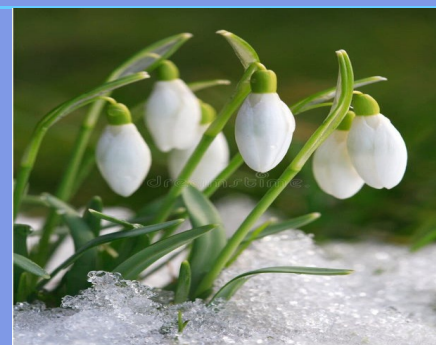
**United Empire  
Loyalists' Association  
of Canada  
Chilliwack Branch  
Your Management Committee  
for 2025/26**

**President:** Marlene Dance UE  
**Vice Pres:** vacant  
**Past Pres:** Shirley Dargatz UE  
**Secretary:** Judy Scholz UE  
**Treasurer:** Carole Lefler UE  
**Genealogist:** Marlene Dance UE  
**Asst. Genealogist:** vacant  
**Web Mistress:** Vicky Heibner UE  
**Newsletter:** Marlene Dance UE  
**Honourary member & Director:**  
Margaret Strocel UE  
**Branch Directors:**  
Chris Hay UE  
Cindy Lyftogh UE  
Helena Bastedo Smith UE  
Jan Ouellet  
**Social Conveners:**  
Vicky Heibner UE  
Rebecca Heibner UE

**Pacific Regional VP**  
Diane Ferris UE  
**Pacific Regional Councillor**  
Christine Manzer UE



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# Calendar of Events for 2025

Print and save with your calendar



## Meetings will be scheduled individually.

Details as to location, Zoom links and guest speakers, will be sent via email and/or included below in each edition of this newsletter.

### 2025:



May 24	Annual General Meeting for the Association via Zoom
June 7	Spring Fleet gathering
July 10 - 13th	Annual Conference, Delta Hotel, 39 King St. Saint John, NB
July	Loyalist Picnic with Vancouver Branch
Oct 4	Celebration of 35th Branch Anniversary
Nov 11	Remembrance Day and luncheon at Canton Gardens
December	Christmas celebration with Vancouver Branch

Be sure to send suggestions, information and/or pictures for this publication to:

[chwkbrielcontact@gmail.com](mailto:chwkbrielcontact@gmail.com)

Please visit our branch webpage: <http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>



## United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Partnering with Heritage Chilliwack Society since 2019

Keeping the Past Present! [www.heritagechilliwack.org/](http://www.heritagechilliwack.org/)

"On the Porch" - beautiful old homes in Chilliwack.

Just Google to find all eight episodes on YouTube.

Featuring:

Hazel House, Carmichael House,

Higginson House, Gwynne Vaughan House,

Brock House,

Skelton House, Gibbens House.

As well as District 1881 - the new downtown rejuvenation.



## King Charles III Coronation Medal

We are so pleased to report that two of our branch members were honoured with the King Charles III Coronation Medal for services to their communities.

First Johannes (Hans) Mulder who joined our branch in early January with his family.



He is working on a number of Loyalists for his wife and children.

Hans serves as a reservist with The Royal Westminster Regiment. During the 2021 floods and the 2022 flood falls fire in the Laidlaw area, Hans deployed local volunteers to assist the community. Not as a Canadian Armed Forces member, but leveraging his CAF training and experience for the community. Laidlaw did not have any first responders, so he had to improvise.

Pictured above is the whole family: l-r are: Caleb, Bianca in front of Hans, MP Mark Strahl, Abigail in front of Mom Amber and Olivia.  
Congratulations from us all, Hans!

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Our second member to be honoured is President, Marlene Dance UE.

Her nomination mentioned the many volunteer projects she has been involved with during the almost thirty years she has lived in Chilliwack.

But the main focus was her genealogy work. This includes facilitating classes for Chilliwack ElderCollege; workshops at the local library; live and zoom presentations to various service and genealogy groups, biography write ups submitted to the "Faces to Graves" project in Holland, and of course her extensive genealogy work with Chilliwack Branch UELAC since 2010.

Pictured at right l-r are: Daughter Corene Dance UE, with Truffle in the bag, Marlene, MP Mark Strahl, and husband Wayne Dance UE.  
Congratulations!





## **Chilliwack Branch Projects in the works:**

### **1) LOYALISTS AND THE CHILLIWACK CONNECTION**

This project is ongoing. We are working with the applications in our archives.

Chilliwack Pioneers with a Loyalist connection include:

Aitken, Blakney, Dahl, Evans, Thornton, Stevenson, Patten, Webb, Reeves, Munro, Chadsey, Halcrow, Nelles, Kipp, Reece and Higginson.

### **2) BACK ISSUES OF THE "LINK UP"**

We have been given a three-ring binder of back issues. Gradually, as we go through them we can determine what may be duplicates using the list provided on page 8 of the April 2024 Link up issue. In addition, another issue from 2007 has been discovered. Now comes the scanning and creation of a PDF for each issue. Please have a look to see if there are any more back issues out there that you can share. There might be more to come.

If you know of any please advise us. We are hopeful of putting them all on our webpage in the coming months. See pages 8,9 and 10 for excerpts.

### **3) Organization of our Library/storage room area:**

This is ongoing. We have slowed down a bit. But we continue.

Slow and steady wins the race!

## **Branch AGM held March 8th, 2025**

### **Notes from the meeting:**

Our meeting was held via Zoom with eight in attendance.

As our quorum at that time was ten; we waited the allotted time as per our by-laws and then declared those in attendance as the quorum.

The meeting was then declared competent to proceed with business.

All items on the agenda passed/accepted:

- 1) 2024 Financial Statement,
- 2) President's report
- 3) Amendment to our existing by-laws to reduce the quorum needed in future to 10% of the membership.

This number to be determined as of Dec. 31st of the previous year end.

The proviso to "wait 15 minutes if a quorum was not met" was retained.

- 4) The proposed slate of officers was declared elected by acclamation.

- 5) The appointed positions include a new Director of Helena Bastedo Smith UE
- Please go to page one of this newsletter for the list in the top right hand corner.

Thank you to all on the management team. You are appreciated!





## Annual General Meeting United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Please be advised that the National Annual General Meeting is  
**May 24, 2025 via Zoom.**

Zoom links will be sent out closer to the date to those registered.  
As members of the Chilliwack Branch UELAC (or any branch of the UELAC)  
we want you to have all the relative information.

Anyone may attend the meeting, but **only members may vote.**

If you are a member and unable to attend, please use the attached Proxy form.

Note the deadlines listed.

Loyally yours,

Marlene Dance UE, President,  
Chilliwack Branch UELAC

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To date there have been two email reminders sent to all branch  
members - February 28 and March 22nd, 2025.

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The appropriate PDF attachments included in the email are:  
AGM 2025 fillable Registration form (you must register to vote);  
AGM 2025 Notice of Meeting;  
AGM 2025 fillable Proxy-form.

You are welcome to name me as your proxy holder.

You may name any member of the association as your proxy holder.

You may go to [www.uelac.ca](http://www.uelac.ca);

sign in to your account;

click on - Members Section;

and scroll to Members-only content for the 2025 AGM forms.

This notice will be sent out again near the end of April.

**But please note,**

you **MUST** register for the meeting no later than  
**noon on Saturday May 18, 2025.**



# UELAC CONFERENCE 2025

10 - 13 JULY, 2025

## LOYALIST CITY

SAINT JOHN NEW BRUNSWICK



### UELAC 2025 Conference: Details, Registration and Accommodations

The 2025 UELAC Conference Committee is pleased to announce that the 2025 UELAC Conference will be held in Saint John NB, **July 10th-13th, 2025**. The conference will be hosted at the Delta Hotel in downtown Saint John beside the harbour.

Saint John, then called Parrtown, was located at the mouth of the Saint John River in Western Nova Scotia, a British Colony. Western Nova Scotia had a population of some 6,000. Parrtown in 1783 welcomed 14,000 Loyalist refugees. It was renamed Saint John in 1785 when the new British Colony of New Brunswick was created out of Western NS.

Saint John is the entrance point of New Brunswick's Loyalist story. The highlights of the conference include guest speakers **Dr. Leah Grandy** and *Loyalist Trails* contributor **Stephen Davidson**. There will be tours of Trinity Anglican Loyalist church, the Old Loyalist cemetery, The Black Loyalist History Centre, and the Loyalist House. The Gala Dinner will feature speaker and newly appointed honorary fellow **Dr. Bonnie Hoskins**.

We will cap off the Conference with a Drumhead church service at Trinity Church with DeLancey's Brigade.

There will be free time to tour downtown Saint John to take in the stores, restaurants, markets, the container village of artisans on the newly renovated harbour-front.

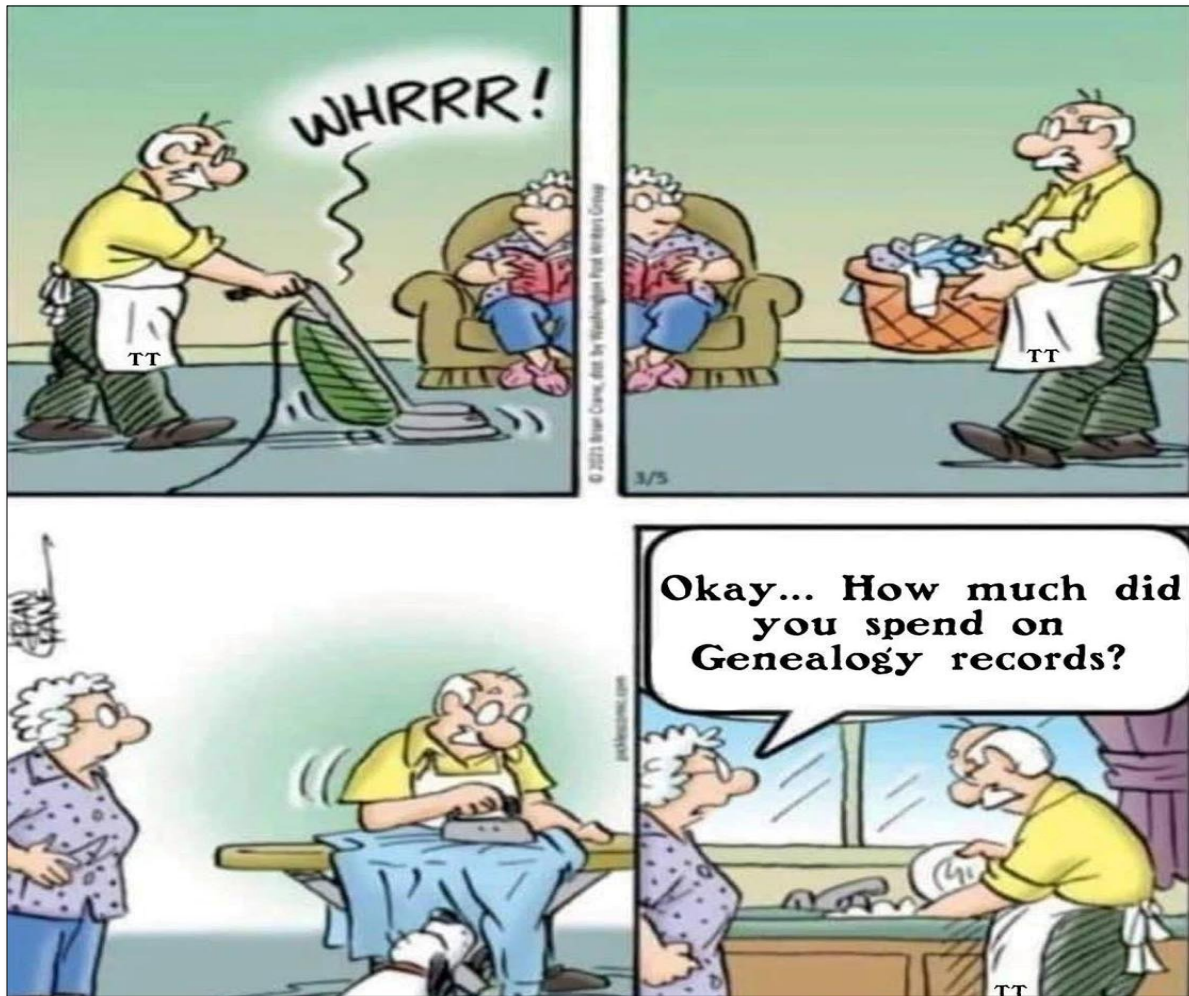
Mark your calendars now and join us for a great summer conference!

For more details, registration and accommodation information, visit

[2025 UELAC Conference](#)

Your Conference Committee: Bill Russell UE, Trish Groom UE and Barb Andrew UE

## Twisted Twigs on Gnarled Branches:



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Be sure to subscribe to the Loyalist Trails e-newsletter  
Lots of interesting information about the Loyalist era, links to other  
publications and it is free to anyone interested.

Go to [www.uelac.ca](http://www.uelac.ca)

Scroll down to second row of icons  
and click on Loyalist Trails.  
Click on to read back issues and  
subscribe.  
Arrives every Sunday morning in  
your email inbox.



Loyalist Trails e-newsletter

Connect with UELAC:





## Memories from past issues!

From searching through the Branch Archives, we have been able to determine that the birth issue of the Link Up titled "Loyalist Link Up" was published in November 1994 numbered Vol 1 #1. Prior to this, small brochures were done for individual branch meetings. In 1991 it was stated that a newsletter would be developed and published at intervals as required for communication of members, and more as the Branch develops.

So firstly, let's list the original branch management team:

President: Lois Dickinson UE

Vice-President: Art Keller UE

Secretary: Maureen Todhunter

Treasurer: Bette Keller

Genealogist: Andrew Webb UE

Membership: Vera Vanderlip

Newsletter Editor: Lois Dickinson; Assisted by Bob Bessey and Judy Scholz

First Loyalist Certificate issued: Mildred Hall on March 10, 1991

Membership as of May, 1991 was 40

**Note:** from May 1991 brochure:

**For the Record, here is a summary of our activities since Oct. 18, 1990:**

Three Loyalist genealogy workshops; two meetings; assisting with a Seniors' Program at First Baptist Church; providing material of a secondary school library; liaising with the School District re help with Loyalist studies; donating a gift subscription of the Gazette to the Public Library; participation in the two day Heritage Fair sponsored by the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society.

**Note:** from September 1991 brochure:

Our next meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 21 at Noon in the Candlewood Room of the ABC Restaurant to celebrate our first anniversary. Archie Miller, popular curator of Irving House in New Westminster will be our luncheon speaker. He will dress in the attire of Captain Irving and will tell of how many of our ancestors arrived in Chilliwack via Riverboat. Vancouver Branch has been invited to attend. Please come in Loyalist costume.

**Note:** from April 1992 brochure:

Our next meeting on April 26, at 2:00pm will be at the Museum with guest speaker Lt. Colonel Wm A. Smy OMM,CD,UE of Victoria Branch, who is writing "Doomsday Book" of Butler's Rangers. Also noted is the 50th anniversary of CFB Chilliwack. Officers of the Branch have now expanded to show Social Rep: Maribel Roos, and two additions to help Andrew Webb, the Branch Genealogist. They are Mildred Hall and Bill Horne.

**Note:** from November 1992 brochure:

A Christmas Tea is scheduled for November 29th at the Chilliwack Academy of Music. Also to celebrate our 2nd Anniversary. The branch management team remains the same except for the Branch Genealogist who is now Bill Horne UE.



### **Memories from past issues continued:**

#### **Note: from November 1995 Link Up - 5th Anniversary issue:**

This issue included a list of all Loyalist Certificates approved, new applications waiting approval, and research in progress. A note from Bernice Flett, President of London & District Branch with congratulations on our 5th anniversary.

The branch also established a Memorial Library in memory of the first branch Genealogist and founding member Andrew Vincent Webb UE who had passed away earlier in the year. Branch accomplishments in the first five years include the approval of fifty-five Loyalist certificates; we have over 50 members; we have had input into genealogy and education policies nationally; we have assisted in the formation of a new branch in B.C.; and we have hosted a portion of a National Convention in 1994. All this from an area where people in the east first asked if we thought we could "maintain a branch".

Well done!

#### **Note: from Spring March, 1996 Link Up:**

We see a change in the Leadership team with Shirley Dargatz UE assuming the role of President. Lois Dickinson UE becoming Past President, Doreen Todhunter UE being named Honourary President. Jeff Curtis UE assumed the roll of Vice President. Twenty-nine certificates were awarded during the previous year with 13 submitted to date this year.

#### **Note: Fall 1998 Link Up:**

Twenty-two certificates processed by Branch Genealogist Mildred Hall UE. This issue also featured a number of clippings from newspapers. This was a first. As well, a complete up to date list of all UE Certificate granted to members together with the Loyalist names. Of note were members who had more that one certificate.

With the year 2000 being the 10 anniversary year for the branch, we see the "Link Up" becoming a publication with four issues a year.

The anniversary celebration was scheduled for Sunday, October 15th @ 2:00 pm at Cooke's Presbyterian Church. A lovely souvenir was created for all attendees.

This included pictures from the Charter ceremony and a recap of branch accomplishments to date. Please go to the February issue on page 8 to see this picture in colour.

A wonderful Turkey dinner was organized for December 9th, to finish out the year.

### **New items included occasionally in issues:**

**Loyalist of the month**

**Book Reviews**

**In Memoriam**

**Old time recipes**

**Young persons corner**

**Member bio's**

**Community Links and Service Links**

## A scan of the Twelfth Anniversary Meeting of the Chilliwack Branch.

This was a single page handout that was saved by a member.



### Twelfth Anniversary meeting of the Chilliwack Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Cooke's Presbyterian Church Hall

27 October 2002

The "Threads of Heritage" regular meeting commenced at 1:30 PM with the President Shirley Dargatz UE presiding. 49 members and guests signed the guest book. The flags were marched in by Alan Reid UE, Jerry Brown UE and Rusty Wilson.

Copies of the "Link-Up" were distributed. Thanks to Webmaster Ed Wilson and Editor Lois Dickinson UE.

A videotape was made by Shaw Cable of the President Shirley Dargatz UE having tea in period dress in the British Museum in Chilliwack. This video was shown on TV during the visit of the Queen to British Columbia.

The President reported on her trip to the Dominion Council Meeting. The Association is looking for a slogan to represent the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UELAC, which will take place in 2014. Branches are asked to start planning projects for that event. UE pins, ties and glasses are currently for sale.

To celebrate your "special" day, Mildred Dargatz UE has created a "birthday board". Please check to see if your birthday is recorded on the board. Advise Mildred Dargatz UE if you're not on the list. The Branch wants to recognize your birthday! Good wishes to the October birthday people and to **Cleo and Fred Walters** on their October 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

#### Coming Events:

- Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> – presentation of wreath at the Chilliwack Cenotaph
- Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victoria Branch
- Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 PM – Christmas Dinner at Clark's Family Restaurant
- Further info. 604-858-6748

Check your "Link-Up" for biographies of the three honourees receiving their certificates at today's meeting and **Percy Deplissey UE**, who received his certificate in July. Shirley Dargatz UE presided over the certificate ceremony. Presentations were made to **Mildred Dargatz UE**, **Vicki Gallinger UE**, and **Mary Hope UE**. Each received their certificate from Mildred (Evans) Hall UE, a flag from Jerry Brown UE, a symbolic Loyalist rose from Lois Dickinson UE, and a congratulation card from the Branch members presented by Shirley Dargatz UE. Proven Loyalist ancestors are: Thomas Turney, David Doran and Richard Rogers. Congratulations!!!

Tea was served by the Social Committee. Thanks to Jan Ouellet, Alice Carter, Rusty Wilson and Robyn Duncan. Flags marched out by Alan Reid UE, Jerry Brown UE and Rusty Wilson. Meeting adjourned at 3:22 PM.