

APRIL 2026

Volume 15 - Issue 2

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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

First issue - May 1994

Branch Chartered October 18, 1990

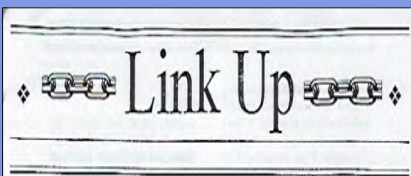


Photo by M.L. Dance UE

President's Message

After too much rain, we have finally turned the corner for spring weather. During March, the garden changed quickly. Still some rain, but sunshine too. I see snowdrops, daffodils, and the early blooming star magnolia up the street. The tulip magnolia was next and then the cherry blossoms have all burst open and the trees look magnificent. This is still my favourite time of the year. Everything seems to renew itself.

Our branch AGM went well. We met our quorum and all business items were approved. Please refer to the February issue of the Link Up for the reports and financial statement. Our management team members for the coming term are shown at the top right. Thank you to everyone for stepping up and helping.

We are looking forward to another successful year.

In the meantime, work is underway on a number of Loyalist certificates. And, we are also assisting Thompson/Dkanagan branch as they do not have a branch genealogist right now. There have also been a few email enquiries from non-members. Hopefully, they will be new members shortly.

I have also had some exciting new DNA matches appear and new people are learning about their Loyalist connection through our correspondence. We are pleased to include items from Mike Woodcock UE on pages 7-8, and items about Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island. Enjoy your read.

The National AGM information has been forwarded to all members. Please ensure you register for the meeting. If unable to attend, you are welcome to appoint me as you proxy for the meeting.

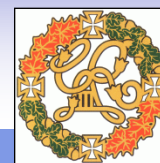
The date is May 23rd, 2026 @ 9:am PST

Loyally yours,
Marlene Dance UE

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

President: Marlene Dance UE
Vice Pres: vacant
Past Pres: S. Dargatz UE (deceased)
Secretary: Judy Scholz UE
Treasurer: Carole Lefler UE
Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
Asst. " " Janet McCartney UE
Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
Honourary member:
Margaret Strocel UE
Branch Directors:
Chris Hay UE
Cindy Lyfogat UE
Helena Bastedo Smith UE
Jan Duellat
Social Conveners:
Vicky Heibner UE
Rebecca Heibner UE
Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE

Pacific Regional VP
Carl Stymiest UE
Pacific Regional Councilor
Michael Woodcock UE



Calendar for 2026	Page 2
Branch news	Page 3
Branch items of interest to other members	Page 4-5
Saskatchewan	Page 6
Notable Loyalist Descendants	Page 7-8
Interesting item on PEI	Page 9-10
1991 Wm Casey application	Page 11
UELAC Challenge Coin	Page 12



Loyalist Rose

Calendar of Events for 2026

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.

2026:



- May 23 AGM via Zoom for the national association. 9am PST.
Details available online in the Members section and via email
- June Spring Fleet Gathering details TBA
- July 19 Loyalist Day Picnic w/Van. Branch details new location TBA
- October Fall Fleet Gathering details TBA
- Oct. 17 LDS Church, Abbotsford, BC
- Nov. 11th Remembrance Day Cenotaph & Canton Gardens luncheon
- December Annual Christmas event w/Vancouver Branch details TBA

UELAC Conference—June 17– 20, 2027 @ Kingston, Ontario

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

"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.



Welcome to the family! Our new little Loyalist.

Elayna Wren Siemens,
born January 4, 2026,
in Chilliwack, BC

Proud parents are
Jon & Karaline UE Siemens.

Sister to Sadie & Beau.

Granddaughter to
Kevin & Vicky UE Heibner and
another Great Grandchild for
Judy Scholz UE.



Blowing in the late winter breeze!

Is anyone interested in one or more of these four dresses? Available for \$25 each. The sizes may be as follows: Far left: size 14, then the next two are size 14/16 and the last dress with the overskirt is maybe a 16+ . They are all well made by a local seamstress. (note to two matching caps at the far right) All are cotton with cotton lace as you can see.



All have been machine laundered and ironed, so they are easy to care for. We have two others that can be made available. They are in sizes 10/12. Please contact us to come for a fitting. Or for this reasonable price we can mail to you if you don't mind paying this cost too.

Contact us at:
chwkbraelcontact@gmail.com

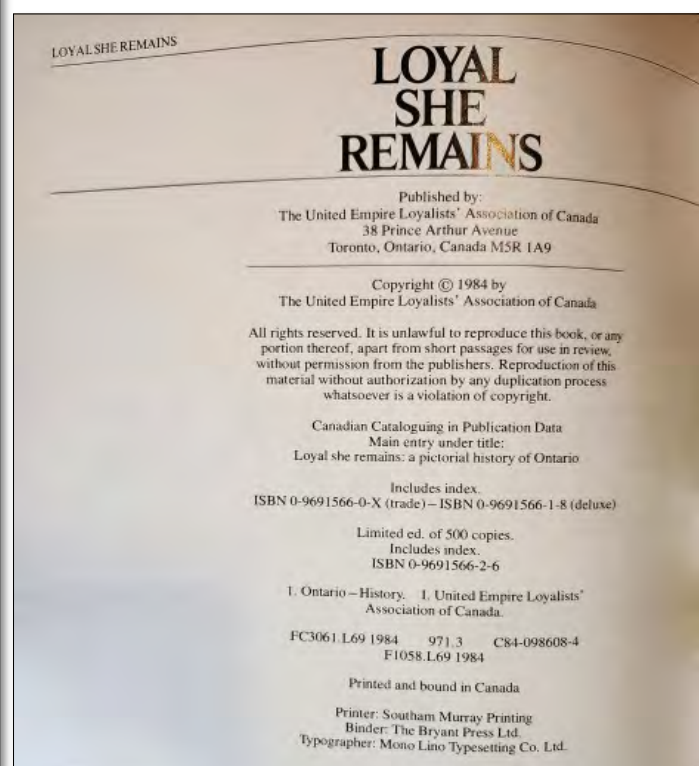
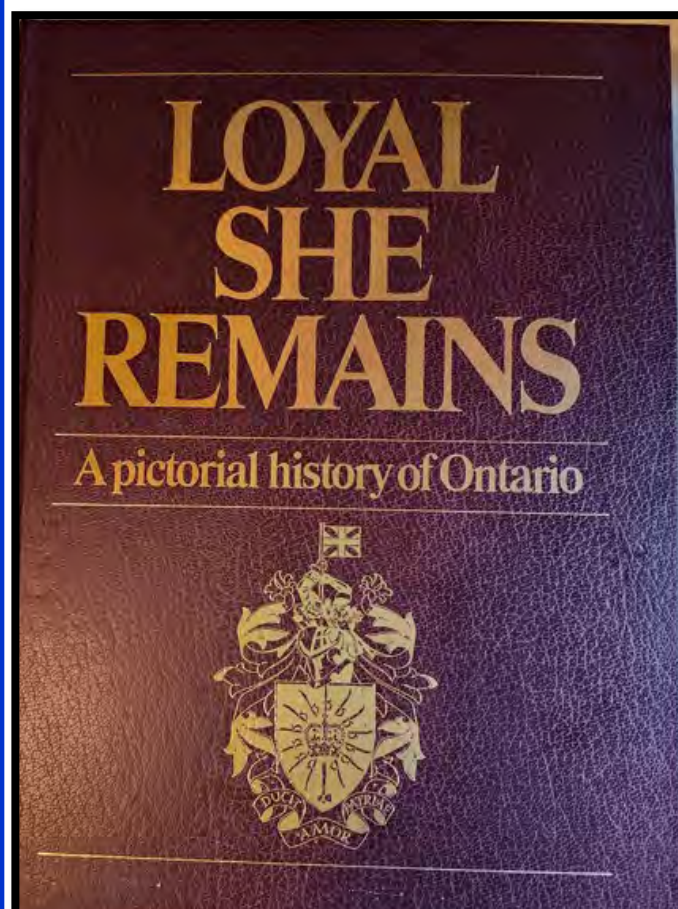
**Loyal She Remains: A pictorial history of Canada
published by the UELAC in 1984**

**We are offering this beautiful first edition in excellent
condition, filled with wonderful illustrations and interesting text.**

**FREE to the first person who asks for it and is
willing to pick it up, or pay for shipping!**

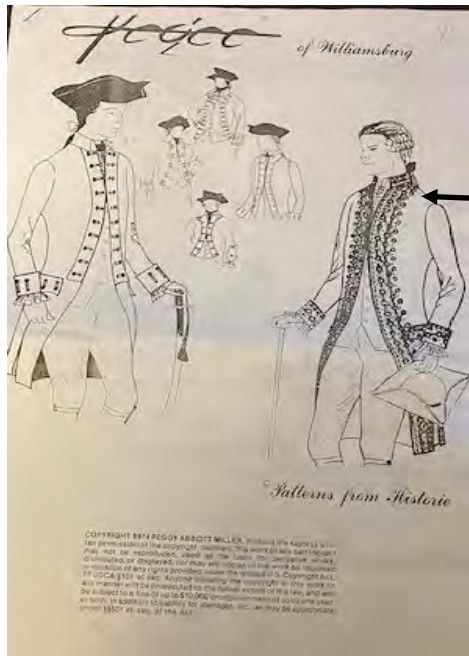
Contact us.....

chwkbraelcontact@gmail.com

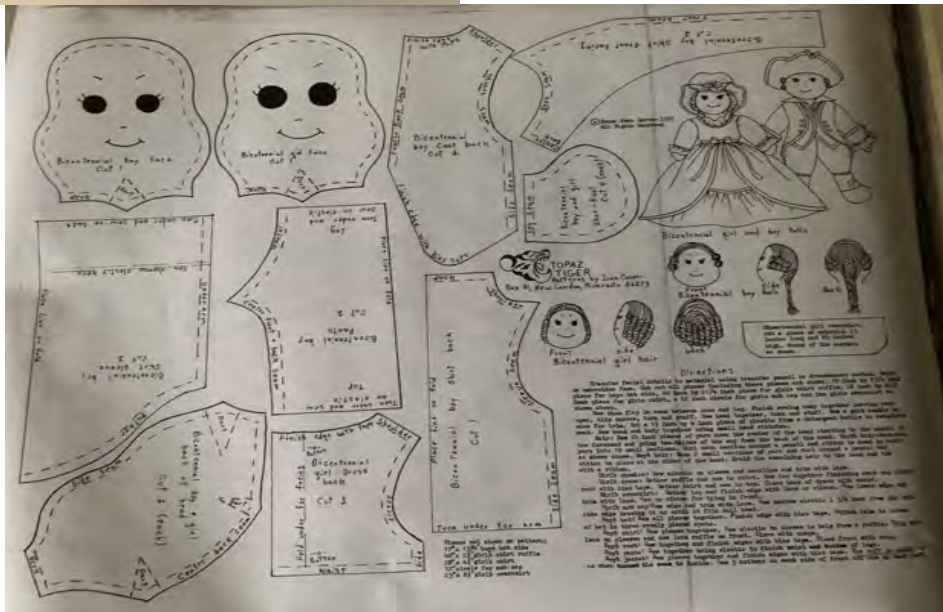


Other Items of Interest!

The clear-out and organizing of our storage room and Library revealed a few interesting things and we are giving them away for free. They include all the patterns shown here. First come, first served! Contact us at the email address on page two.



#1: The men's jacket and pants from the Williamsburg pattern at left. Believe all items are there.

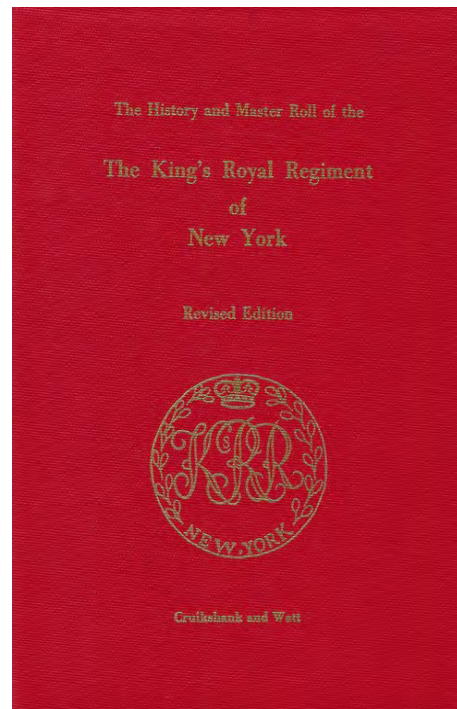


#2: Pattern for Bicentennial boy and girl fabric dolls with clothes and instructions.

#3: History and Master Roll of the KRRNY. Cruikshank and Watt. Excellent brand new condition

Items are Free.

But may we ask that you pay the postage for the #3 Book, if mailed.



Who has a connection to Saskatchewan?

For those of us with ancestors who applied for a Western Land Grant between 1870-1930, you can find these records at Library and Archives Canada

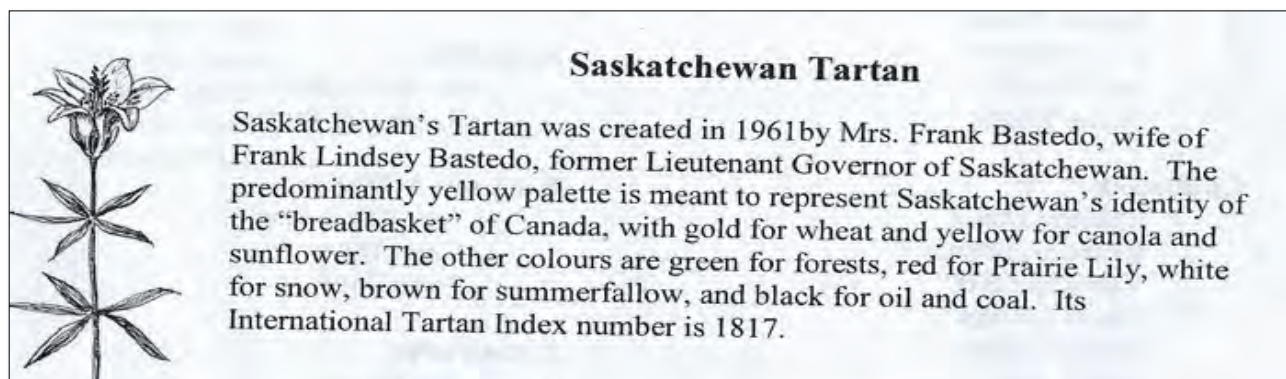
<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-grants-western-canada-1870-1930/Pages/search.aspx>

Many descendants of the Loyalists came west.

Saskatchewan became a province of Canada on September 1, 1905.

Here is a little item of interest from the UELAC Saskatchewan Branch

Annual Conference booklet of June 2018, page 7:



Frank Lindsey Bastedo UE moved to Regina from Ontario in 1911 to join a law firm. Two of his father's first cousins, John Bastedo and Lincoln Bastedo, had gone west (while still teenagers) to homestead in 1883. This was as far as the railway went at that time. They were among the first pioneers who worked on the land and, for a time, on a railway gang pushing the tracks through the mountains. John was the grandfather of Chilliwack Branch member Helena Bastedo Smith UE, whose father grew up in Moose Jaw.



Lapel Badge from the Moose Jaw
2018 Conference

Sample of the tartan

Western Red Lily is the floral emblem

selected in 1941.

It grows in moist meadows and semi-wooded areas.

This is a protected species.



Provincial flag and
Shield design (note it
matches the lapel pin).



The Loyal-List: Celebrating World Poetry Day (from Loyalist Trails, March 22,2026)

By Mike Woodcock UE, Victoria Branch

World Poetry Day, observed every March 21 and proclaimed by UNESCO in 1999 to reinvigorate the reading, writing, publishing and teaching of poetry worldwide, offers an apt moment to reflect on Canada's literary roots. Among those roots are the descendants of the United Empire Loyalists (UEL), whose families have produced poets who helped shape national identity, regional voices, and the development of Canadian poetic movements. This article introduces several notable UEL-descended poets, tracing how their work and communities contributed to the evolution of Canadian poetry from the nineteenth century to the modern era.

Notable United Empire Loyalists Descendants

Adam Hood Burwell (1790-1849) was an early Upper Canadian poet who wrote "Talbot Road: a poem" in 1818, considered one of the first long poems of pioneer life in Upper Canada by a native-born author. Raised on the family farm and influenced by local settlement history, he combined elevated diction with regional detail in his verse.

Martin Butler (1857–1915) was a self-taught Canadian poet who grew up in rural New Brunswick and began publishing verse in local papers in the 1870s. His 1889 collection *Maple Leaves and Hemlock Branches* depicted the social and natural landscape of the New Brunswick–Maine borderlands.

Sir Charles George Douglas Roberts (1860–1943) was an internationally known Canadian poet and prose writer often called the "Father of Canadian Poetry." Along with Bliss Carman, Archibald Lampman, and Duncan Campbell Scott, he inspired a generation of national poets and remained a prominent man of letters until his death.

Bliss Carman (1861–1929) was a prominent poet, essayist, journalist, and editor associated with the Confederation poets. His pre- and post–World War I work combined nationalism with spiritual and esoteric influences and gained recognition both in Canada and abroad.

E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake) (1861–1913) was a widely published poet, performer, and writer whose work appeared in Canada, the U.S., and Great Britain. Celebrated for poems, stories, and stage performances blending Indigenous and English influences, her major collections include *The White Wampum*, *Canadian Born*, and *Legends of Vancouver*; a collected poems volume was published in 2002.

Elizabeth Roberts (MacDonald) (1864–1922) was a Canadian writer of poetry, children's literature, essays, and short stories and an activist in the women's suffrage movement. She co-authored *Northland Lyrics* (1899) with her brothers and published *Dream Verses and Others* (1906).

Sophie Margareta Almon (Hensley) (1866–1946) was a Canadian writer and educator who published poetry under several pseudonyms. Her works include *A Woman's Love Letters* (1895), other poetry collections, a novelette, a musical play co-written with her husband, and the feminist essay *Love and the Woman of Tomorrow* (1913).

George Edwards Theodore Goodridge Roberts (1877–1953) was a Canadian novelist and poet who authored thirty-four novels and over one hundred stories and poems. His 1926 collection *The Lost Shipmate* contains poems praised for vivid, realist imagery, and he is also remembered for his Arthurian collection *The Merriest Knight*.

Wilson Pugsley MacDonald (1880–1967) was a popular Canadian poet famed for his public readings, which allowed him to earn a living from poetry through reading fees and book sales. Born in Cheapside, Ontario, he published *Song of the Prairie Land* (1918) and self-published religious verse such as *The Miracle Songs of Jesus* (1921).

Kenneth Leslie (1892–1974) was a Canadian poet, songwriter, and political activist who founded and edited *The Protestant Digest*. A Christian socialist nicknamed "God's Red Poet," he won the 1938 Governor General's Award for *By Stubborn Stars* and wrote lyrics recorded by several Celtic artists.

(Continued on following page)

Continued from previous page:

Arthur Stanley Bourinot (1893–1969) was a Canadian lawyer, scholar, and poet whose historical and biographical studies of Canadian poets made valuable contributions to literary criticism. His work documented figures such as Duncan Campbell Scott and Archibald Lampman.

Watson Kirkconnell (1895–1977) was a Canadian literary scholar, poet, playwright, linguist, satirist, and prolific translator. He is internationally known for translating national poetry from many countries and for original verse, dramas, and satirical parodies that engaged both Canadian and global literary traditions.

Charles Tory Bruce (1906–1971) was a Canadian poet, journalist, and fiction writer who rose through the Canadian Press to become general superintendent. He published multiple poetry collections and won the 1951 Governor General's Award for *The Mulgrave Road*.

Fred Cogswell (1917–2014) was a prolific Canadian poet, translator, editor, and scholar who authored 33 books of poetry, translated nine, and published over 300 books of poetry. Celebrated as "A Friend of Poets," his editorial and creative work sustained Canadian poetry and reached international readers.

Alfred Wellington Purdy (1918–2000) was a Canadian free-verse poet whose career spanned 56 years and included thirty-nine books of poetry, a novel, memoirs, and correspondence volumes. He has been described as an unofficial national poet of English Canada.

John Sutherland (1919–1956) was a Canadian poet, critic, and magazine editor best known for founding *First Statement* and *Northern Review*. He published the anthology *Other Canadians* and helped launch Irving Layton's career through the First Statement Press before dying of cancer.

Douglas Grant Lochhead (1922–2011) was a Canadian poet, academic librarian, bibliographer and professor who published more than 30 poetry collections between 1959 and 2009. He helped found the League of Canadian Poets, served as its first secretary in 1968, led the Bibliographical Society of Canada (1974–76), and was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1976.

Elizabeth Winifred Brewster (1922–2012) was a Canadian poet, author, and academic who published over twenty poetry collections, fiction, and memoirs. Born in Chipman, New Brunswick, she earned degrees from UNB, Radcliffe, King's College London, and Indiana University, taught at the University of Saskatchewan, and received many honors including the Order of Canada.

Kenneth George Mills (1923–2004) was a Canadian metaphysical and philosophical speaker known for spontaneous lectures and poetry over 37 years. He was also a musician and conductor of The Star-Scape Singers and was active as a composer, painter, and designer.

Alden Nowlan (1933–1983) rose from rural poverty in Nova Scotia to become a celebrated Canadian poet; after surviving throat cancer in 1966 he wrote about facing death. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1967, won the Governor General's Award for *Bread, Wine and Salt*, and served as Writer-in-Residence at the University of New Brunswick until his death.

Invitation to Contribute

Help grow [The Loyal-List](#)! Know other United Empire Loyalists and descendants who should be recognized on World Poetry Day? Please contribute information about Loyalists or their descendants, suggest edits to existing profiles, or provide feedback via email at membership.vic.uelac@gmail.com or on the UELAC homepage.

The Loyal-List is a project of the United Empire Loyalists (UEL) Association of Canada, compiled from reputable sources, including the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Wikipedia, and various published works. Learn more about this inspiring [project on the national UELAC website](#).

Check out "Loyalist Trails" March 29 - for the list of Baseball players who are Loyalist descendants!



From BACKYARD HISTORY by Andrew Maclean (Facebook page)

I enjoyed a presentation given by Andrew at the New Brunswick UEL meeting in March. So I went to his Facebook site and found this.

With the 250th Anniversary of the start of the American Revolution featured at many places this year, I thought this was very interesting and wanted to include it in our newsletter. Please enjoy the read.

In November 1775, two American warships showed up in Charlottetown and stole everything that wasn't nailed down..... right down to the curtains and cutlery, and even their bacon.

It was the earliest days of the American Revolution, and the whole operation had already gone sideways before the ships even arrived. Two American ships, the Franklin and the Hancock had been sent to intercept a British weapons shipment headed for Quebec.

However, a storm knocked one of their ship's masts clear off. By the time they stopped to cut down a tree and fix it, the British convoy was long gone.

So they improvised.

They attacked Charlottetown. Prince Edward Island's acting Governor, Phillip Callbeck described what happened when the Americans landed:

"Captain Selmon, notwithstanding a very Civil reception, immediately ordered him on board his Vessel... as he was going aboard, one of the party insultingly, without any provocation, struck him". It got worse from there.

The Americans broke into stores and stripped them of goods and provisions. Then they went house to house.

Phillip Callbeck wrote that when they got to his own house, his wife was at home. The Americans "broke the bed chamber's closets ... scattered Mrs Callbeck's clothes about and read her letters from her sisters ... took the window curtains and the bed ... took Mrs Callbeck's rings and bracelets ... took out of the cellar all of the wine, porter, rum, and cordials, drank one cask of wine ... and they also took Mrs Callbeck's little stores of ... candles and ... bacon."

At other homes, they "broke China ... drank what liquor they found ... took window curtains, carpets knives, forks and spoons. "They also took two kidnapped islanders, Thomas Wright and Acting Governor Phillip Callbeck himself. They also took with them PEI's Great Seal, which was never returned.

But there came a twist. When George Washington heard what had happened, he was not impressed. The rebel ships had been dispatched to intercept a weapons shipment not steal Prince Edward Islanders' curtains and cutlery. He personally censured the two captains and ordered the islanders released on the spot. What happened next—including what Phillip Callbeck did with his sudden, unexpected freedom in rebel-held America - is a whole other story.

You can read the article here: <https://backyardhistory.ca/.../american-invaders-stole...>

OR listen to this story brought to life on the:

"Backyard History Podcast" <https://tinyurl.com/stolen-seal>

See map of early St. John's Island (now PEI) on following page

A Plan of the Island of St John, in the Province of Nova Scotia, in North-America; 1765

The name St. John Island was changed to Prince Edward Island (PEI) in 1798.

This change was made partly to avoid confusion with other similarly named places such as Saint John in New Brunswick and St. John's Newfoundland. The official name change occurred in 1799, but the anticipation of this change was noted in a map created in 1798.

[St. John's Island becomes Prince Edward Island | IslandImagined](#)

Prince Edward Island (PEI) joined the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1873, after initially rejecting the idea in 1867.



For a larger version of this map, please go to:

[Let's Make a Deal: How a reluctant Prince Edward Island joined Canada](#)

Scroll down near the bottom of the opening page.

First UEL Certificate issued by Chilliwack Branch:

Mildred Evans Hall UE, was a member of Chilliwack Branch and served as Branch Genealogist from 1996-2011 sharing these duties with a few members. She was granted her certificate MC 6851-91 in March of 1991 for Loyalist William Casey.

Her line of descent is shown below:

Generation #1: Mildred Evans Hall (1927-2019)

Mildred is the daughter of

Generation #2: Gordon Harvey Evans (1897-1964) and Edna Viola Van Meter.

Gordon is the son of

Generation #3: John Allan "Al" Evans (1867-1944) and Edna A. Chadsey.

John "Al" is the son of

Generation #4: Charles Evans (1839-1971) and Jane Wells (1835-1921)

Jane Wells is the daughter of

Generation #5: Allen Wells (1799-1869) and Martha Casey (1804-1842)

Martha Casey is the daughter of

Generation #6: Loyalist: William Casey (1760-1840) Loyalist & wife Martha Robinson

Loyalist, William Casey was born in Kingston, Rhode Island, July 25, 1760. As a loyalist he settled in Fredericksburg and Adolphustown. He and his wife Martha are buried in Gosport Cemetery. This cemetery is also known as the "Old Casey Cemetery" and is located on North Shore Hay Bay Road, Adolphustown, Ontario, Canada

This approved application is important as it gives a number of links to Loyalists through many pioneer families in Chilliwack, including Chadsey, Evans and Wells.

The Township of Chilliwack was incorporated in 1873.

The Chadsey, Evans and Wells families appear in the 1881 Canadian Census for the #187 District of New Westminster (62 pages).



At left is the Evans log cabin built by the Royal Engineers (est. 1859)

At one time, it was the oldest building in Chilliwack and was the home of Jane Wells Evans from abt. 1871.

It was formerly located at 5535 Vedder Road. In 2000, the structure was disassembled, relocated and reassembled at the North Shore Historical Society location in North Vancouver.

Picture courtesy of Vivian Evans Walker

Newly Arrived for 2026!

Order Now, Limited Quantities!

UELAC Challenge Coin



UELAC Challenge Coins are 2 sided and measure 1.75" x 1.75"

ORDER YOUR COINS TODAY!

\$20.00 EACH, PLUS SHIPPING

250th Revolutionary War Coin of Remembrance



UELAC Coins of Remembrance are 2 sided and measure 1.75" x 1.75"

ORDER YOUR COINS TODAY!

\$20.00 EACH, PLUS SHIPPING

To Order Contact us at promotions@uelac.org