

FEBRUARY 2026
 Volume 15- Issue 1
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>
 First issue - May 1994
 Branch Chartered October 18, 1990

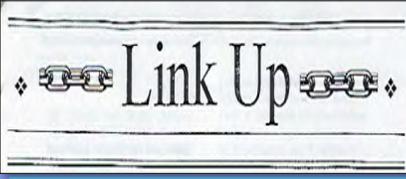


Photo by M.L. Dance UE

President's Message

Welcome to 2026! I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas with family and friends, and that you welcomed in the New Year with love and laughter. I would like to thank you for your prompt renewal of your membership. This is so important and much appreciated. We have included the renewal form on the last page, just this one more time.

The bad weather and road closures in mid December meant we did not make it to the Christmas event with Vancouver Branch. We so look forward to this. We have not included pictures. But next year we will be there with bells on.

As you can see on page two at the top, we are making plans for this year. First our Annual General Meeting via Zoom. The financial report and agenda for the meeting are on pages 9 and 10. The entire package will be sent out before the end of February. We will join Vancouver Branch again in July for the BC Loyalist Day picnic. We will have our first management team gathering in early February to get a list with dates in place. Watch future issues of the Link Up.

It is cold out, but at least a number of sunny days. Good for walking as long as the wind isn't whipping about. We have it better than other locations across the country. No snow. Maybe I shouldn't say that out loud.

I would like to send thanks to Anne Redish UE of Kingston & District Branch for allowing us to use a number of items this issue. She always has interesting items posted on their Facebook page. Also thanks to Brian McConnell UE, for his items on page four. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

I will close with happy wishes for Valentines Day and see you on Zoom soon.

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 Lyfogt 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



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Interesting items from various UEL Branches	Page 4-8
AGM items	Page 9-10
Clothing patterns offered	Page 11
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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:



- March 7 Branch Annual General Meeting via Zoom
- 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 Loyalist Day Picnic w/Vancouver Branch details TBA
- October Fall Fleet Gathering details TBA
- Nov. 11th Remembrance Day Cenotaph & Canton Gardens luncheon
- December Annual Christmas event w/Vancouver Branch details TBA

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.





Chilliwack Branch Projects in the works:

Organization of our Memorial Library/storage room area:

On Tuesday, January 20th, we started the full clearance of our storage room located at the home of Judy Schultz UE. Four hours later, we had sorted a good number of various books, children's literature, pamphlets, brochures, patterns for needlework, patterns of men's and women's attire; files of long ago certificate applications and other odds and ends - into some sort of order. We then went through each category. Trying to organize the books we were keeping into relative Loyalists sections. Firstly, Upper Canada (Ontario, Quebec), then New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, P.E.I and American Revolution categories.

We have a five drawer lateral filing cabinet in the room, and proceeded to ensure that the heaviest items would be at the bottom to keep the cabinet balanced when drawers were opened. We then used hanging files to put the all the application files in a first alpha sort. More work needed here.

Next in sorting through the books, we made practical calls with regards to their being of Loyalist interest and use, and started a donation pile for the local twice yearly "Rotary Book Sale". We then determined we had a very large number of back issues of the "Loyalist Gazette". We must get back to these organizing them into issue dates. As a full back issue set is in the Archives in Cornwall, and the Vancouver Branch donated their library to the BCGS a few years ago - we are open to suggestions here.

Please email your ideas to: chwkbraelcontact@gmail.com

Chilliwack Branch

United Empire Loyalist' Association of Canada

[Homepage for Chilliwack Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada \(UELAC\)](http://www.uelac.ca)

The homepage opens to a picture from the October 1990 granting of our Charter presented by then UELAC President Arnold W. Nethercott UE.

In addition, a newspaper clipping from the Chilliwack Progress announcing the formation of the branch. Then a copy of the letter sent asking for a Charter for Chilliwack Branch UELAC.

This is followed by a picture of the main poster used during the celebration of our 35th Anniversary on October 4th, 2025.

Please go to the October 2025 Link UP Vol 14 issue 5 for all the pictures.

Apply for Certificates for your Grandchildren!

At our 35th Anniversary in October, of Loyalist Certificates to the grandchildren of Director Chris Hay UE, (see the October 2025) we have had a few enquires. By pulling the grandparents' approved applications, it is fairly straightforward to create the certificate application for these descendants. All you need to do is provide the proofs for the added generations. We will give you the help you need and send for approval.

Please contact us if you are interested.

chwkbraelcontact@gmail.com

250th Anniversary of the American Revolution

The January 11th, 2026 issue of Loyalist Trails provides us with a good start to the real history of the revolution.

Of particular interest is the UEL history blogspot by Brian McConnell UE . [A CIVIL WAR](#) . I had the privilege of attending Brian's presentation with the Skagit Valley Genealogy Society recently and very much enjoyed it.

If you haven't signed up to receive the Loyalist Trails newsletter weekly, please sign up.

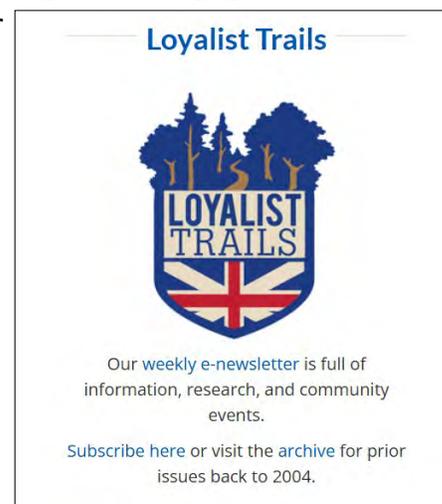
Lots of great information provided by many UEL scholars, historians, members and other contributors.

Back issues can be found at the UEL website www.uelac.ca opening page, second row at left.

Note back issues to 2004 available with just a click.

You can also subscribe there.

Great job Brian. I will check out your blog now.



Loyalists of Annapolis, 1784

from the Facebook page contributed by Brian McConnell UE

An estimated 30,000 refugees came to Nova Scotia as United Empire Loyalists between 1776 and 1785.

By comparison it has been estimated 10,000 to 18,000 Acadians were deported between 1755 and 1764.

Also, about 8,000 New England Planters migrated to Nova Scotia from 1759 to 1768.

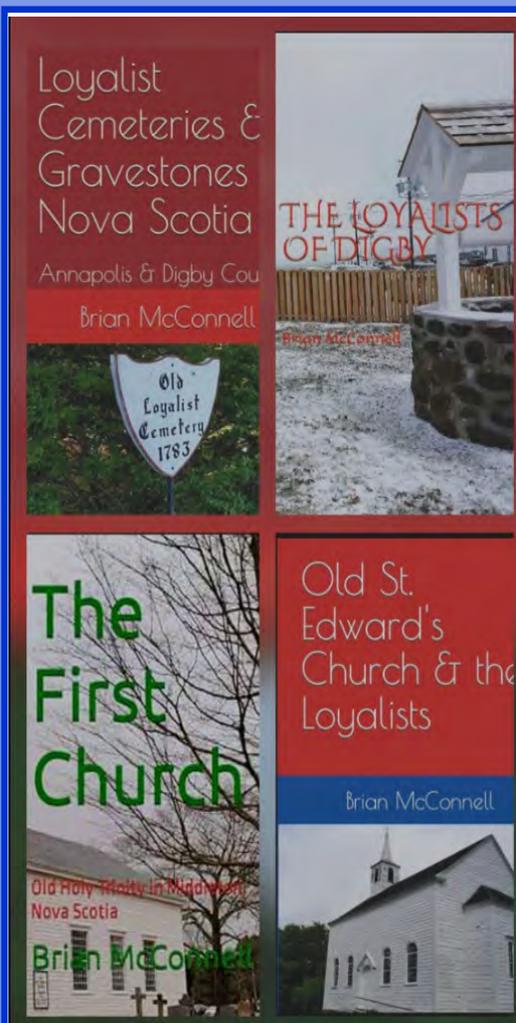
I am not related to any of them, however, my historical research encouraged me to author these four books about the United Empire Loyalists which include information on burial locations of many:

1) Loyalist Cemeteries & Headstones: Annapolis and Digby Counties
<https://www.amazon.ca/Loyalist-Cemeteries.../dp/B08R4F8P8Y>

2) The Loyalists of Digby
<https://www.amazon.ca/Loyalists-Digby-Brian.../dp/B08WK2L9ZX>

3) Old St. Edward's Church & the Loyalists
<https://www.amazon.ca/Old-St-Edwards-Church.../dp/B09BYFX5RH>

4) The First Church, Old Holy Trinity in Middleton, Nova Scotia
<https://www.amazon.ca/First-Church-Trinity.../dp/B0C6BK4WTW>



On January 15, 1792 fifteen ships carrying 1,196 Black Loyalists left Halifax harbour bound for Sierra Leone. For most, it had not even been a decade since they arrived in Nova Scotia filled with hopes of a better future.



View of Halifax Harbour, 1781.

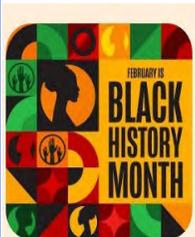


From the Municipality of Shelburne. Shared on the Kingston and District Branch of the UELAC

Facebook page: by Anne Redish UE

On this day in 1792, fifteen ships carrying 1,196 Black Loyalists set sail from Halifax Harbour bound for Sierra Leone. There, the Black Loyalists established the settlement of Freetown, under the governance of the Sierra Leone Company. 234 years later, Freetown has grown into the capital and largest city in Sierra Leone. Strong and meaningful ties to Nova Scotia remain to this day, with many residents of Freetown able to trace their ancestry back to the Black Loyalists and the Jamaican Maroons.

We remember this significant moment in history and honour the resilience, legacy, and enduring connections between Nova Scotia and Sierra Leone.



February is Black History Month in Canada!

Province of Canada Before 1841: from Peter K. Burian

Called **Upper Canada** (English speaking, west of the Ottawa River)

Lower Canada (French speaking, East of the river)

1841: The Act of Union merged them into Province of Canada:

Canada West (Ontario) and Canada East (Quebec)

1841-1867: with a joint assembly grappling with cultural differences and political tensions

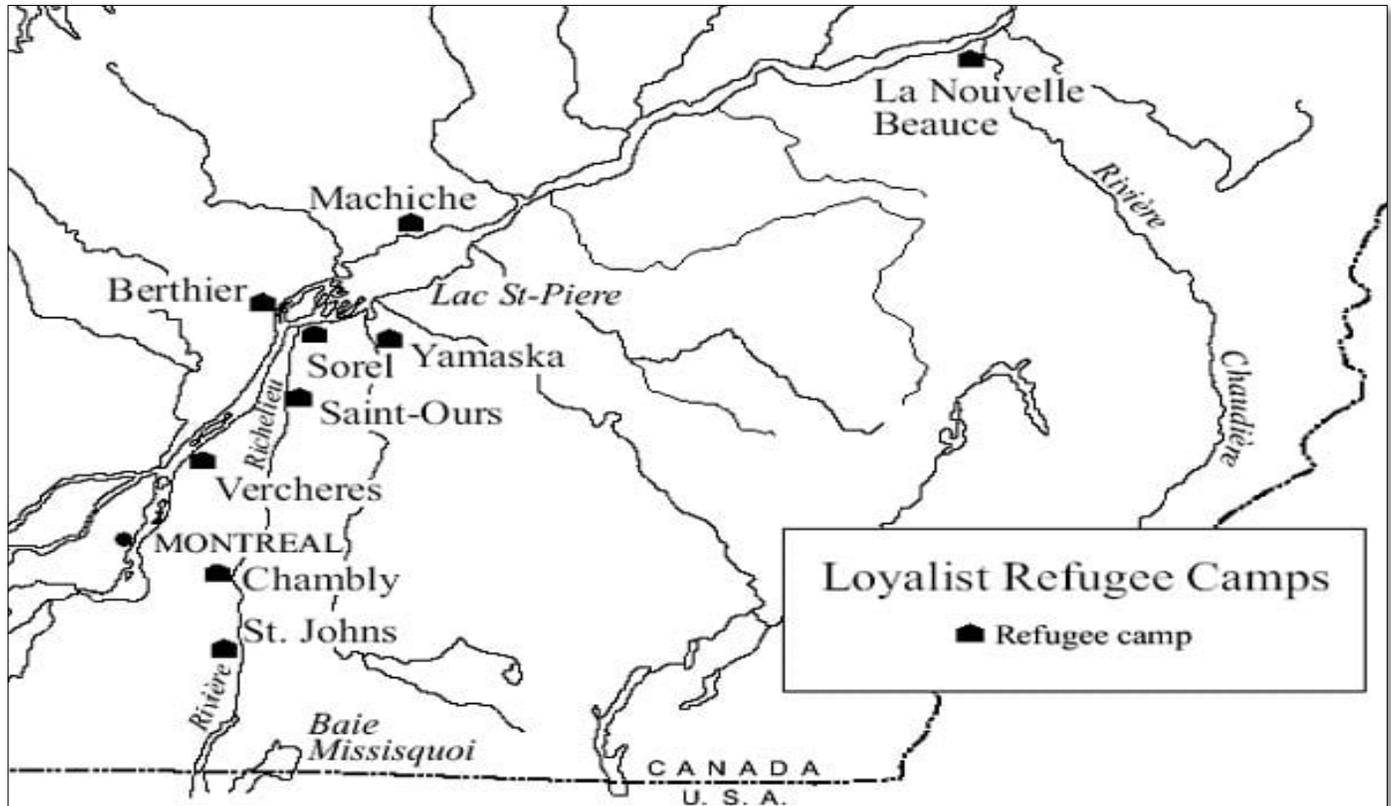
1867: This ended with Confederation that formed the Dominion of Canada



Knowing these names makes it easier to complete a UE Certificate Application.

With thanks to Anne Redish UE and Kingston and District Branch of the UELAC Facebook page.

From the UELAC Facebook page - Carl Stymiest UE



In March 1784, Loyalists were anxiously waiting in refugee camps for news of completed Township and Lot surveys along the St. Lawrence River.

https://heritage.canadiana.ca/.../oocihm.lac_reel.../1226... For several years, Loyalists were located at many different camps. Some of these camps were along the Richelieu River (Ile aux Noix, Saint Jean sur Richelieu, Chambly, & Sorel), on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River (La Prairie), on the Island of Montreal (ville Montreal, Lachine, & Pointe Claire), and Isle Jesus and Terrebone, and further east along the St. Lawrence River, (L'assomption & Machiche). -1779 Victualing Lists for some of these camps

-Sept 1784 Victualing Lists for some camps Image 145-163 <https://heritage.canadiana.ca/.../>

-June 1782 Saint Jean sur Richelieu https://heritage.canadiana.ca/.../oocihm.lac_reel.../909... and Oct 1783 https://heritage.canadiana.ca/.../oocihm.lac_reel.../928...

-early Marriages at Montreal <https://archive.org/.../reportoncan.../page/n165/mode/2up...>

-early Baptisms at Montreal <https://archive.org/.../reportoncan.../page/n181/mode/2up...>

-A good book re: Loyalist Refugees is Watt, G. "Loyalist Refugees: Non-Military Refugees in Quebec 1776-1784" <http://globalgenealogy.com/.../loyalist/resources/101069.htm>

-May 1784 Loyalists at Machiche wanting to go to Missisquoi Bay https://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_h1654/317?r=0&s=3

From the December 7, 2025 issue of Loyalist Trails

The Loyal-List: Nobel Prize Winners Who Are Loyalist Descendants

By Mike Woodcock UE, Victoria Branch

This Loyal-List article recognizes that since 1901, December 10 (the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death) is the date when new laureates receive their Nobel Prizes. The Nobel Prizes are prestigious awards administered by the Nobel Foundation and are granted in accordance with the principle of "for the greatest benefit to humankind."



Lester Bowles Pearson

Nobel Peace Prize, 1957

Lester Bowles Pearson's second great-grandfather, **Mattias Marsh**, was a Loyalist who served as a spy in Vermont during the American Revolutionary War. Born in Newtonbrook, Ontario, Pearson joined the Department of External Affairs and served as the Canadian ambassador to the United States from 1944 to 1946. He entered politics in 1948 as Secretary of State for External Affairs, serving until 1957 under Liberal governments. Additionally, Pearson was the seventh president of the United Nations General Assembly from 1952 to 1953.

Pearson won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for organizing the United Nations Emergency Force to resolve the Suez Crisis, which garnered him global recognition. After the Liberal Party lost the 1957 federal election, Pearson became the party leader in 1958. He faced two consecutive defeats by Progressive Conservative Prime Minister John Diefenbaker in 1958 and 1962, but successfully challenged him for a third time in the 1963 federal election. Pearson's Liberals won re-election in 1965.



Sir Frederick Banting

Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, 1923

Frederick Banting was a physician, surgeon, army officer, medical researcher, and artist. Born on November 14, 1891, in Essa Township, Simcoe County, Ontario, he was the son of William Thompson Banting and Margaret Grant. Banting was also the second great-grandson of Loyalist **Thomas Mulloy**.

Growing up on a farm in agricultural Ontario as the youngest of six children, Banting played a crucial role in initiating research and mobilizing expert assistance in the discovery of insulin. He spent the rest of his life grappling with the consequences of achieving a scientist's greatest aspiration—saving lives and winning the Nobel Prize. Banting was tragically killed in an airplane crash on February 21, 1941, near Musgrave Harbour, Newfoundland.

Invitation to Contribute

You're invited to help expand the Loyal-List! To add Loyalists or descendants, suggest edits to existing profiles, or provide feedback, please email membership.vic.uelac@gmail.com or use the Feedback portal on the uelcanada.ca homepage. The Loyal-List is a dedicated project of the United Empire Loyalists (UEL) Association of Canada. It highlights individuals identified through various reputable sources, including the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Wikipedia, published books, and institutions such as the Hockey Hall of Fame. It is recognized as one of the official UELAC initiatives.

Learn more about this inspiring [project](#) on the national UELAC website.

**UELAC Chilliwack Branch Agenda
Annual General Meeting**

March 7, 2026 at 11:00 am via Zoom

We are honoured to live, work, and play on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Stó:lō Coast Salish peoples.

- 1. Meeting called to order 11:00 am
Playing of God Save the King and Parade of Flags on laptop**
- 2. Declaration of Quorum:**
- 3. Introduction of Guests:**
- 4. Adoption of the agenda as presented:
moved and seconded**
- 5. Adoption of the minutes of the March 8, 2025 AGM:
moved and seconded**
- 6. Adoption of the Financial Report year ending 2025:
moved and seconded**
- 7. Adoption of the President's Report included in the AGM package:
moved and seconded**
- 8. The slate of officers presented for the 2025 term is as follows:
President: Marlene Dance UE
Vice President: position vacant
Secretary: Judy Scholz UE
Treasurer: Carole Lefler UE
Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
Assistant Genealogist: Janet McCartney UE
Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
Call for nominations from the floor for two vacant positions.
Election, if needed or Declaration of Elected by Acclamation.**
- 11. Appointed positions for 2025:
Honourary Branch Life member: Margaret Strocel UE
Past President: Held in memory of Shirley Dargatz UE
Directors: Chris Hay UE
 Helena Bastedo Smith UE
 Cindy Lyfogt UE
 Becky Heibner UE
 Jan Ouellet
Social Conveners: Vicky Heibner UE & Becky Heibner UE as needed
Newsletter Editor: Marlene Dance UE**
- 12. Reminder of the 2026 National AGM on May 23, 2026 via Zoom**
- 13. Floor open to questions**
- 14. Adjournment at: _____**

Playing of O' Canada

UELAC Chilliwack Branch
2025 Year End Financial Report

Dec. 31, 2024	Bank balance forward after 2 chqs cleared.		\$2,564.95
INCOME:	Net earned from 2025 Memberships (70)		622.50
	2026 Memberships/to be remitted-National	(350.00)	470.00
	Portion of 2026 membership retained	(120.00)	
	No other income earned this year.		
	Sub. Total:		\$3,657.45
EXPENSES:	S/C(\$1.95 x 12(5 entries pm)) +\$6.25	-29.65	
	35 th Anniversary expenses	-411.87	
	Meeting rental, refreshments, photocopies	-216.77	
	misc. Stationary/incl. envelopes, paper.	-119.78	
	Honourary Membership	-40.00	
	Donation to UELAC Scholarship Fund	-200.00	
	Remembrance Day (2 wreaths)	-170.00	
	NET 2025 memberships sent to Dominion	-20.00	
	2025 Insurance coverage due Oct. 15 th	-97.50	
	2025 Web-site expenses C. Conn-Grant	-162.00	
	Zoom License (1 ½ yrs.)	-109.89	
	TOTAL expenses:	-1577.46	
Dec. 31, 2026	Bank Balance:		\$2,079.99
Outstanding cheques	None. But note: a Cheque for \$350. will be sent in Feb. 2026 to National.		
	Net Balance		\$2,079.99

NOTES:

- #1) Membership in Ontario Genealogy Society covered by National Grant - \$55.
 #2) NET portion of 2026 membership to be remitted in February est. \$350.
 #3) Insurance premium due yearly \$650. Less 85% UELAC grant = \$97.50
 #4) Asset Purchased in 2019: Projector: Epson LCD Model: H719A S/N: WDPK5X02985
 Purchase Cost second hand was: \$200.
 #5) 2025 Year end **membership 70** - up from 53 previous year
 Consisting of 9 Families including 29 members, 8 Assoc., 24 individual.

Prepared and reviewed by: Carole Lefler UE – Treasurer, Judy Schulz UE – Secretary
and Marlene Dance UE – President]

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 there.

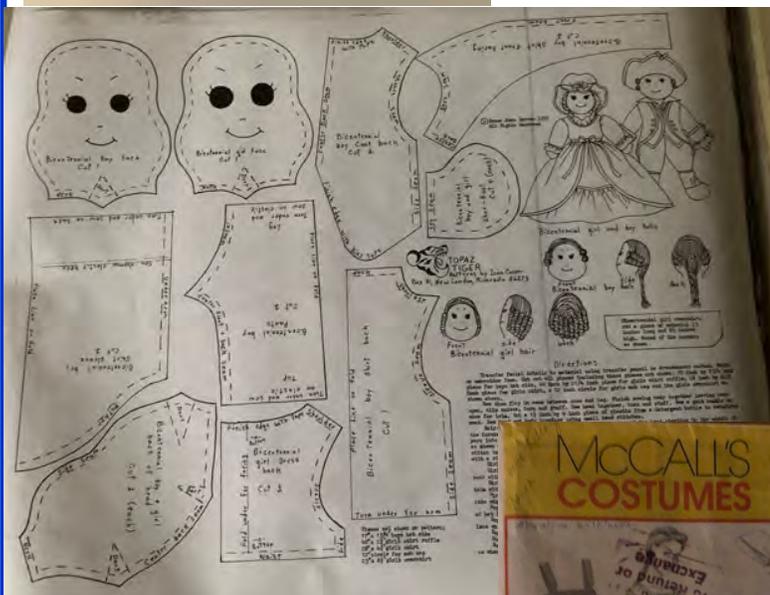
#2: Needlework pattern of Member's badge below.

#3: Bicentennial boy and girl fabric dolls pattern with clothes w/ instructions.



#4: McCall's pattern #M4863 size 14-16-18-20

#5: Simplicity pattern #9713 size 10-12-14





UELAC CHILLIWACK BRANCH NEW/RENEW MEMBERSHIP 2026

Many thanks for your continued support.

Annual dues are as follows:

Individual Membership: \$40.00 (to the UELAC) + \$15.00 (Chilliwack Branch) = \$55.00

Family Membership: \$55.00 (to the UELAC) + \$15.00 (Chilliwack Branch) = \$70.00

(A Family membership is for all persons residing at the same address)

If already a member of another Branch: _____ = \$15.00

Please indicate name of Branch: _____

If it is July 1st or later, the membership fee for the balance of the year is 1/2 price.

Please make your cheque payable to UELAC– Chilliwack Branch

Your Name(s) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Loyalist Ancestor(s) if known: _____

Membership Fees: Please circle the membership category chosen above.

Please mail to: Marlene Dance UE, President

5546 Highroad Crescent,

Chilliwack, BC V2R 3X9

Or..... Please use our online Renewal at: www.uelac.ca

**** If a Family Membership group, please add names of Family members into the appropriate place online or if mailing—on the reverse of this form****

Your membership includes receiving a copy of our magazine “The Gazette” twice yearly.
6 issues of the “Link Up” - the Chilliwack Branch newsletter. As well as
Email reminders for events, sign ups and items of interest.

Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) requires that our Branch have your consent for us to contact you electronically. By joining our Branch, you are consenting to receive electronic communications from us. You may ask us to remove you from the group email list at any time by replying to one of our communications and asking us to remove you.

If mailing in: Please return this form with your membership.