

The President - Out and About:

The UELAC received an invitation from the Governor General's office to attend the inauguration of the Queen Elizabeth II Equestrian Monument on June 12, 2019 at Rideau Hall and I was delighted to be able to attend.

Her Excellency welcomed those present and spoke of the decision to relocate the monument for a period of ten years. Based on the applause it appeared to be the opinion of those present that the monument should not be returned to Parliament Hill but remain in the present location. Certainly it is much more visible in the new location and it seems quite appropriate for it to remain at the entrance to Rideau Hall.

The monument had been moved from the Parliament Hill area to the round-about in front of Rideau Hall due to all the work being completed on the Centre Block.

The Queen, mounted on her horse Centenial, a gift from the RCMP to mark their 100th Anniversary was formally presented to the Queen on May 15, 1977 at Windsor Castle.



You will note that the horse's name is spelled with one N which was to distinguish it from the Centennial Anniversary.

The Queen is facing down Sussex Drive and is a short distance from the RCMP stables where Centenial was part of the musical ride before his formal presentation to the Queen.

There were representatives from nearby embassies, as well as the various branches of the Canadian military, the RCMP and the Canadian Legion. Members of the Monarchist League of Canada were present, including a member with connections to the Grand River Branch UELAC.

There were two people from the Heraldry office in attendance who took time to speak to me about the UELAC.

One person with whom I spent a few minutes was a WWII veteran of the Canadian Navy who had just returned from Juno Beach. He spent all his time at sea – clearing the English Channel and it was quite an emotional experience for him to be on Juno Beach where so many had died.

The *Band of the Ceremonial Guard* performed, as did the *Spitfire Brass Quintet of the Canadian Armed Forces* in the garden following the ceremony. An Ottawa barbershop group sang the Royal Anthem during the ceremony.



Four members of the RCMP Musical Ride circled the monument during the ceremony.



Following the ceremony the guests were invited to a reception in the gardens at Rideau Hall where we met *Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette Governor General*.

The staff and guides working at Rideau Hall were not only welcoming, but took time to answer various questions and provide assistance when needed.

Tours of Rideau Hall were also available.

Loyally

Suzanne Morse-Hines UE

