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Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

The Monarchist League of Canada / La Ligue Monarchiste du Canada,
P.O. Box 1057, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6J 5E9

905-855-7262 (800) 465-6925 www.monarchist.ca



THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA – 37th ANNIVERSARY 1970-2007

STEPHEN HARPER: MONARCHIST

The Prime Minister's First Year

**“THAT’S ABSURD
– I’M A PROUD
MONARCHIST”**

(The Prime Minister in the House of Commons, March 1, 2007, in reply to Opposition Leader Dion's calling the PM “a neo-con Republican.”)

by Fidelis

“...At the heart of our relationship is the golden circle of the Crown which links us all together with the majestic past that takes us back to the Tudors, the Plantagenets, the Magna Carta, habeas corpus, petition of rights, and English common law. All those massive stepping stones which the people of the British race shaped and forged to the joy, and peace, and glory of mankind.

“...much of what Canada is today we can trace to our origins as a colony of the British Empire. Now I know it's unfashionable to refer to colonialism in anything other than negative terms. And cer-



Prime Minister Stephen Harper – shows monarchist promise from loyal language

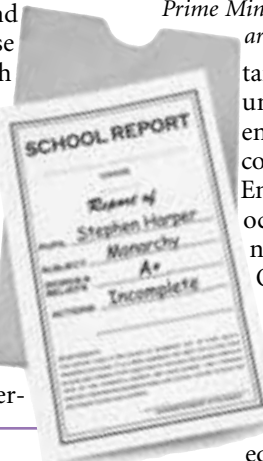
tainly, no part of the world is unscarred by the excesses of empires. But in the Canadian context, the actions of the British Empire were largely benign and occasionally brilliant. The unanimous provisions of the Quebec Act of 1774 ensured the survival of the French language and culture in Canada – to the everlasting benefit of our country.

“And the treaties negotiated with the Aboriginal inhabitants of our country, while far from perfect, were some of the fairest and most generous of the period. This genius for governance shown by the mother country at the time no doubt explains in part

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STOP PRESS: LETTERS OF CREDENCE

At press time CMN learned that, thanks to the Prime Minister's personal intervention (in the teeth of predictable opposition from federal bureaucrats), the Letters of Credence issue was about to be resolved to monarchists' complete satisfaction; but Her Majesty was reluctant to envision constant changes in different successive administrations with the risk of the issue becoming a political football.



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The Governor General: An Appraisal

**SUPER-STAR GG WOWS CROWDS,
CONCERNS CONSTITUTIONALISTS**

Mme Jean's First Eighteen Months at Rideau Hall

by Fidelis

The arrival of Michaëlle Jean & Jean-Daniel Lafond at Rideau Hall was the culmination of an unprecedented scrutiny of the Governor General-designate's suitability and political beliefs, ironically leading to one of the most spirited and dramatic Installation ceremonies in the history of Canada. Having given a speech that day which won over many of her detractors, the Governor General set out with the good wishes and optimistic hopes as she began her years at Government House. What has followed in the first eighteen months has been unusual and unpredictable, resulting in a wide variety of assessments and opinions about just what is going on at Rideau Hall, while at the same time raising many concerns about what the future holds both for the role and for Canada's 27th Governor General.

Michaëlle Jean comes to Office with less experience of the country than any of her Canadian predecessors. Indeed, one would probably have to go back to the British peers who served until 1952 to find a Governor General who had so little direct knowledge, through travel, of the nation. Having visited only neighbouring Ontario, Manitoba and New Brunswick during the time she lived in Quebec, intimacy with the country and its political actors has been new to her.



Thus one of the traditions of the Office, mandating an opening visit in each province and territory, has been essential as a voyage of discovery. This duty has been combined with her own learning about an Office about which by her own admission she knew very little – its potential and its pitfalls as well as the political sensitivity required when speaking about Quebec. The arrival of a new Prime Minister and government within months has also set the stage for a situation that she was not perhaps equipped to handle.

A Rocky Start “doubts about her judgement”

After the drama of the transition and the emotional high of the Installation, it can only be said that Madame Jean had a very rocky start. Within weeks of undertaking the role, Her Excellency found herself mired in controversy through some ill-chosen words at the raucous Press Gallery dinner. Thought

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QUEBEC LG IN SPENDING ROW

As Quebec's hitherto highly-popular Lieutenant Governor prepared to leave office after 10 years in the demanding post, Her Honour Mme Lise Thibault was enmeshed in a spending controversy similar in tone of the attackers if not in every detail to those which have dogged other vice-regal representatives in Canada including former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and former Nova Scotia LG Myra Freeman. Predictably, news reports caused NDP critic Pat Martin to thunder “Zero tolerance for wretched excess.”

The expenditures in question are not those support services and in-capital costs paid for by The Quebec government, which run some \$858,000 annually. “For us, as far as I know, the spending

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The Lieutenant Governor of Quebec flanked by her Honour Guard at “Portes Ouvertes” Reception marking Her Honour's 10th Anniversary as Queen's Representative. See story p. 3

Harper...

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why Canada's path to independence was so long, patient and peaceful. And it explains why your Queen is still our Queen, and why our "bond of comradeship" remains as sturdy today as it was in Mr. Churchill's time." – *Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, 14 July 2006, speaking in London at the Canada-UK Chamber of Commerce.*

With these words a Canadian Prime Minister, speaking in the United Kingdom, enunciated a view of the Crown's place in this country and our history that many have longed to hear but have been absent for many, many years. This view of Canada and our history has given hope to those loyal to the Crown that a new era for constitutional monarchy is in vogue in the federal government to stop a decades-long distancing of Canada from the person of The Queen and the Crown as an integral part of our governance, by federal politicians and bureaucrats.

Indeed, within a few weeks of being sworn to Office (on Accession Day itself, some noted), it was reported that the Prime Minister had returned a portrait of The Queen to the Cabinet's Room, a decision reversing its removal in the Chretien era.

Following this symbolic change, insiders noted that the Prime Minister and his staff insisted that the Speech from the Throne opening the new Parliament on 4 April begin with the following paragraph read by the Governor General: "As the representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, I am honoured to welcome the newly elected members of the House of Commons on the occasion of the opening of the First Session of the Thirty-Ninth Parliament of Canada. Canadians rejoice in the coming eightieth birthday of Her Majesty later this month, and in her more than fifty years of service as Queen of Canada." The opening few paragraphs of Throne Speeches has been left to the Governor General to provide and over

the years this has gone from being an opportunity to announce Royal Visits and celebrate Royal anniversaries to a more assertive role for His or Her Excellency to bring the public up to date on their own activities and accomplishments. Not deterred by this and in keeping with her most immediate predecessor, Madame Jean went on for five paragraphs doing just that. But the strength of the personal reference to The Queen and the emphasis placed on the fact that the Governor General is Her Majesty's representative had been unheard of in Ottawa in the past few years.

Shortly after the Speech from the Throne, the Prime Minister's website encouraged Canadians to send Birthday greetings to The Queen which was followed shortly by the Governor General's site doing the same. It was extraordinary that it took the Prime Minister to bring this to the Governor General's attention but it is widely understood to be the case that Rideau Hall had to be told to cut back Her Excellency's own wishes for the speech and insist on the opening and correct reference to The Queen. On April 5, 2006, in the Throne Speech Debate, the Prime Minister opened his remarks with the following:

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to speak in response to the Speech from the Throne, delivered yesterday by Her Excellency the Governor General. As this is my first speech in the House as Prime Minister, I would like to acknowledge and thank a number of people. First, I would like to pay tribute to our head of state, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, whose life-long dedication to duty and self-sacrifice have been a source of inspiration and encouragement to the many countries that make up the Commonwealth and to

the people of Canada."

And not to leave the matter there, when introducing the Prime Minister of Australia (a staunch supporter of the Crown in a sometimes-republican environment) in May to a Joint Sitting of Parliament in Ottawa, Mr. Harper noted that: "Politically, we share an enduring

"...[Prime Minister Stephen Harper] gave one of the most monarchist speeches a Canadian prime minister has given since John Diefenbaker...reaching out for the traditionalism and respect for the Crown that has always characterized Canadian Conservatives...'I find it very assuring,' [Senator Hugh Segal] said, pointing out that the commitment to Canada as a constitutional monarchy had been one of the core principles in the agreement struck between Harper's Canadian Alliance and Peter MacKay's Progressive Conservative Party to form the Conservative Party in 2003."

Graham Fraser, writing in Toronto Star, August 19, 2006.

affinity to the Crown. And a commitment to the federal structure of government."

Aside from these speeches, what of Mr Harper's actions?

The Prime Minister was called upon to make three appointments of Lieutenant Governors in his first year and these have been remarkable for their non-partisan nature and success. All three – Mayann Francis in Nova Scotia, Barbara Hagerman in PEI and Dr Gordon Barnhart in Saskatchewan – are passionate and loyal Canadians who are convinced and articulate supporters of the institution. Continuing the pattern of female appointments which reached its apotheosis in the Chretien era, every province has now had at least one female Lieutenant Governor (save Newfoundland & Labrador) and six have had two. The new vice-regal appointees are well-known for their commitment to public service rather than partisanship and this gives much for Canadians to hope for in future appointments as up to four provinces will receive replacements in 2007 (Quebec, BC, Ontario and Newfoundland).

One would think that with these clear signals from the Prime Minister and his Office, senior public servants and others in positions of influence vis-a-vis the Crown in Canada would get the message that a different tone and more respectful language around the Crown was now the policy in Ottawa. The shift was certainly noted by the media. No less than Graham Fraser, then the National Affairs Writer for the Toronto Star (and husband of then Secretary to the Governor General, Barbara Uteck) wrote of this sea change in one of his last columns before he was appointed Official Languages Commissioner.

Monarchists have been cheered by these pronouncements and a focus on Canadian symbols rather than values as successive Liberal administrations have

emphasized. There is a sense that the Conservative Party has returned to its traditional roots, rather than some of the anti-establishment positions of the Reform party. Despite these positive developments, many are left with the nagging feeling that there has been little tangible that has been done to improve

and solidify the relationship between The Queen, her family and Canadian life. Monarchists have been disappointed to see there is to be no change in the disturbing changes made to Letters of Credence announced during the Martin administration. And the continued absence of the Prince of Wales from our shores, notwithstanding his clear desire to visit here, and no less than two visits to the USA in the same period, is also of concern. Many had also hoped for a more marked celebration of the Sovereign's 80th birthday. It is thought by many that bureaucrats in sensitive government departments such as Canadian Heritage, the Privy Council Office and Rideau Hall still have not yet taken the hint from the Prime Minister and his officials.

The greatest danger in the past year and one area of concern to many constitutional experts and others has been the apparent frost between senior members of the government and the Governor General her-

self. Cabinet Ministers were privately (but openly) talking about their concern and disdain for Madame Jean, leading many to believe that a gulf was developing. In times of a minority government, with a new government and an inexperienced Governor General, the potential for miscommunication has been great.

In this, the Prime Minister can have no desire to see the Governor General or the institution she represents do anything but succeed. Indeed, he bears ultimate responsibility for the Governor General's conduct. No public office holder is more important to the health of the monarchy in Canada than the Prime Minister – it is he who appoints the Crown's representatives, it is he alone who has the constitutional relationship with the Sovereign and he alone who advises on the exercise of the Royal Prerogative. It is clear that the Prime Minister's view must prevail about the Governor General's activities in office and any difference of view between the two must be resolved with the government's support.

While it is clear that the Prime Minister has been consumed with the political challenges of minority government and the change in direction resulting from the first Conservative administration in more than 12 years, supporters of the monarchy in Canada hope that the government will build upon the positive sentiments emanating from the Prime Minister in both concrete actions as well as a more seemly management of the relationships between the Sovereign, the Governor General and the Prime Minister. The stakes are high, and the future of the institution is clearly in the hands of Mr. Harper. While monarchists are cheered by many early positive signals, they look to the Prime Minister (and to his recently-appointed Canadian Identity Minister, Jason Kenney, an outspoken monarchist) for concrete action in the year ahead.

HARPER TO MONARCHIST LEAGUE:

No Movement on Letters of Credence

Text of Prime Minister's Letter of September, 2006

The Honourable Beverly J. Oda recently provided the Honourable Michael Chong a copy of her correspondence with you on the subject of the Canadian Crown and Canada's Letters of Credence and Recall. I would like to take the opportunity to respond to your letter.

The Government of Canada shares the admiration and respect Canadians have for Her Majesty The Queen and for all that she has done in service to Canada. The Government is committed to ensuring that the Canadian Crown is preserved and acknowledged. On the subject of Letters of Credence and Letters of Recall, consultations have been held with Buckingham Palace and we have been informed that there is satisfaction on its part with the existing arrangements for Letters of Credence and Letters of Recall that apply currently to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other realms. Consequently, we will not be proceeding with any modification to current practices at this time.

As Minister Oda has noted, the Government has a number of initiatives to ensure awareness of Canada's style of government, heritage and history, including Her Majesty's role as Head of State of Canada and the importance of the Canadian Crown. We will continue to explore ways in which to demonstrate and reinforce Canada's ties with Her Majesty.

I join Minister Oda in thanking you for your letter, and for the information on your organization and its activities.

Yours sincerely, Stephen Harper

[See Editorial Comment, p 10 – Ed.]

LG Quebec...

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didn't pose a particular problem," said Premier Jean Charest as media interest bubbled on February 9. *"It's up to the Lieutenant Governor to explain certain spending decisions that she would have decided to make."*

Even Parti Québécois Opposition Leader André Boisclair was careful to temper his criticism for *"a lack of transparency"* by underlining the respect he feels for Mme Thibault *"as a person."* Her Honour has won wide praise for her humanitarianism, her energy triumphing over her disability and her enthusiastic visible presence throughout the province over the last decade.

Rather, Mme Thibault's attackers were focused on spending records obtained from the federal government, which supports out-of-capital and other costs for Lieutenant Governors. These documents reveal that Canadian Heritage officials repeatedly questioned expenditures made in the period 2000-2004. Examples of lavish spending cited by critics included a \$59,000 Garden Party, a \$30,000 Christmas Party and three meals held simultaneously at three restaurants.

Her Honour and her officials had allegedly refused requests by Canadian Heritage for clarification of some ex-

penses. On February 9, Mme Thibault defended herself, referring to the *"intense nature of public life"* as she criss-crosses Quebec in her wheelchair to the extent of some 150,000 kms each year. *"I act in a rigorous and responsible manner in using public funds."*

Government Minister Lawrence Cannon answered questions in the House on February 9th without the slightest signification of support for the embattled LG, saying in reply to a question from Bloc MP Thierry St-Cyr, *"Mr Speaker, I learned about the expenses submitted by the Lieutenant Governor when the hon. member did. Like a number of people in this House, we are looking at these expenses with a rather critical eye. People who assume these responsibilities have to assume the responsibilities that come with their role. I would hope that the person in question could assume her role in a responsible manner."*

Federal Heritage Minister Bev Oda said she expected to review the expense situation for all Lieutenant Governors, but not Mme Thibault's in particular, pointing out that the vice-regal representatives are free to use the \$147,000 basic federal allowance as they deem appropriate. Mme Thibault's office had received some \$223,000 of reimbursements in 2002-03, but the figure was limited to the basic allowance in 2004.



Portes grandes ouvertes chez le Lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec

Dans le cadre de son 10^e anniversaire d'entrée en fonction, l'honorable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant-gouverneur du Québec, a accueilli avec bonheur et générosité un a un les quelques centaines de citoyens qui sont venus la saluer lors des portes ouvertes à ses bureaux situés au 1050, rue des Parlementaires à Québec. Même Bonhomme Carnaval s'est déplacé pour lui offrir ses félicitations. Des visiteurs d'aussi loin que la région de Montréal et même des gens provenant des Iles de la Madeleine et Toronto, de passage à Québec, ont profité de cette occasion exceptionnelle. Pour sa part, le réputé pianiste Georges Tremblay est venu offrir une prestation inattendue en direct de sa composition intitulée *Madame*, pièce composée en l'honneur de l'honorable Lise Thibault il y a 7 ans. Fait à noter, les profits réalisés par la vente de cet album sont versés à la Fondation Lise Thibault.

Lors des portes ouvertes, tous les visiteurs étaient accueillis entre autres par des membres de la Garde en Rouge du Royal 22^e Régiment. Ensuite, les aides de camp honoraires du Lieutenant-gouverneur les ont guidés à travers les pièces tout en relatant l'histoire des lieux.

L'honorable Lise Thibault a été assermentée le 30 janvier 1997 à titre de 27^e lieutenant-gouverneur. Il s'agit de la première femme à occuper ce poste au Québec.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

It well may be that some spending or accounting issues have existed in the Office of Quebec's Lieutenant Governor. Certainly, in the age of instant information, refusal to provide some records arouses the media wolf-pack and public suspicion. Both situations can and should be remedied.

But no one who has observed the remarkable record of Lise Thibault in serving The Queen over the last decade in what is arguably the most challenging vice-regal post in the Commonwealth would wish this flap to overshadow the accomplishments of a humanitarian and generous woman. Her Honour has raised the profile of the Office of Lieutenant Governor in La Belle Province; defied her disability by undertaking as many public engagements each year as does the famously hard-working Princess Royal; maneuvered through Quebec's uniquely-tricky political waters and dealt even-handedly with separatist and federalist Premiers alike – all to wide public acclaim, and all the while scrupulously resisting the sort of speculation and constitutional adventurism (*"would you disallow a National Assembly declaration of independence? etc...."*) into which some mischief-makers would have led her.

As to Her Honour's expenditures, we would like to remind the self-righteously self-aggrandizing critics – and the tepid defenders alike – of the following facts:

- The Lieutenant Governor of Quebec has neither a lavish suite of offices nor a house for entertaining. Many events she hosts in the Old Capital must be catered.
- Much of the social and political life of the province is centered in Montreal, where Her Honour must perforce entertain in hotels with their attendant (exorbitant!) costs.
- As any cardholder knows, dates when charges are processed through credit cards often vary from the actual date of the service provided, sometime creating the false impression of several charges being incurred the same day.
- As a federal officer in a province which has had separatist governments during the greater part of her time, and which elects scores of Bloc MP's to Ottawa, and which to greater and lesser extents presents itself to the rest of the world as conducting an independent "foreign policy", Her Honour's mission involves a role and assumes an importance, involving both visibility and hospitality, that is not shared by other Lieutenant Governors. Accordingly, it is necessary and justifiable for her to welcome out-of country dignitaries in at least the same state as the provincial administration does.
- It is to be regretted that neither Mr Harper, Ms Oda nor M Charest – however cautious they might wish to be in commenting on the spending allegations – did not vigorously defuse the controversy by pointing out Mme Thibault's incredible service, great popularity and devoted hard work over the last decade.
- Further to the above, while we understand the Prime Minister had advised all Lieutenant Governors that he favours a five-year time in office to be the norm, and while Mme Thibault had already indicated she would like to resume private life after her facing 10 years' of punishing demands, a more sensitive approach (and one helpful in the long term for the institution) would have been to prevail on Her Honour to remain in post a further six months, perhaps retiring in the Autumn, so that there could not exist the perception she is being "driven from office."
- Mme Thibault is, in one sense, irreplaceable. But Quebecers – and Canadians – will expect a no less dynamic and thoroughly pro-monarchist replacement. The new Lieutenant Governor will preside over the ceremonies marking the 400th Anniversary of the founding of Quebec City in 1608, quite possibly welcoming a member of the Royal Family amongst other guests. By the time this issue of CMN is printed, that individual's name may have been announced. But we could recommend no better candidate – and it would be a good choice for Mr Harper to make on several levels – than the devoted federalist, monarchist and philanthropic Senator Serge Joyal. The fact that M. Joyal is a Liberal, though long removed from Cabinet service and high partisan involvement, would demonstrate Mr Harper's approach to the Crown to be above political considerations.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL: AN APPRAISAL

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to be discussing Quebec politics at a national or federal event where most speakers talk about each other and find self-deprecation is the safest route,

Madame Jean also decided to discuss her own qualifications and announce herself as "hot". In Quebec, her remarks resulted in a nasty and public rebuke from her sister, a Parti Québécois supporter, along

From Rideau Hall

Just prior to press time, Monarchist League Chairman Robert Finch received the following answers from Rideau Hall in regard to questions raised in light of Fidelis' article.

1) The Letters of Credence ceremony appears to have been changed. What is the new form and what was the rationale for the change?

The ceremony was changed to allow the family and staff members of the newly-appointed Heads of Mission to actually witness their presentation of Letters to the Governor General. Guests are now seated before Her Excellency and as each new Head of Mission's name is read, he/she moves forward and stands facing the audience while his/her biography is read by the Chief of Protocol. Then, the Letters are presented and photographs are taken. While this adds some formality to the event, the elements of celebration and welcome are retained. Each new Head of Mission and their families are then separately ushered into another room for brief tête-à-tête meetings with the Governor General, while the guests are brought into a reception, which the Governor General joins once the tête-à-tête meetings are completed.

Another positive aspect to the new format is that the guests are not required to wait for a lengthy period of time for the arrival of the Governor General, since an important part of the event is conducted in their presence. This was not the case before.

2) The Governor General did not seem to host the New Year's Levée in 2006 or 2007 or the summer Garden Party in 2006? Why have these events been dropped from the calendar?

From a historic perspective, the Levee has taken place on different dates and has been held at different venues many times over the years. Some most recent examples included January 7, 1996, January 1, 1999 (St. John's), January 1, 1998 (Winnipeg) and January 1, 1997 (at La Citadelle in Québec City). These all took place during the mandate of former Governor General Roméo LeBlanc.

Mme Clarkson made a tradition of visiting troops in the field for New Year's. Over the years, Mme Clarkson and Mme Jean have held open houses in a variety of formats during the holiday season, either in December, January or February. This year, Her Excellency welcomed more than 2000 Canadians and local residents to Rideau Hall for her Winter Celebration and Open House on February 3, 2007. You may wish to consult the news release for more information: <http://www.gg.ca/media/doc.asp?lang=e&DocID=4959>.

As far as the Garden Party is concerned, historically, they have also taken on different formats and have sometimes been held at different venues. For example, in 2003, 2004 and 2005, it was combined with the launch of the Summer Concert Series and was held in the early evening. In 2002, it was held in conjunction with the inaugural Golden Jubilee Medal Ceremony at Rideau Hall. Last year, the garden party was held during the Governor General's first official visit to the province of Newfoundland and Labrador in St. John's, which gave Newfoundlanders and Labradoreans an opportunity to meet Mme Jean (Governors General traditionally visit each province and territory at the start of their mandate).

As you know, local residents and Canadians also had the chance to attend all five free summer concerts held at Rideau Hall last summer, as well as visit the residence and the grounds.

3) Which Ministers of the Crown and parliamentarians accompanied the Governor General to Africa or on her other foreign travel in 2006?

No Ministers or Parliamentarians accompanied the Governor General to Africa, but both Robert Greenhill, President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and Peter Harder, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, accompanied the Governor General to some of the five countries she visited. In addition, senior officials from CIDA and from Foreign Affairs participated in the trip.

The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was present when the Governor General attended the closing of the Olympic Games in Turin, Italy, in February 2006.

When the Governor General visited Normandy, in France, she was accompanied by The Honourable Abina Guarnieri, who was Minister of Veterans Affairs at the time.

4) Why was the first Valour Decoration ceremony held at the Château Laurier rather than Rideau Hall as the Bravery Awards are?

Because of the significance of the ceremony - this was the first time that the Military Valour Star and Medal were awarded - it was important to the Department of National Defence (DND) that we be able to accommodate more guests than usual. DND requested the move for this reason. The rooms at Rideau Hall could only have accommodated 2 to 3 guests per recipient, while holding the event at the Château Laurier provided the opportunity for recipients to invite up to 5 guests.

with a feeling that as Governor General, she had crossed the line of good taste. This led to a regurgitation of some of the previous reportage and raised doubts again about her judgement. For someone Paul Martin hoped would be a symbol of Canadian unity in Quebec, this aim was set back, perhaps irrevocably, by the end of 2005.

Moving into Rideau Hall with a small child is a challenge for anyone, as several previous families have found. Guests at events have been surprised to see Madame Jean's daughter much in evidence at events and on several trips around Canada and abroad. There are some who question whether a young child belongs at dinners for our national honours recipients. The challenge of being a parent to an only child, combined with the situation of her own mother, about whose Alzheimer's diagnosis the Governor General has spoken with much personal anguish, has no doubt led to some adjustments and challenges for the young family. The Governor General moved her mother from Montreal to Ottawa within the first weeks to enable her more regularly to see and care for her. This has been the subject of media coverage in Ottawa; and those who are aware of her situation can only feel empathy as there are so many Canadians who must juggle responsibility for aging and needy parents with their career and family life.

The Consort

"I stand before you today as both a filmmaker and the life and travel companion of the Governor General of Canada." HE Daniel Lafond, Montreal, Feb 10, 2006

Added to this challenge has no doubt been the desire of Jean-Daniel Lafond to continue, to some extent, his career. Within a few months, his documentary "American Fugitive" premiered in Quebec and subsequently at film festivals. Lafond was accused of making a film that is an apology for a terrorist or a murderer. An odd work which suggests several conspiracy theories and seems to provide little answer for any, it portrays a sad figure, living in isolation in Iran having fled the US (through Canada) following his murder of the press attaché of the Shah of Iran. The film could hardly have been released at a worse time given the new government's desire for a change in rela-

tionship with the American government, the increasing tension around our own borders and world concern over Iran.

M. Lafond has also been at the Governor General's side for most of her duties and speaks as her co-equal at cultural events such as the GG's Performing Arts or Literary Awards. He also undertakes round tables with filmmakers when travelling in the regions and seems to be playing a role with the planning of celebrations surrounding the 400th anniversary of the establishment of Quebec in 2008, with its inevitable potential for federal-provincial tension and thus perhaps a concern going forward.

Travel in Canada & Special Concerns

"the visits seemed to sparkle with the strength of the Governor General's personality and charisma"

Starting with Manitoba, the Governor General reached eight provinces and two territories in her first 12 months, leaving Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Yukon for her second year (all three of which had elections at some point in 2006). While the pace of visits and Her Excellency's diary in general seem to have been somewhat slower than one has become used to in recent years at Rideau Hall, the visits seemed to sparkle with the strength of the Governor General's personality and charisma. It was the beginning of a get-acquainted process which has not yet been completed. The visits have been organized to take a particular opportunity to visit women who have experienced abuse, aboriginal people, young people and the black community - indeed, anyone who can lay a claim that of not being heard by mainstream Canada.

Madame Jean's interest in immigrants and the issues which affect them is moving for the empathy she feels, as her own immigrant story reflects more closely the experience that more recent immigrants have had in coming to contemporary Canada.

Speaking of these visits at the beginning of the Throne Speech, Her Excellency said:

"Since my appointment as Governor General of Canada, I have had the privilege of meeting women and men who each and every day, and each in their own way, reaffirm their attachment to this vast land that we share and where people from around the world have found a



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home. Women and men of ideas, conviction and action who have an abiding sense of responsibility, solidarity and commitment to their neighbourhoods, to their communities and to their country. And I am moved to see just how strong and vibrant a country we are.

"I have been particularly struck by the words of our young people and by their wealth of ideas. Young people who are looking to carve out their place and be heard. The new generation of Aboriginal entrepreneurs who are creating new opportunities. Young people in our Canadian Forces who, through their extraordinary efforts, offer a promise of hope for the oppressed. More than ever, our young people represent not only the promise of a brighter future, but also the vitality of our present.

"I have met with people from our two great linguistic communities and I can attest that our linguistic duality is a tremendous asset for the country. Similarly, Canadian artists from all disciplines have confirmed to me just how important creative expression is to the health of a democratic society.

"And I have heard from Canadians who feel they often lack a voice. Women who are victims of violence. Families newly arrived in Canada who seek to contribute to our society and our country's collective well-being.

"Listening to citizens from all walks of life has strengthened my already deep conviction that we are living in a country where everything is possible, where each of us is free to follow his or her dreams but also has a duty to help build our country and prepare it for the challenges that lie ahead."

The visits were notable for the amount of time the Governor General gave to speak to people. Not adept at 'working the room' Her Excellency was seen to be taking much time with few people, sometimes departing extensively from the schedule in order to do so. These are aspects of learning about public life from one who has not spent much time in it, the necessity of trying to speak to as many people as possible and the danger of overextending a stay in one place thus jeopardizing the amount of time spent in the next. Perhaps Louis XVIII was right to note that "punctuality is the politeness of Kings and the duty of all good people".

Public Discourse & The Vice-Regal Blog

"this initiative still seems to be finding its way."

The Governor General's speaking style is most engaging to her audience and her presence at an event adds much warmth and sincerity. She has a strong dose of charisma and is charming to those that she meets. Her speeches sound authentic and are often delivered in a dramatic and emotional way, incorporating frequently her upbringing in Haiti, her new experiences in her adopted country and the stories of others whom she has met in her travels.

On some occasions she can misjudge an audience, as exemplified when she spoke at the anniversary of a Jewish synagogue in Toronto in September 2006:

"In the difficult times we are living in, I believe dialogue is our greatest source of hope for today and for the future. I am committed to fostering a conversation among all Canadians; I see that as central to my role as governor general of



Canada. Just this morning, I met with a diverse group of Muslim women, representing every walk of life. I found the exchange very informative, and extremely rewarding. And now, it is a great pleasure to join you here today, to share in this very special celebration and pursue my national dialogue."

It appeared unnecessarily provocative to some in attendance that the Governor General chose to meet that Sunday morning with Muslim women, seemingly as a counterpoint to the Jewish group. For them, the event was about the anniversary, their own attachment to Canada. Surely this could have stood on its own and did not need to be juxtaposed with the concerns of another interest.

On the one-year anniversary of her installation, the Governor General established a blog and an interactive forum for individuals to write about issues that are important to Her Excellency: belonging, youth, women and culture. Announced with some fanfare, the Governor General has only contributed on a few occasions and anyone with the notion that they would be in a written dialogue with her was mistaken. Of course, this initiative was risky: it could unintentionally draw the Crown's representative into discussion of matters that may be under active political consideration. In this regard, it was surprising that the site, www.citizenvoices.gg.ca would include blogging from David Suzuki. While he is highly regarded by most Canadians, there are some who may disagree with his views, and the environment as a topic lay outside the forum's original objectives. In this regard, this initiative still seems to be finding its way and is not perhaps the best way of bringing Canadians together. Indeed, most contributions must be vetted and edited and are reviewed during regular government business hours, to the contrary of how most users view the web: interactive 24/7/365, without censorship. There are many other forums more effectively providing this outlet.

Another initiative championed by both the Governor General and M.

Lafond is called "Art Matters," a talk shop attached to events such as the Governor General's Performing Arts, Literary and Visual Arts Awards. M. Lafond explains it as follows:

"To the official ceremony, we have added a forum for reflection and dialogue that will allow us to examine a particular artistic practice and to explore the changes and challenges of audiovisual creation and the public's response to it. Completely relieved of any budgetary or political debate, these discussions are part of a series entitled *Art Matters*, intended to observe culture in motion. These discussions will feature a dialogue between key figures and citizens."

It remains to be seen what this initiative, like many other forums, roundtables, blogs and other "talking shops", will actually achieve in a tangible way. The Governor General's cultural awards are great celebratory occasions: they provide a forum naturally through informal dialogue at dinners and ceremonies as well as speeches by the participants, sometimes extemporaneous in nature. Whether the recipients and others will want to participate fully in a forum of this kind, divorced from political figures or policy makers, remains to be seen.

"It is with enormous pride that I serve as your commander-in-chief. When I wear the Order of Military Merit on your behalf, it is to remind Canadians of the exceptional service you perform for all of us."

With remarks such as the foregoing, the Governor General suggested that she does not always appreciate the nuances of the position – that she does not wear decorations on behalf of people, but rather by virtue of her position as a personification of the role she plays. This concern over her inability to articulate herself clearly about the role and deftly steer around contentious issues placed her in some difficulty with the media with interviews she gave to mark her one year anniversary. In Quebec, some remarks she made were interpreted as singling out Quebecers and lecturing them to get out and about more widely. She clarified

these remarks to indicate that she felt that all Canadians, on both sides of the language divide, needed to know each other better, but this hardly followed her own admonition at her Installation that Canadians should move beyond the solitudes. If anything, they tend to reinforce this view. Her speculation about behind-the-scenes considerations she had on dissolution, added to the comments made by her predecessor, also tended to complicate matters for the Office and gave rise to concern that she may not understand her role and just how literally she takes the notion of being the Head of State.

The Queen's Representative *"conduct has been troubling"*

It is in the role as the Queen's representative that the Governor General's conduct has been troubling to supporters of the institution. A statement made by a media affairs staff member to the effect that "it is our policy not to refer to The Queen in press releases or statements" perhaps sums up what many had come to believe about Rideau Hall in recent years. This has been the direction of the Governor General's Office under her predecessor, and it now seems clear that Madame Jean has no plans to alter it.

At the swearing-in of the new government, it was noted that the controversial Lemieux painting of The Queen & The Duke of Edinburgh had been moved to the back of the Ballroom at Rideau Hall, the principal location for Canadian State ceremonies. It was replaced by his 1964 *Charlottetown Revisited*. The latter was commissioned as one of three Confederation murals created to celebrate the opening of the Confederation Centre of the Arts in 1964. A bleak painting, it makes Rideau Hall's Ballroom surely the only room of its type amongst The Queen's realms where a portrait of The Queen does not look upon the assembled gathering for national occasions. Instead, the audience now has their back to it.

Even our American cousins would be surprised to see the ability of the temporary occupants of the nation's home to

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make changes to it to suit their will. When one visits the White House, one expects the Blue Room to be Blue, the Red Room to be red and Martha and George Washington to be hanging in the East Room. It is surprising that changes are being made so quickly and easily to what is the nation's built heritage. An opportunity to champion new official portraits of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh in these last years of the reign, a project which could have had special

meaning with the celebrations to mark the Sovereign's 80th birthday, was not taken. But this was not the only omission for the birthday.

Of particular concern was the absence of the Governor General from the Service of Thanksgiving in London in June 2006. It was known for some time that there would be a Service at St. Paul's, one of the key events celebrating The Queen's birthday. It was with some surprise that Canadians and their government learned

that there would be no representation at St. Paul's, given that the realms were represented only by their Governors General. Present were Australia and New Zealand, notwithstanding their great distance, as well as Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Solomon Islands and Grenada – but not Canada. Given Canada's position as the senior of The Queen's realms this was all the more surprising. On questioning, Rideau Hall staff disingenuously suggested that an event with school children in Toronto the day prior was the reason, thus motivating some to feel that she had set her priorities correctly, when in fact, anyone familiar with such events knows that they can be scheduled with some discretion. Her Excellency also attended the opening of the new Opera House in Toronto, which was a self-congratulatory event primarily for donors and supporters. It was unfortunate that all sorts of reasons were provided for the omission in the Governor General's schedule, and it is telling that Rideau Hall is not better plugged into coordination with Buckingham Palace for such an important occasion.

Rideau Hall

"turmoil in the Official Household"

Of concern to those who value the constancy and heritage of life at Rideau Hall has been the apparent abolition of the New Year's Levée and the Governor General's Garden Party. These events, held at New Year's and near Canada Day respectively, have been an important core of all Governors General's yearly calendars, and a distinctive aspect of Canadiana. The opportunity for any citizen to exchange New Year's greetings or best wishes on our national day with the representative of the Head of State could only be envied by most citizens of countries around the world. It is curious that these national traditions have not formed part of the Governor General's schedule, and one wonders why. If the issue is budget, then surely a sense of priority should attach to these initiatives as compared with other aspects of Rideau Hall operations – for they are egalitarian, being open to all. They also represent an unbroken connection to the beginnings of the Office – the levée, with the French governors and the Garden Party, dating from Confederation. It is troubling that these important aspects of our heritage have been discontinued.

Unlike most western democracies, ceremonies which are distinctive and time-honoured have also been subject to revision. The ceremony whereby Ambassadors and High Commissioners present their Letters of Credence at Rideau Hall appears to have been changed again after the modifications made by Madame Clarkson, disrupting a ceremony which had been in place since Canada started receiving foreign representatives following the Statute of Westminster. It is unfortunate that these events, important in the life of the new diplomat and for relations between countries, are now apparently subject to change by each Governor General.

The Governor General and Her Government

"collision course"?

In the late fall of 2006, a number of media articles gave the overriding impression that the Governor General and her government were on a collision course. "Governor General and PM bare-

ly speaking" said the Toronto Star. "Will Jean thwart election call?" asked Chantal Hebert. Of concern was a low-key dinner the Governor General held for the visiting President of Afghanistan. While not a State Visit, this visit necessitated a call on the Governor General, who returned specifically from La Citadelle to receive him. When the Minister of Foreign Affairs was unable to attend the dinner, the Governor General was left with no political figure in attendance to balance with those drawn from aid groups who were not entirely pleased with Canadian policy in the region and the Canadian Forces in particular.

When ultimately the Governor General was prevailed upon to have the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs in attendance, he was left to defend and explain government policy amongst a stacked deck. Given the stakes in Afghanistan and the personal involvement of the Prime Minister in the management of the relationship, this placed everyone involved in an awkward position. Later public musings of the desire of the Governor General to travel to Afghanistan suggested she did not appreciate the sensitivity of the region and the security concerns. Given that the Canadian Forces have been facing unprecedented violence in the region, along with the number of VIP visits that they have supported, it was an imposition to suggest another visit last year, particularly given the necessity for extensive security for a traveling Commander-in-Chief in the region.

All of this is evidence of the turmoil in which the Official Household of the Governor General has been in the past year and a half. The unusual departure of Barbara Uteck as Secretary to the Governor General in the spring of 2006, just six months into Madame Jean's time, seemed to lead to a period of some instability and lack of clarity of who led the more than 150 staff. The arrival of a new Secretary in the fall, Sheila-Marie Cook, an Albertan with experience in the federal bureaucracy, seemed to take an overly long period and led to a sense of drift over the year. This was evident not just to the media by the political trouble in which Rideau Hall found itself, but by many people across Canada for whom basic correspondence such as congratulatory letters, requests for patronage and

Excerpts From The Governor General's Engagement Diary

Feb 12-14 – Makes first official visit to Nova Scotia

Jan 25-27 – Visits Calgary

Nov 10 – Accepts Honorary Doctorate of Letters from McGill University

Nov 8 – Holds a Luncheon for the Crown Prince of Belgium during his working visit to Canada

Nov 5 – Unveils the Valiants Memorial, Ottawa

Oct 24 – Holds a State Dinner at Rideau Hall to welcome The King and Queen of Sweden

Sept 20 – Welcomes the President of Latvia to La Citadelle, the first time a Head of State has been officially received in that location

Aug 13 – Opens XVI International AIDS Conference, Toronto.



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invitations were not replied to in a timely way, if at all. It is hoped that these aspects of the operation will be more expeditiously handled in the balance of the term.

Travel Abroad

“a visiting rock star” – “it would have been well-advised for a Minister to be privy to all the discussions that took place”

The Governor General has undertaken a significant amount of travel outside the country, clearly at the government's request, but very much in keeping with the pattern established by her most recent predecessor of representing Canada at several international events. Shortly after her installation she went to Juno Beach with a delegation of Aboriginal veterans. 2006 saw her in Italy for the Winter Olympics, with a stop in Rome to visit the Pope. In addition, she represented Canada at the Inauguration of the President of Chile, a woman, to which she was one of the few guests at the Head of State level from outside Latin

America. Shortly thereafter, she paid an emotional homecoming to Haiti where she was received as a superstar in her home village and in the country generally.

In late 2006, the Madame Jean led a delegation of ten on State Visits to Algeria, Mali, Ghana, South Africa, and an Official Visit to Morocco. According to government information (which incorrectly identified the visit, even on the GG's website, as a State Visit to Africa, a continent, when only countries can receive State Visits), this trip allowed Her Excellency to witness how Canadian and African partners work together to achieve development results in Africa and how dedicated Canadians in sub-Saharan and North Africa have advanced the values and goals we cherish as a nation. Through trips to Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) projects, each stop highlighted Canada's support for African development and the significant results achieved through partnerships.

These series of visits seemed to strike

the right balance between the Governor General's non-political posture and the legitimate desire for the representative of Canada's Head of State to be welcomed by countries which wish to thank us or emphasize good diplomatic relations. Canada is clearly held in high esteem in many countries in Africa and in many nations throughout the world where we have been major aid donors. The Governor General's reception on the trip (compared to that for a visiting rock star) was certainly evidence of that esteem. At the same time, these are the kinds of countries that the Prime Minister may be unable to visit, given the necessity of his focus on the G8 relationships as well as evolving international issues.

What is of concern is the necessity for the Government to be represented on trips of this kind to avoid the impression that the Governor General is in any way conducting foreign policy with other governments. It is not clear which political figures accompanied the Governor General to Haiti. Given the importance of Canada's involvement in that country, it would have been well-advised for a Minister to be privy to all the discussions that took place. In addition, in Africa, a parliamentary delegation should have been present to provide a political insight into Canada and, like Haiti, it would have been useful to have political figures witness the warmth of the reception for both Canada and the Governor General herself, in addition to providing insight into the future for Canadian development funding in the region.

The Way Ahead

There is no doubt that, 18 months into their time at Rideau Hall, we are in uncharted waters in terms of the role of Governor General vis à vis Michaëlle Jean and Jean-Daniel Lafond. Those who support the Monarchy in Canada and those that believe in the institution the Governor General represents feel uneasy and concerned, particularly when it was organizations such as the Monarchist League that gave her the benefit of the doubt and provided significant support to her during the choppy seas of her transition. It did not escape the notice of many that it was the Sovereign herself who came to the rescue of Madame Jean herself with the photo opportunity supplied of the young family at Balmoral which ran on the front page of most newspapers in Canada during Labour Day weekend in 2005. More than any other intervention, this photograph lent the personal prestige of The Queen and the mystique of the Crown to Madame Jean and helped to put paid the controversy which existed at that time. Along with her own renunciation of French citizenship and her statement clarifying her loyalty to Canada, it put in place a series of events leading to her own very successful and inspiring Installation Address.

If it was Paul Martin's intent for Madame Jean to be used as a balm to help with the ongoing sovereignty debate, it appears that this will not be the

case. And if Madame Jean is to “briser les solitudes” with discussion groups and talk, it is not clear how these efforts will tangibly do so. Her remarks still tend to reinforce the view that she sees herself speaking for or to Quebecers, rather than for all Canadians. And the potential for misinterpretation and difficulty still exists in the activities of her husband as in some of the undertakings she has started.

This somewhat uneasy state of affairs is a great pity, as there is no doubt that Canadians are drawn to Michaëlle Jean and the triumph she represents as an immigrant from a troubled country, a working mother and a caring daughter. Her personality is magnetic: all would like to see her succeed. But it is clear that her learning curve in this position is rather longer than might have been anticipated. She must work closely with the government she has been given by Canadians to ensure that the institution is not brought into controversy. And given the possibility of a constitutional



fracas in this time of potential successive minority Parliaments, she must do everything she can in order to ensure that she is able credibly to execute her constitutional duties.

It also seems odd to some that the Governor General would undertake initiatives which tend to distance herself and the institution from the Crown when these same supporters were the bedrock of her support in some very difficult days. In the years left in the mandate, there will be many opportunities for Madame Jean to show her loyalty to the Crown and respect for the work that The Queen does and the role that she has played in Canada over the longest reign in Canadian history. Madame Jean has much to recommend her in the vibrant youthful face she places on the institution, but she must pilot the most careful course to respect the heritage of the position while steering clear of many minefields.



Towards The Diamond Jubilee: A Monarchist Wish List

An Agenda for Monarchists – and a pro-Monarchical Government!

The arrival of a new government in Ottawa provides an opportunity for monarchists to consider what realistic and practical actions should be taken by a federal government supportive of the Crown in Canada as we approach the Diamond Jubilee. Here is one monarchist's list.

1. The Queen's Reign

"It is demeaning to our whole nation for government officials to show disrespect for such a long-serving and successful head of State."

First, it must be said emphatically that The Queen is our Head of State, our Sovereign. The majority of Canadians cannot recall a time when we have had any other individual on the Throne; indeed it happens that the present Governor General and Prime Minister are the first to have been both born in Her Majesty's reign. The length of this reign and The Queen's devotion to her role and Canada, in particular amongst her realms, is nothing short of remarkable. Even detractors of the current constitutional arrangements recognize these facts. Every opportunity to celebrate this dedication and service should be taken and maximized.

Canadians who believe in the Crown must always remain vigilant that Her Majesty's role in Canada is referred to correctly by the government and the media to ensure that false impressions are not given. Come what may in the future, it serves no one's ends to misname The Queen's role in Canadian discourse. Any legitimate debate around the institution should always be from the basis of facts rather than a misstatement of constitutional realities. Federal Government Departments, particularly Rideau Hall, the Privy Council Office, Canadian Heritage and Foreign Affairs should be instructed to ensure that they always refer to The Queen with her Canadian title and enunciate that Her Majesty's is our Head of State.

This role must be differentiated from that of the Governor General who, as The Queen's representative performs fully most of the duties of The Queen – but she is not the Head of State. Opportunities such as The Queen's upcoming Diamond Jubilee and other events in The Queen's life should be marked and celebrated commensurate with the commitment and dedication that Her Majesty has shown for Canada. It is demeaning to our whole nation for government officials to show disrespect for such a long-serving and successful head of State and few other countries would tolerate this ambiguity, which is unseemly from a G8 nation such as Canada. The efforts of federal organizations such as Canada Post and the Royal Canadian Mint, which have to their great credit emphasized the links between The Queen and Canada in recent years, should be supported. While one must be realistic about the likelihood of future homecomings by the Monarch owing to the age of The Queen herself, opportunities for Her Majesty to remain in touch with Canadians and Canada in the United Kingdom through visits by Ministers and participation in war-time commemorative events (such as the Vimy Ridge re-dedication) where Canadians served in Europe should be fully explored. The notion that The Queen

ceases to be our Queen outside Canada should be wholly discounted.

2. The Heir to the Throne & his Family

"There are few political leaders in the western world today who are willing to put their families in harm's way like our Royal Family."

The Prince of Wales is the Heir to our Throne and every opportunity should be taken by the government to provide additional occasions for HRH to connect with Canadians and to be involved in the life of the country. In recent years, as the Prince has resolved his own marital situation, there has been a more rational examination of his contribution to issues and charities. In the UK, more and more of the day to day role of the Sovereign is, where possible, being transferred to HRH. This is particularly true in the international travel load increasingly borne by the Prince of Wales & Duchess of Cornwall on behalf of The Queen: we should expect to see him more and our governments must facilitate this. It is not possible for HRH to visit Canada without government involvement given his constitutional position. A recent group of Canadians who are active in issues of interest to the Prince visited a number of the Prince's Charities in the United Kingdom and found a deeply engaged social entrepreneur along the lines they did not expect. There would be a deep connection between Canadians and The Prince in many areas, not the least of which is the environment, education, opportunities for youth-at-risk, the built environment and the arts. The Prince's Charities are the largest multi-cause charitable enterprise in the United Kingdom and there are many organizations in Canada which are sympathetic to the aims of these charities which would welcome the involvement and interest of The Prince of Wales in their activities here. As HRH has shown, this will not be an empty patronage, but one which is active and engaged. Canadians have a right to know their future King well and there is ample evidence to suggest that when the public focuses on the work of the Prince of Wales they feel impressed and proud of his long-term and innovative perspective.

HRH and his sons are exemplars of action leading to results in the charitable world, and Princes William and Harry are important examples of willingness to serve in the Armed Services in a time of armed conflict. There are few political leaders in the western world today who are willing to put their families in harm's way like our Royal Family. The Prince himself is Colonel-in-Chief of Canadian Regiments who are in Afghanistan. The young Princes should be introduced to Canada and given an opportunity to connect in their own ways. While Prince William is undergoing familiarization with the other services in the Armed Forces in addition to the Army, he could be sent on exchange with Canadian Forces as other officers are.

Recognizing the sensitivities of Canadians, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall let be known their wish to visit Canada before the United States but this was not acted upon by the Canadian Government. This is a pity. The Duchess herself has historic family

links in the Hamilton, Ontario area through the McNab family who built Dundurn Castle; exploring this connection would bring to light an interesting aspect of our shared history which should be more well-known to Canadians.

3. Symbols of the Crown

"...these symbols are sometimes victims of re-branding exercises or changed with misguided or dishonest intention."

Symbols of the Crown are Canadian icons and are found everywhere. They exist in our subconscious and emphasize that we are a monarchy with civil authority exercised on behalf of the Crown. However, these symbols are sometimes victims of re-branding exercises or changed with misguided or dishonest intention. In recent years, the loss of the Crown in the highly-visible badge of Canada Customs (now the Canadian Border Services Agency) and Parks Canada are two sad examples.

Organizations with Royal Patrons, with "Royal" designation in their title and with Royal symbology in their Coats of Arms, should be encouraged to value this heritage. Federal agencies should clearly respect their heritage and symbols should not be changed surreptitiously or without consideration of the consequences.

4. Canadian at the Palace

"...it would seem high time that Canada resumed the practice of providing an individual to serve at either Buckingham Palace or Clarence House."

In the present reign, The Queen has on several occasions been served by Canadians at the Palace. Indeed, other realms have also provided individuals for the Royal Household, including at least one Private Secretary from Australia. In 1997, the Government of Canada was offered an opportunity to provide a secondment for a Commonwealth position which had been created at Buckingham Palace. This was considered quite seriously but not acted upon by the Government. When the matter was raised in Parliament at the instigation of the Monarchist League of Canada, the Prime Minister of the day, Mr. Chretien, suggested it would be considered in the future and Canada would take its place in the next rotation.

The Prince of Wales has a secondee from the Commonwealth supported by the private sector in his household; it would seem high time that Canada resumed the practice of providing an individual to serve at either Buckingham Palace or Clarence House, who could be helpful to several Households in their dealings with Canada.

The Government can easily make this happen on the same basis as its locating public servants at the High Commission in London – and it is likely to be of much utility in London. It would also help to ensure that the Palace considers views from realms of The Queen outside the UK on a day to day basis for issues great and small.

5. State Ceremonial

"...this area more appropriately belongs...closer to the Prime Minister"

A key area of the Government of Canada which deals with Royal and vice-

regal matters is State Ceremonial, buried in the bureaucracy of Canadian Heritage. This Directorate has responsibility for organizing royal visits as well as administering the federal obligations towards Lieutenant Governors and other aspects of protocol such as the Governor General's Installation, State Funerals and half-masting of the Canadian Flag on federal property.

Given the importance of some of these tasks and the potential for information and direction to be lost when activities are buried within four or five levels of bureaucracy, it might be well-advised for the Prime Minister to reconsider the organizational setting of State Ceremonial. Most provincial governments as well as most other Commonwealth Realms locate these functions in Cabinet or central agencies. It may be time to consider that this area more appropriately belongs in the Privy Council Office, thus closer to the Prime Minister and responsible to the Cabinet as a whole rather than one Minister.

It is likely that this type of change would enable the Prime Minister's wishes to be more effectively reflected in the relationship with the Palace, the Royal Family and the Crown and less to be less subject to interference from non-supportive bureaucrats who may have their own agenda.

6. The Governor General and Lieutenant Governors

"...the House of Commons vetting appointments...would be an unseemly environment for choosing the representatives of our Head of State."

The Governor General and Lieutenant Governors are key appointments which bring to life on a daily basis the role the Crown plays in our governments and in community life. They do the heavy lifting of representing the Crown in our system. In recent years, these positions have enjoyed a renaissance thanks to creative, interesting and in most cases, non-partisan appointments.

While the responsibility for the appointments rests with the federal prime minister, there is nothing preventing the first minister from undertaking wide consultations, while preserving the right to make the final decision. Other federal party leaders should be consulted when making the appointment of the Governor General; provincial premiers are owed the same courtesy over the appointment of the lieutenant governor.

But this process must be conducted out of the public eye. Recent experience with the Committees in the House of Commons vetting appointments suggests that this process would be an unseemly environment for choosing the representatives of our Head of State. Adrienne Clarkson's recent suggestion in this regard was surprising and ill-considered.

In the past ten years, these appointments have been made with greater skill than in the past. It is clear that a pattern is emerging whereby Canadians expect that we will have active and engaged citizens who are well-known for their accomplishments and commitment to their communities. These posts are active and engaged ones and not retirement sinecures for politicians, but constitute the apex of a career. At the same time, they are really not intended for the occu-

pan's vice-regal role to act as a stepping stone on a career ladder. Rather, the best come near the end of an appointee's working life. Canadians want wisdom as well as a lot of life experience in these roles, people who have something to say about their country and who are unquestionably loyal and committed to the Crown and to Canada. The recent appointments by Mr. Harper are good examples of these.

Once appointed, governments have a responsibility to provide adequate resources and to defend these appointees' spending in their legislatures and in the media. The Crown's representatives, who often have a fair degree of discretion in their activities and budgets, also have a responsibility to ensure that they are operating in a defensible way and notwithstanding the special nature of the Office, that they are open and accessible in dealings with the media, legislators and the public.

7. Our Royal Family

"...the continuing interest by Canadians in meeting with and seeing their Royal Family and on the part of the Royal Family in personal contact with Canadians has essentially been privatized."

Members of The Queen's Family, aside from the Prince of Wales, have many links to Canada but seem increasingly prevented from furthering these involvements. The Duke of York was educated for a year in Ontario, the Earl of Wessex has traveled extensively in Canada and many members of the Royal Family serve as Colonels-in-Chief to Regiments in the Canadian Forces, a responsibility they take seriously. The Queen's cousins, the Kents, also have links to Canada through the Forces and within their own families.

In recent years, there has been a sharp decline and paucity of official Royal visits to Canada. An informal review suggests that while there were more than 26 official visits at the invitation of Governments in the 1980s, by the 90s they had dwindled to 5; and there have only been two since the year 2000. At the same time "working" (incorrectly dubbed "private") visits have gone from 14 in the 80s to 32 in the 90s and 20 thus far this century. So the continuing interest by Canadians in meeting with and seeing their Royal Family and on the part of the Royal Family in personal contact with Canadians has essentially been privatized.

While some working visits have had great impact and in particular, the Earl & Countess of Wessex through the Duke of Edinburgh's programme have endeavoured to include a large number of charities and organizations in their frequent visits, the absence of the structure and support of an official visit leaves a big gap. It means that visits must be funded by non-profit organizations thus taking funds and fund-raising away from other tasks. It can also leave Regiments and other sectors of society who may not be able to pay for a visit without the ability to be involved. Small towns in various regions will not likely be included on an itinerary under such an approach.

This area of protocol requires reworking such that the visits are available to provinces without the federal involvement in some cases, giving some provinces greater flexibility to encourage visits. There also must be consideration given to the important responsibility members of the Royal Family feel toward the Armed Forces. Official visits must be encouraged so that members of The Queen's family can connect with Canadians and play a role in our nation-

al life. Members of the Royal Family have in the past and can continue to play a key role in important local celebrations, adding a highlight to events. When combined with Regimental duties, they emphasize an important aspect of service in our society. Increasingly, the role played by members of the Royal Family on their working visits in assisting organizations through their fund-raising by attending events or by increasing awareness in the media of their activities has played a key and coveted role for many groups. It is regrettable that governments appear to have abandoned this area, but it should be revisited, with the provinces and Canadian Forces playing a key role.

8. The Royal Prerogative Powers & our Constitution

"As monarchists, we should welcome debate about limiting the executive's use of the royal prerogative powers..."

The Royal Prerogative powers – those aspects of government which are not laid down in statute law and those that are conferred specifically on the Queen or her representatives in our written constitution – are essentially exercised by the Prime Minister, sometimes together with the Cabinet.

In an era when Canadians have been concerned about over-concentration of power in the hands of their First Ministers, it does not serve the Crown well for these powers to be held for partisan advantage. The prerogative powers include the power to dissolve legislatures and set election dates, but also public appointments and the legislative advantages to the government such as the ability to propose money bills, known as the "Royal Recommendation". Attention must be given to the overuse of Orders-in-Council which in effect legislate about many aspects of daily life. These are approved by the Crown's representatives (there were more than 2,000 in the federal government last year alone with most provinces matching this total) and are a little-known but key way of governing, covering items from the mundane to momentous.

Orders-in-Council are far more important than the Royal Assent given to legislation, but much less visible. As monarchists we should welcome debate about limiting the executive's use of the royal prerogative powers particularly where, in the modern age, these lead to abuse and too much concentration of power. They tend to bring disrepute to the Crown and its representatives, and by potentially injecting them into controversy, could deter them from focusing on the important task of serving as a non-partisan and neutral part of civic life, a role which can only be played by the Crown in our system.

Initiatives at the federal level in some provinces to set fixed election dates and to vet appointments as well as to be more transparent in the exercise of some of these powers should be welcomed and debated on their merits. It serves no one to have these powers periodically abused by the political sector, and for Canadians to feel that they are the necessary by-product of being a constitutional monarchy.

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The foregoing suggestions are developed to provoke discussion and to stir to action Ministers and parliamentarians who genuinely believe that their Canada includes "The Queen". In most cases, these ideas are cost-neutral and in many, they would result in a stronger profile for the Crown in Canada as we move into the sunset years of the present reign.

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Kenney on slavery ~ Wente on Clarkson ~ Hallsor & Palace on HM

"When *The Star Spangled Banner* was being composed in Chesapeake Bay during the War of 1812, black slaves were swimming out to British ships in the hope of escaping to Canada. Although the Americans tended to view themselves as the unique beacon of freedom, liberty was more widely practised in our British society. Here the Crown asked for allegiance rather than conformity to a universal creed. Thus was incubated the accommodation of differences that has evolved into present-day Canadian pluralism—one more reason to cherish the history of our constitutional monarchy."

From an op-ed piece, written by Hon Jason Kenney, PC, MP, in the National Post, February 28, 2007.

"In her book, the former Governor General [Adrienne Clarkson] compares herself both to Tolstoy and Simone de Beauvoir, praises the culture and refinement of various visiting dictators and reveals her profound admiration for Russian President Vladimir Putin. She



Former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson

also takes swings at those whom she cordially (or not so cordially) detests, most notably the constitutionally ignorant Paul Martin and his unelected band of ill-dressed thugs. (Her descriptions, not mine.) She slams the "ignorant and malicious" people who dared to criticize her controversial circumpolar tour, and – although the name Michaëlle Jean is never mentioned – leaves the firm impression that she thinks her successor is woefully unqualified for the job. Meow!"

Margaret Wente, writing in The Globe and Mail, September 16, 2006.

"We often overlook the intense loyalty and love the Māori people have for the Queen – probably more intense than many people of European descent. This is a history that's never going to die."

From an interview with New Zealand Governor General Dame Sylvia Cartwright in The New Zealand Herald, July 29, 2006

"The case for constitutional monarchy has rarely been better illustrated than by King Bhumipol of Thailand, who celebrated the 60th anniversary of his accession on June 9...Bhumipol has played his role perfectly, keeping his nation's chaotic politics at arm's length, tirelessly visiting every remotest corner of his kingdom, initiating countless apolitical projects for the relief, education and health of Thailand's numerous poor, and serving... as an exemplar of domestic virtue and modest piety... For 60 years, Thailand has been blessed by a king worthy of the title."

Leader in National Review, July 3, 2006.

"She did not ask for the duties that fell to her, but she has done them conscientiously, and we know that she will keep doing them for as many days as she is given. This is why we honour and celebrate her life in this service today. That is

why we can proudly say of our Queen ... She has served her people ... She has earned, and kept our respect ... she has been an example ... She has done her duty."

From remarks by Bruce Hallsor, past Chairman, Victoria Branch, Monarchist League of Canada, at Service of Thanksgiving for HM's 80th Birthday, June 16, 2006.

"Last week, a Buckingham Palace official even confided to me that The Queen expects, with the support of her family, still to be working at the age of 90. Yes, 90...The emotion that The Queen inspires is one of unbelligerent tenderness... She was born to her office and could not avoid it. Her duties were not chosen, and she symbolises, through her dedicated life, the sacrifices upon which nations depend and of which they become conscious when threatened."

Royal Biographer William Shawcross, writing in The Daily Telegraph, April 16, 2006.

"The most obvious slight has been the failure of the Canadian government to recommend to The Queen that [Brian Mulroney] be appointed to the Order of the Companions of Honour. Part of the Canadian honours system, by tradition this Commonwealth order has been conferred on long-serving Canadian heads



The Queen with Brian Mulroney – no CH?

of government. Pierre Trudeau and John Diefenbaker each received the Order. Lester Pearson and William Lyon Mackenzie King received a similar honour, the Order of Merit... it is a situation that Mr Harper now has the power to put right."

Leader in the National Post, February 19, 2006.

*What is your
Monarchist
agenda for
the Harper
government?*

Email your thoughts to

*Bob Finch,
Dominion Chairman,
at chiefopo@monarchist.ca*

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL & HER MINISTERS

Autumn found the media raising questions over the appropriateness of The Governor General's role vis à vis the dinner she hosted for the President of Afghanistan – asking whether she was trying to create an independent foreign policy and proceed without ministerial advice. Reports surfaced that the government would not allow her to visit our troops in Afghanistan. Then it was revealed that Mme Jean hardly ever saw, let alone enjoyed substantive discussion with, her Prime Minister. More recently, as reflected in Fidelis' article elsewhere in this CMN, senior Ministers of Mr Harper's government have been open in their criticism of The Queen's representative.

Of course, it is entirely proper and useful for the Governor General to make sure that she has access to a wide assortment of voices and opinions on all issues of national debate and concern. But this process is most useful when it is done out of the public/media eye, as it is only with such discretion that a Governor General can then pass on to her Prime Minister and government what she hears and senses in a context within which the government will be willing to listen, weigh and profit from that advice even if it runs contrary to its current policy and/or its political interest.

Additionally, the Governor General, as Commander in Chief, clearly has a special interest in the well-being of HM's Canadian Forces. However, this aspect of her position does not give her a policy role – but, as always, the right to encourage, warn and advise.

If it is indeed true, as media reports have alleged, that the Governor General and Prime Minister had for many months not sat down one on one with each other, this is to be regretted – and inevitably the result is media mischief and greater misunderstanding, not to mention the lack of possibly valuable exchanges.

It is imperative than when hosting foreign heads of state, especially ones with whom there exists a conjunction of interests that is charged and controversial, and when the setting is more than a one-on-one meeting – which factors were true of the much-discussed dinner with Mr Karzai – that there be no question of any perception arising that the Governor General is conducting her own foreign policy, or advancing a personal agenda or differing in any way from her Ministers who have the sole constitutional responsibility to conduct Canada's foreign policy. This becomes the more vital in a minority Parliament with a relatively new government; and this advice carries even more weight when that government might feel, justifiably or not, that the incumbent Governor General is very much a creature/reflection of the previous government which recommended her appointment.

It certainly does not help the Governor General or the prestige of her Office, for reports to persist that a very different message from the Ministry's views is being conveyed to the President of Afghanistan under her auspices and roof and, some would say, with deliberate intent. (Just in the same way as it would not be helpful for her to express a contrary opinion to that of her government

on any controversial matter.) It might be in this instance that at this moment a majority of public opinion could seem more sympathetic to those views as opposed to the Government's position; but a Governor General who at any time is seen to court favour with public and/or media in a way embarrassing to or inimical to the interests of her Advisors, in the long run intrudes the Office and thus the Crown into the partisan political process; almost invites the media and the Opposition parties to take advantage of the apparent division of opinion; and so threatens the short-term relationship network and long-term credibility and survival of the institution whose sole basis of credibility is in partisan neutrality and absolute discretion.

This all unfolds in the ironic context whereby many at Rideau Hall, during recent incumbencies, have promoted the view that the Governor General is "Head of State," in fact for all intents and purposes The Sovereign's equal. Were this true, there would arise the perception that in the present case, the Governor General is not acting exactly as a constitutional monarch but rather like a political "player." For The Queen would never dream of letting herself be put into a situation whereby the present controversy would occur. And even if such a report were to surface, her impeccable conduct over many decades would lead all to doubt the veracity of those reports. Rideau Hall cannot have its cake and eat it too! Ironically, this sort of contretemps might tempt any Prime Minister in future to recommend to Her Majesty the appointment as Governor General of amiable non-entities rather than individuals of distinct excellence and sophisticated intelligence. Whether this really serves the interest of the Office and the country is for those at Rideau Hall to assess.

The present situation of obvious uneasiness between governor and government underscores the fact that, lacking institutional memory at the senior level, and apparently without close ties to the present Ministry, this Governor General stands in sore need of appointments to her Household of experienced and seasoned hands. Those talents are available. They may need to be thrust onto Rideau Hall.

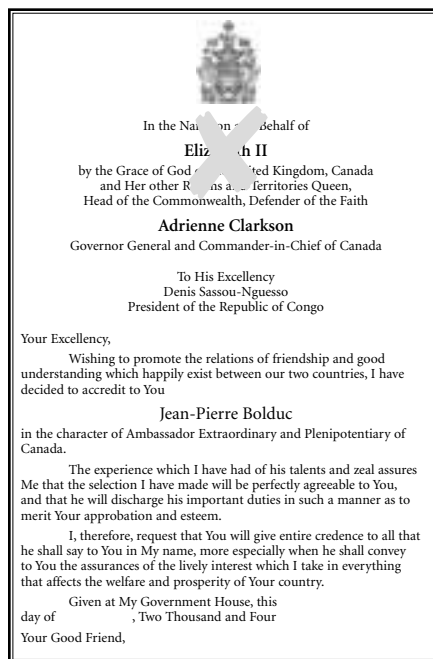
CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP: PRISONS OF HISPANIOLA AND CANADA

The Governor General traveled to the Supreme Court of Canada on February 16th in order to preside over a special Ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of Canadian Citizenship, established in 1947. Incredibly, her remarks made no reference whatsoever to The Queen, exemplar of good citizenship, to whom the members of the eighteen families joining the full life of our nation were about to swear allegiance. In her remarks, Her Excellency appropriately referred to her own pride at obtaining citizenship after her escape from Haiti, "which had become a prison for my family because of its ruthless dictatorship." How appropriate would have been a segue to the sentiment uttered by her spouse, M. LaFond, in a different context "And so it was with pride I swore allegiance – as you are about to do – to The Queen of Canada, who loves her people and whose constitu-

tional position exemplifies freedom." Has Mme Jean perhaps exchanged her difficult life in Haiti for a prison of a different kind, thralldom to novel constitutional theories enunciated by some at Rideau Hall?

LETTERS OF CREDENCE: INCREDIBLE!

The Harper government has been stalled in its good Monarchical intentions in respect to the Letters of Credence issue. Put simply, the Martin government (with no fanfare, during the Christmas holiday two years ago) removed The Queen's name from the diplomatic letters by which Ambassadors are exchanged amongst civilized nations. It was



argued – sound familiar? – that everything the Governor General does is in The Queen's name, so what's the big deal? Powerful forces in the Foreign Affairs Department claimed that the old nomenclature "confused" other countries. Twaddle! The notion that the concept of HM's shared sovereignty taxes the intelligence of sophisticated diplomats when any schoolchild can grasp it in five minutes boggles the mind! Sadly, though not surprisingly, complicit in these new arrangements was Rideau Hall, ever seeking to position the Governor General as some sort of potentate independent of The Queen. And in the meantime, a similar course has been adopted by Australia and New Zealand.

Of course, we respect our Sovereign's wise concern about the matter becoming an undignified political football, tossed back and forth between successive minority governments. And in 2007 there is no need to follow bygone practice and shuttle these Letters between Palace and GG. But if Mr Harper should obtain his majority, might he not feel able to advise Her Majesty that these Letters' wording be restored to reflect constitutional reality?

All that is needed – without requiring so much as an Order-in-Council – is to reinstate The Queen's Titles and "On behalf of and in the name of Elizabeth II." We feel certain Mr Harper will continue to do his best to make rectify this admittedly obscure but no less significant piece of extra-constitutional obfuscation which he inherited. The PM would thus both re-affirm The Queen as Canada's Head of State and rebuke the Foreign Affairs bureaucrats determined to deny this proud reality.

MICHAEL JACKSON, CVO: MOST LOYAL SERVANT OF THE MAPLE CROWN

The name of Michael Jackson rings familiarly to readers of CMN. For decades from his Prairie redoubt he has presided over a host of initiatives monarchical which have in turn inspired his colleagues and friends in the Vice-Regal, Protocol and Honours and Awards fields across our land. He has placed Saskatchewan in the forefront of an imaginative and complete Honours System – of themed Royal Homecomings, carefully conceived and thoughtfully executed, both official and working; of creating a most glorious equestrian statue honouring our Queen; and, above all, of educating his confrères, as his fellow citizens, in the importance of the system of governance we have inherited and adapted as our own. He has done all this and much more with the complete support of Premiers and Ministers and backbenchers representing all political parties in the shifting sands of the province's politics.



Frugal in habits yet large in vision; a private person and devoted husband and father who has truly been able to "walk with Kings nor lose the common touch"; a man of faith who, son of an Archbishop, serves as a Perpetual Deacon of his Church; a skilled practitioner of the exacting art of simultaneous translation; a proud graduate of Trinity College yet utterly a man of the West – Michael Jackson defies quick analysis and deserves a fuller tribute than these few lines can possibly encompass.

Reflecting the personal gratitude of the Sovereign whom and whose Family he has served with his all, he has rightly received from that Majesty, in her own gift, and from her own hands, the highest Honour she can bestow on a Canadian subject, Commander of her Royal Victorian Order. We use the term "subject" advisedly. It exactly defines Michael Jackson's life of useful, selfless duty.

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ORDER OF CANADA APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Behold, I shew you a mystery" – these words will be familiar to aficionados of Handel's *Messiah*. Sadly, our subject is not so numinous. We merely ask why on earth Rideau Hall's biennial announcement of appointments to the Order of Canada have for many years come at such unpredictably irregular intervals, far distant from the expected and customary dates of New Year's Day and Canada Day?

This year's Canadian "New Year's" list was announced February 20, 2007, with the proviso "These appointments have been in effect since October 5, 2006," presumably the date when Her Excellency sanctioned the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. The summer announcement came July 24, more than three weeks after Canada Day, a date presumably not intended to commemorate

the 2001 assumption of Prime Ministerial power in Bulgaria by its former King, Simeon! Working backwards, we notice an announcement on February 3, 2006, not quite so remote as this year's – though the cynical might observe that given the passage of a month, a more monarchically- oriented Rideau Hall might have decided to wait three more days and link these appointments to Accession Day – it being a now seldom-stated fact, excised from Government House media releases, that The Queen is Sovereign of the Order.

There is a serious point to all this: like anything else, an Honours System becomes woven into the fabric of civil society by the predictability of its announcements. New Year's Day and our national holiday are apt times for those deemed our best and brightest to be identified, feted – and held out as examples for all of us to emulate. And the light "hard news" cycle surrounding these festivals allows for more media coverage than they generally receive when randomly announced. How would children react to an Easter Bunny whose eggs arrived two months late? Or how about the Grey Cup in February? The Stanley Cup in September? Maple Syrup in July?

At risk of being dubbed colonialist sycophants, we feel constrained to remark that the Palace's Honours List – many times larger – appears like clockwork at midnight on December 31 and on the eve of The Queen's Official Birthday in Britain. What is HM's secret? Will she share it with her Canadian minions? Would they listen if she did?

LYNDA HAVERSTOCK & MYRA FREEMAN

It is instructive, a lesson in contrasting political environments, that these two women who have recently stepped down as Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia, respectively, encountered such different experiences during their time in Office. Dr Haverstock enjoyed enormous popularity and positive media attention, so much that she was prevailed upon to remain an extra year, and more, to greet The Queen and preside over many events during the celebration of Saskatchewan's Centennial. Mrs Freeman's time, on the other hand, was dogged by public controversy, including highly-personal attacks from Members of the Legislature and the media, mainly centering on expenditures for the maintenance of Government House, the oldest of these historic buildings still in use in the Commonwealth,



Lynda Haverstock at Farewell Ceremony on Legislature Grounds, Regina

and the responsibility of her government to maintain.

So why should one's time be praised to the skies? And the other's felt to have been somewhat difficult? Though very different personalities, each was imaginative, unstinting in their hospitality, abundant in energy, supported by an intelligent and no-less-committed spouse and thoroughly devoted to the Crown and to the unstinting public service exemplified by the Sovereign.

We think the difference lies in the political milieu in which each operated. Saskatchewan, thanks to Protocol Chief Michael Jackson's skillful process of education, longevity in office and complete loyalty, supports its LG and proceeds by careful bi-partisan consensus to undertake heritage and ceremonial projects (such as the re-furbishment of Government House, plethora of Royal Homecomings, erection of an equestrian statute of The Queen) in which civil society takes pride. Nova Scotia's Governor lacks the same lovingly-tended playing field, the carefully-prepared infrastructure of support that Saskatchewan's enjoys. Its partisanship seems more bitter and visceral, spilling over from matters of serious public policy onto the Lieutenant Governor's feet. Its vice-regal office is detached from Government House, and is minimally though diligently staffed. Ironically, this nursery of Confederation seems to take an almost perverse pride in questioning expenditures and holding to obloquy individuals trying to do their best, who – as in Their Honours' case – could otherwise be enjoying their private lives outside the penumbra of the genial attentions of critical media.

We salute both of these good servants of The Queen, and we remind Myra Freeman that history will, rightly, be kinder to her than some of her grand-standing critics. And how could we not love the last vice-regal in Canada to wear so proudly the traditional uniform of the position?

In The Next Issue of Canadian Monarchist News

- *Crown & Country in 2007* – a perspective on the Crown's role in forming the new Canada by the distinguished author and educator, Jacques Monet, sj
- *Honours of the Crown* – An overview of a little-understood subject by Dr Michael Jackson, CVO
- *Tittle Tattle with the Titled* – wonderful anecdotes from the distinguished soldier and Monarchist League co-Founder, the late Col. Strome Galloway

CROWNS & MACES

Royal Website includes Realms ~ Canada Post in Permanent Mode ~ A Gracious Mirren

CROWN to the imaginative souls responsible for The Queen's website at www.royal.gov.uk, who have recently added an extensive section on the Commonwealth Realms. It is good that The Sovereign's constitutional role outside Britain is thus given its proper recognition – and it also serves as an antidote to the relative paucity of current information about the Monarchy on Canadian government websites. (See below).

CROWN to Canada Post Corporation. After managing to keep in stock throughout 2006 a beautiful domestic letter-rate stamp honouring The Queen's 80th birthday, the good folks at the Post Office promptly produced a new "permanent" first-class definitive stamp of Her Majesty, a compulsory item for all CPC-owned outlets. Never again will each annual rate increase make monarchists anxious as to whether a re-designed

the Academy Awards. "For 50 years and more, Elizabeth Windsor has maintained her dignity, her sense of duty – and her hairstyle. She has had her feet planted firmly on the ground, her hat on her head and her handbag on her arm. She has weathered many, many storms. And I salute her courage and her consistency and I thank her because if it wasn't for her I most certainly would not be here." She ended her speech by holding up the Oscar statuette and saying: "Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the Queen." It was a class act. The more so as we gather it was the culmination of a journey from republicanism – "I must say I slowly fell in love with her." Now if the film could only be revised to remove the false note of HM's condescension to Tony Blair at the start of his premiership (The Queen never acts in such a way) and to re-cast and re-jig the portrayal of The Queen Mother in caricature. But we are straying



Queen stamp will again appear. As well, Canadians will appreciate the ease of using the pre-gummed stamps in booklets of ten – and if their local franchise store (such as a convenience mart) doesn't respond to their entreaties to carry same (for which we award a MACE in advance) the stamps can easily be purchased on-line (see back cover of this periodical.) Next on the agenda, how about Queen's stamps denominated for US and International letters, so that we can share our pride in our Head of State with our friends across the border and overseas?

CROWN to Reuters, whose Global Managing Editor, David Schlesinger, responded thoughtfully to Dominion Vice-Chairman Gavin Guthrie's letter complaining that the worldwide news service constantly referred to HM as "Britain's Queen Elizabeth" and pointing out the need to make sure of more accurate terminology when disseminating material in the Commonwealth Realms. Mr Schlesinger explained the difficulty of "complex nuances" in a brief picture caption, but thanked Gavin for reminding the service "of the importance of paying heed to the context of Her Majesty's actions and making that as clear as possible in our writing." The particular incident that provoked Gavin's intervention was the The Queen's July 14th meeting with Prime Minister Harper in London, captioned "Britain's Queen Elizabeth greets Canadian Prime Minister..."

CROWN to Dame Helen Mirren, star of *The Queen*. While we don't particularly like the notion of making movies depicting living members of the Royal Family, not to mention one focusing on so painful a period in its own – thus our – story, there is much to admire in the production. But we especially salute Dame Helen for her gracious tribute to the Sovereign, Oscar held high, at



outside our field of expertise... and yes, we admit that along with everyone we've spoken to, we thoroughly enjoyed the film even though we feel rather guilty for saying so!

MACE to the Canadian Heritage Department for not maintaining up-to-date the list of Royal Visits and other information on their attractive and useful "The Canadian Monarchy" website section www.pch.gc.ca/progs/cpsc-ccsp/fr/rf/index_e.cfm

Royal Round-up

A Miscellany of News you might have Missed from the Realms and from Monarchies Overseas

Harry to Iraq... GG presents Valour Decorations... Clarkson named Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Pat's... Queen Lauds Philip... Michael of Romania turns 85... RMC Prof in Oath Row... New LGs Installed... Canadian Appointed CH... Princess Royal at Somme Commemoration... New Flag Half-Mast Guidelines



Coroner Butler-Sloss, to conduct Diana Inquest

London, March 2: A three-judge panel overturned a decision by Deputy Royal Coroner Elizabeth Butler-Sloss that she would sit alone, without a jury, in the Inquest into the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and Dodi Fayed. Lawyers representing Mohamed al-Fayed sought the ruling by arguing that Butler-Sloss' former position as Deputy Coroner of The Queen's Household meant that she "lacked independence" to assess various allegations, and that the presence of a jury would assure "proper care" was taken in the case. The Inquest is set to begin in May.



Soldier Prince: Harry to serve in Iraq

Clarence House, February 22: Prince Harry's Office and the Defense Ministry announced jointly that "His Royal Highness Prince Harry will deploy to Iraq later this year." The Prince, known in his Regiment as Cornet Wales, had made it clear he would quit the military if he could not accompany his comrades in the Blues and Royals to the dangerous war zone in May or June of this year. Harry's duties will involve leading a troop of 12 men in four armed reconnaissance vehicles – the London tabloids reported that an SAS unit would shadow the Prince. He was said to be "over the moon" and delighted to be the first Royal to serve in a combat zone since his Uncle, Andrew, the Duke of York, flew decoy helicopters in the Falklands War of 1982.



Craig Kielburger, appointed to Order of Canada

Rideau Hall, February 20: The Governor General announced 89 appointments in the Order of Canada, including, as Officers, diplomat Ross Campbell, journalist Peter Desbarats and artist Gerald McMaster; and, as Members, international youth activist Craig Kielburger, philanthropist Eric Molson and former Canada AM host Valerie Pringle.



The Governor General presents Canada's first Star of Military Valour to Major William Hilton Fletcher of Alberta. The citation reads: "As Officer Commanding C Company, Task Force Afghanistan, from January to August 2006, Major Fletcher repeatedly demonstrated extraordinary bravery by exposing himself to intense fire while leading his forces, on foot, to assault heavily defended enemy positions. On two occasions, the soldiers at his side were struck by enemy fire. He immediately rendered first aid and then continued to head the subsequent assaults. On these occasions and in ensuing combat actions, his selfless courage, tactical acumen and effective command were pivotal to the success of his company in defeating a determined opponent." A very gallant gentleman!

Ottawa, February 19: The first Military Valour decorations to be awarded since their creation in 1993 were presented by the Governor General to six members of HM Canadian Forces for their service in Afghanistan. The awards included two Stars of Military Valour (SMV) and four Medals of Military Valour (MMV). The Star is second only to the Victoria Cross as recognition of gallantry in the face of the enemy.



Former Equerry to Queen Mother Col. Robert Hilborn (in kilt directly behind Her Majesty) during 1965 visit to The Toronto Scottish Regiment

Guelph, February 14: A former Canadian Equerry to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, and close friend of many members of the Royal Family, Colonel Robert H. Hilborn, LVO, MBE, CD, died age 88. Col Hilborn combined his career as an insurance executive with military and public service. He was a former CO and then Hon Colonel of the Toronto Scottish Regiment, and a Past President of institutions ranging from the Toronto Board of Trade to the Empire Club of Canada and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Ottawa, February 5: The Minister of National Defence announced the appointment of former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson as Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Regiment, succeeding Countess Mountbatten of Burma after 30 years' service. Mme Clarkson is the first Canadian to be named a Colonel-in-Chief of a Regiment.

London, January 26: The *News of the World's* Royal Affairs Editor, Clive Goodman, was jailed for four months for hacking into the cellular telephones of members of the Royal Family's Household in an effort to obtain scoops for his newspaper. Security concerns had arisen when Goodman was able to listen to voice mail messages left for the Prince of Wales' Press Secretary and two officials who work for Princes William and Harry. The sentencing was followed by the resignation of the *News of the World's* Editor, Andy Coulson.

London, January 17: The Queen approved the appointment of the first female commander in the history of The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. Major Erica Bridge, 34, is to lead the Regiment whose duties include firing 41-gun Salutes on Royal occasions. The Troop will guard Buckingham Palace this summer while the Household Calvary is on leave.



Camberley, December 15 – Prince William graduated from Sandhurst and commenced his career as a military officer. The Queen reviewed the new Second Lieutenants, stopping to chat with her grandson for a few moments. Also present were The Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall – and William's girlfriend Kate Middleton. Army officials and the Palace subsequently made clear that,



Putting on the Ritz at 80: The Queen entertains nearest and dearest

as heir to the Throne, the Prince would not be posted to Iraq or any other combat zone.

London, December 11: The Queen wrapped up a round of celebrations for her 80th birthday by throwing a dinner and dance for family and 300 of her closest friends at the Ritz.

Buckingham Palace, November 16: In a rare personal tribute to the work of her consort, The Queen spoke of the Duke of Edinburgh's "insight, courage and determination" at a Palace Reception honouring the Golden Jubilee of the inception of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. HM spoke of Prince Philip's "watchful eye" over the organization's international expansion, and added "For these remarkable achievements, you have my deep and enduring admiration – an admiration which words alone can never fully express."



Mary de Bellefeuille-Percy, LVO – "the voice of Rideau Hall"



Ottawa, November 7: Mary de Bellefeuille-Percy died age 63; she had recently retired from Rideau Hall after 18 years spent serving five Governors General. After serving as Director of Information Services, she became Director of Honours in the Office of the Secretary to the Governor

General. In this role Mme Percy acted as master of ceremonies for countless investitures and other functions at The Queen's Canadian Residence, a familiar figure standing at a podium to the right of Their Excellencies. At her retirement party on June 30, the Governor General said "Mary, herself, is irreplaceable." Sadly, she did not live to know that The Queen had appointed her a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO), a posthumous exercise of the Sovereign's personal favour announced in the New Year's Honours List.

Rideau Hall, October 27: The Governor General announced the appointment of three Heralds Extraordinary within the Canadian Heraldic Authority:



Roger Lindsay, AdeC,
appointed Herald
Extraordinary

Roger Lindsay of Toronto; Dr Helen Mussallem, CC, of Ottawa and Vancouver; and the Rt Rev D. Ralph Spence of Hamilton. (Spence is the Anglican Bishop of Niagara who has recently announced his retirement.) Heralds Extraordinary occasionally perform duties on behalf of the Authority, and lend their expertise to its councils.

Bucharest, October 25: His Majesty King Michael of Romania, accompanied by Queen Anna and members of his family, and Ambassadors from many countries, celebrated his 85th birthday at home, in the Elizabeth Palace, which occasion also marked the 125th Anniversary of Romanian sovereignty and the 140th Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Family.

Ottawa, October 24: The media reported that an officer in HM's Canadian Forces who teaches Physics at Royal Military College, Kingston, has filed suit in Federal Court against the "degrading" policy requiring CF members to toast The Queen and salute during the playing of The Royal Anthem. Capt. Aralt Mac Giolla Chinnigh (who legally changed his name from Harold Kenny to its Irish equivalent) claims "institutional harassment" at the obligation of recognizing a "foreign monarch." Chief of Defence Staff Gen Rick Hillier and the CF Grievance Board had previously rejected Chinnigh's complaint, with the Board ruling that "The inclusion of The Queen at CF events is not just hollow pomp and ceremony; it is an acknowledgement of Canada's Head of State." It cited the provisions of the National Defence Act that the CF are "the Armed Forces of Her Majesty raised by Canada" and thus loyalty is not a violation of constitutional rights. Indeed, it observed that had Kenny objected to the Oath to HM in 1978 when he first joined the Forces, he would never have been enrolled.



On her wedding day,
Tsarina Maria Feodo-
rova, now at rest in
Russia

St Petersburg, September 28: Prince and Princess Michael of Kent represented The Queen as the remains of Tsaritsa Maria Feodorovna, Mother of the last Czar of Russia, were interred in the Fortress of SS Peter and Paul beside her husband Czar Alexander III and near the remains of her martyred son and grandchildren. Crowds of Russians lined the streets as the cortege passed by, having received transport from Danish and Russian military vessels, and full military honours. The ceremony was presided over by the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church. Others in attendance included Crown Prince Frederik and Princess Mary of Denmark, President Putin and members of the Romanov family. The Tsaritsa, born a Princess of the Danish Royal Family – and sister of Queen Alexandra of Britain – had previously been buried in Copenhagen where she had lived in exile until her death in 1928. The fulfillment of the Tsaritsa's wish was the personal initiative of President Putin, who contacted Queen Margrethe II of Denmark to secure support for the reburial.



King laid to rest on sacred Tonga
island

Auckland, September 10: King Tupou IV of Tonga died in hospital after a reign of 44 years, and was buried with an elaborate traditional funeral attended by TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester on behalf of The Queen. His successor, known as George, takes the Throne amidst some controversy over profits made from his extensive business empire which he has now pledged himself to divest.

Quebec City, September 10: The 22nd Biennial NDP Convention ended without considering a controversial resolution proposing to abolish the Monarchy. Pierre Ducasse, Quebec advisor to the party leader, Jack Layton, said that Canada's status "isn't the country's top priority right now."



Hon Mayann Francis, sworn as
NS Lieutenant Governor

Ms Francis was previously the province's Ombudsman, and Director of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. Her Honour will live in a condo in downtown Halifax and enjoy the use of an expanded suite of offices in a government building for the next two years while historic Government House is enjoying a major refurbishment. In her Installation Address, Her Honour said: "Since I was a child I have had a fascination with the Monarchy and have held it in awe...I will represent Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to the best of my ability for as long as I am honoured with this role."



Japanese succession assured:
Prince Hisahito leaves hospital
with his happy parents Prince
Akishino and Princess Kiko

Halifax, September 7: Mayann Francis was sworn in as the 31st Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, succeeding Myra Freeman. She is only the second black vice-regal in Canada, Lincoln Alexander of Ontario having been the first to serve The Queen in that capacity.

Tokyo, September 6: Prince Akishino and Princess Kiko rejoiced in the birth of their baby boy, the first male heir to be born into the Imperial Family in forty years. Third in line to the Chrysanthemum Throne, the child will cool enthusiasm for allowing a woman to succeed, as mooted by some reform-minded royalists.



Royal Pretender
stifled by magis-
trates

Whitehall, August 28: King George V approved of proceedings against a pretender to the Throne who was holding public meetings under the banner of 'A New King, a New Country', "so long as it is quite understood that His Majesty is in no way responsible for the initiation of them." The flap came to light in a Home Office file released by the National Archives. It revealed that Anthony Hall, a victim of a poison gas attack at Ypres, was claiming the Throne as a direct male descendant of Henry VIII, through a secret son born to Anne Boleyn before she became Henry's second wife. Some of Hall's meetings attracted up to 600 – at one rally he stated he would have no hesitation "in shooting the King like a dog." The Birmingham magistrates' threat to jail him for two months put paid to his ambitions, and Hall died in 1947, leaving no male heir.

Regina, August 1: Dr Gordon L. Barnhart was installed as 20th Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan in succession to Lynda Haverstock. His Honour had previously served as Clerk of the province's Legislative Assembly, and as Clerk of the Senate and Clerk of the Parliaments in Ottawa before returning to Saskatchewan to teach and serve the University of Saskatchewan as Secretary.



Charlottetown, July 31: Barbara Hagerman was installed as 27th Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island. Her Honour took up the post after a lengthy career in musical performance and teaching.

Prince Edward Island's new vice-regal couple



Frank MacKinnon escorting
The Queen to a Royal Com-
mand Performance during
1964 Royal Visit marking
the Centenary of the Char-
lottetown Conference

Calgary, July 16: Frank MacKinnon, prominent political scientist and author, died in Calgary age 87. The son of a Prince Edward Island Lieutenant Governor, MacKinnon served as Principal of Prince of Wales College (which subsequently became the University of PEI) for 20 years, combining his constitutional interest with a love for the arts. Appointed Officer of the Order of



(left) Lady Louise Alice Elizabeth Mountbatten-Windsor, two-year-old daughter of the Earl and Countess of Wessex, embarking on The Queen's Hebridean cruise in late July. As an 80th birthday present to herself, HM chartered a converted car ferry (MV Hebridean Princess, above) to allow members of her family to enjoy a holiday with a similar route to her former annual excursion on Britannia.

Canada in 1969, he was a founding member of the Canada Council for the Arts. In *The Crown in Canada*, MacKinnon coined the phrase "constitutional fire extinguishers" to describe the role of the vice-regal representatives; he also spoke out against the appointment of partisan politicians to the Governor-Generalcy.



Toronto scientist Dr
Anthony Pawson re-
ceives rare Royal
Honour

Toronto, July 5: The media reported that Canadian biomedical researcher Dr Anthony Pawson, of Toronto, who was born in Britain but has lived for many years in Canada, is to receive the Order of the Companions of Honour. Dr Pawson joins former Prime Ministers Pearson and Diefenbaker and Gen John de Chastelain as only the fourth Canadian to join the Order, which lies in The Queen's personal gift and is limited to 65 living members.

Beaumont Hamel, Somme, June 30: HRH The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, attended Dinner at Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

Ottawa, May 31: The Department of Canadian Heritage issued new guidelines for half-masting the Flag on the Peace Tower, which it dubbed "a dramatic visual statement that speaks to the sense of loss that is shared" by all citizens. Full half-masting (from the time of death to the conclusion of the funeral) is now reserved only for The Queen, her immediate family, the Governor General and Lieutenant Governors, current and former Prime Ministers, current cabinet ministers and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. Others – including the so-called "minor Royals", members of the Privy Council, sitting Parliamentarians, and senior diplomats, are honoured by having the Flag lowered only on the day of their funeral.

Three Canadians Appointed By Queen to Royal Victorian Order

**New Year's Honours recognize
Andrew's former Headmaster, Duke of
Edinburgh Award Royal Tour organizer
and long-serving Rideau Hall official**

CVO

JTM "Terry" Guest, former Executive Director of Round Square and former Headmaster of Lakefield College School, Lakefield, Ontario.

LVO

Christopher James Carnegie, for services to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Charter for Business (Canada) – Christopher, who serves as Hon Executive Assistant to TRH The Earl & Countess of Wessex, organizes their frequent Canadian Homecomings and has also arranged tours by Prince Philip.

LVO

Mrs Mary De Bellefeuille Percy, former Director of Honours Chancellery, Government House, Ottawa.

The Earl of Wessex Returns to Saskatchewan



by Michael Jackson

Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, is counted as a friend of Saskatchewan. Premier Lorne Calvert made that clear, pointing out that the Earl's visit in June 2006 was his fourth to the province – the most by any member of the Royal Family other than the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Edward first came in 1978 with his parents, then on his own in 1994 and 2003. The 1994 tour was the first of the so-called “working visits”, arranged by the province in conjunction with the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, rather than “official visits” coordinated by Ottawa. The 2003 and 2006 visits followed the same format.

In 2003 the Earl had spent four busy days celebrating municipal centennials, opening the First Nations University of Canada and taking up his position as Colonel-in-Chief of the Saskatchewan Dragoons, an army reserve unit in Moose Jaw. Three years later his tour focused on his particular interests in Saskatchewan.

First and foremost was the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Young Canadians Challenge – the successful program for development of leadership and talent among young people founded by the Earl's father, Prince Philip. The Earl of Wessex is chairman of the international council and takes a lively interest in the award program and its recipients. Soon after arriving in Regina on June 1st on commercial flights from London via Calgary, the Earl was in the midst of a reception for Duke of Edinburgh Award participants and volunteers. Remarks by His Royal Highness were followed by a dance and musical performance, displays about the Award program and informal mixing with young people participating in the program.

The morning of June 2nd was again devoted to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Traditionally, the top level of the program, the Gold Award, is presented by Prince Philip or another member of the



Royal Family, and the Earl of Wessex did the honours in Regina, presenting Gold Awards to forty outstanding young achievers.

The Earl had requested a return visit to “Depot” Division, the national training academy of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Regina, which he had last toured in 1994. All RCMP recruits receive their basic training at “Depot”, which is considered the “home of the RCMP”. As the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh had done a year earlier, Prince Edward placed a wreath at the cenotaph bearing the names of all RCMP members who lost their lives on duty, inspected the parade of current cadets and visited the historic chapel dating back to 1885, the oldest building in Regina. He then met with cadets in seven different classes, ranging from communications skills to theft scenarios.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent at Regina's Globe Theatre, of which the Earl has been royal patron since 1992 – the first patronage he granted in Canada. He had attended special performances in 1994 and 2003, on the latter occasion naming the theatre's home “The Prince Edward Building”. This time he toured newly-renovated facilities and attended the launch of the Globe's theatre school program.

The evening of June 2nd marked a very special occasion for the Province of Saskatchewan: the Earl of Wessex was invested as an honorary member of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, the highest honour of the provincial Crown. The first and only other honorary member of the Order is the Prince of Wales, who was invested in 2001. Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock presided at the investiture in the new Queen Elizabeth II Wing of Government House Heritage Property, opened by Her Majesty in May 2005. It was the author's privilege to present the Earl to Her Honour for investiture (see citation elsewhere). This was Prince Edward's second Saskatchewan honour, as both he and the Countess had received the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in 2005. After the ceremony, the Earl toured the J.E.N. Wiebe Interpretive Centre on the Crown, also opened by the Queen in 2005, and was guest of honour at a black-tie dinner hosted by the Lieutenant Governor and the Premier.

The Saskatchewan Dragoons arranged a program for their Colonel-in-Chief

Citation for His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex Investiture with the Saskatchewan Order of Merit

Government House, Regina
June 2, 2006

Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, fulfils his royal vocation with originality and verve. Early on, he completed a remarkable transition from the exigencies of military training to the very different demands of theatrical employment and television entrepreneurship – a unique and challenging career path for a member of the Royal Family and one which he pursued with skill and perseverance. His successful television documentaries are proof positive of his artistic creativity and independent spirit.

The more recent royal career of The Earl has been enriched by these talents and experiences. Organizations for the performing arts; challenging programs for young people through the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards; international sports and recreation epitomized by the Commonwealth Games – all have benefited from his keen support and perceptive advice.

Saskatchewan has enjoyed a special relationship with The Earl of Wessex. His first public walkabout took place in Lloydminster in 1978. He granted his first patronage in Canada to Regina's Globe Theatre. It was with Saskatchewan that His Royal Highness pioneered the formula of the “working” royal visit to a Canadian province. The Earl honoured the Saskatchewan Dragoons in Moose Jaw with one of his very first appointments as a regimental Colonel-in-Chief. His successive visits have endeared him to communities large and small across our province.

Gifted with sensitivity to others, gentle humour and intellectual curiosity, The Earl of Wessex has given generously of his time and energy to Saskatchewan. The people of our province have responded with respect and affection.

Your Honour, I present to you for investiture with the Saskatchewan Order of Merit a much admired member of Canada's Royal Family, a true friend of Saskatchewan, His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex

on June 3rd in Moose Jaw. First of all, the Earl, in Canadian Forces combat uniform, joined his troops on a rifle range near the city, firing a weapon, sharing field rations with the soldiers and riding in a light armoured vehicle. Then, after a quick change into regular army uniform with decorations, he officially opened the regimental museum in the Moose Jaw Armoury.

The final event of the visit was a regimental dinner of the Saskatchewan Dragoons at the mess of 15 Wing Moose Jaw. The Earl was resplendent in his third Canadian uniform of the day, regimental mess kit, featuring the neck-badge of his Saskatchewan Order of Merit and his Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in miniature. His Royal Highness witnessed the presentation by the Lieutenant Governor of the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal to the commanding officer of the Saskatchewan Dragoons, Major Brad Hrycyna, for twenty-five years of service

to the army reserve in the province; and of the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal to a number of soldiers, including some who had seen service overseas. This marked the last presentation of honours by Dr. Haverstock before retiring from office two months later – and the last such event for the author as secretary of the Saskatchewan honours program.

The next day the Earl flew to Calgary to join the Countess for their Alberta and British Columbia programs. Saskatchewan looks forward to future visits for his regiment, his theatre and the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards – and for nurturing his friendship with the people of our province.

Ed: During the same trip, Their Royal Highnesses also visited Calgary, the centrepiece of the visit being a Gala Dinner at the Palliser Hotel to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. The evening raised over \$500,000 in support of the Canadian Award Scheme.



All photos courtesy Saskatchewan Provincial Secretary



AUSTRALIAN UPDATE

(Material provided courtesy of our friends at Australians for Constitutional Monarchy)

January 27 – A poll published in *The Australian* revealed support for an Australian republic continues to decline, those strongly in favour having ebbed to 27% from a post-referendum high of 39%. The newspaper's National Affairs editor opined that the 19% uncommitted might be expected to contain many who would be reluctant to reveal their support for the Crown given the media's general hostility to the institution. Poll interpretation in the country is made more complicated because so much republican support is dependent on the model ultimately to be proposed were there to be another plebiscite. Anti-monarchical strength favouring an undefined form of republic does rise to 51% (from the current 45%) in the event of Prince Charles becoming King.

December 14 – The Leader of the Opposition (Labour Party) Hon. Kevin Rudd told journalists that the issue of an Australian republic was "way down my list of priorities" should he win the next election. He also expressed ambivalence as to the merits of an elected as opposed to an appointed president. November 13 – The ACM published a paper about the status of the Royal Anthem in Australia, written by Sir David Smith, Official Secretary to five Governors-General (1973-1990) and currently Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Law, Australian National University. In this interesting discussion, Sir David's account of attempts to suppress the singing of "God Save The Queen" will deeply resonate with Canadian Monarchists.

Of particular interest is the revelation that in 1984, the Hawke Government asked the Governor-General-in-Council, Sir Ninian Stephen, to issue a Proclamation declaring "Advance Australia Fair" as the National Anthem, and "God Save The Queen" as the Royal Anthem, the latter to be used only in the presence of The Queen or members of the Royal Family.

Sir David continues: "The Governor-General was aware that a number of organisations were in the habit of singing 'God Save the Queen' at their meetings, and that it was also sung in Church as a hymn. Before the Executive Council meeting took place, the Governor-General spoke to the recommending Minister and voiced his concerns about the wording of the proposed Proclamation. In the light of that conversation, the Minister agreed to alter his recommendation by deleting the word 'only' from the Proclamation. The Proclamation was amended at the meeting, after which it was approved by the Executive Council, signed by the Governor-General, and gazetted in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S142 of 19 April 1984 in its amended form."

The Governor General marked the occasion by sharing birthday cake with students in Nunavut. The Prime Minister offered greetings in his first address in the House of Commons since assuming office. Canadians were encouraged to send their own best wishes to Her Majesty via the Governor General's and Prime Minister's Websites. These are just a few examples of how Canada celebrated the 80th birthday of The Queen on April 21st.

Monarchist League officials had been in contact with the Prime Minister's Office to relay a number of ideas as to how best to mark this personal milestone in Her Majesty's life of service. The League offered a variety of suggestions – from 80-gun salutes and birthday card competitions to a commemorative medal and a comprehensive Website explaining the significance of the occasion.

Ultimately, a combination of logistical challenges, lack of planning time after the new government's recent coming to power and opposition from certain areas of the public service meant that little actually occurred, and in fact there was but a sprinkle of "official" celebrations in Canada.

Governor General Celebrates in Nunavut

Her Excellency the Governor General celebrated The Queen's actual birthday during a visit to Nunavut. At Cape Dorset, Mme Jean shared birthday cake with 300 students of Pitseolak School and Sam Pudlut Elementary School. In honour of The Queen's 80th birthday, Her Excellency donated 80 books to the Iqualuit Centennial Library.

The Governor General offered the following greetings on behalf of all Canadians:
April 20, 2006

On behalf of all Canadians, it is my sincere honour and great pleasure to offer Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II my congratulations on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

The connection between Her Majesty and Canadians is an enduring and deeply rooted one. The Queen's devotion to Canada extends beyond her commitment as our Sovereign; it is personal and heartfelt. Canadians have warmly reciprocated this affection, gathering, often by the thousands, to greet her wherever she goes during her Royal visits – hoping to catch a glimpse of her or to exchange a few words that will become cherished memories.

The Queen made her first visit to Canada while still a princess in 1951. In 55 years, she has returned more than 20 times. Many of these visits have been to commemorate important milestones in the history of our country, including Canada's centennial in 1967 and the subsequent centennials of provinces and territories that joined Confederation in later years. In 1982, she took part in the historic signing of the Constitution Act, ratifying our Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Just prior to my installation as Governor General last fall, my family and I had the distinct privilege of meeting Her Majesty at her ancestral home in Balmoral, Scotland. Like many Canadians, I was impressed by her kindness and thoughtfulness. I greatly appreciated her dedication in promoting a world view of nations working together, responsibly, for

the benefit of all humanity. I was also delighted by her sensitivity and insightful view of the realities facing today's youth.

On this day of joyful celebration, I extend my best wishes on behalf of all Canadians to Her Majesty for a most wonderful birthday. Michaëlle Jean

Throne Speech Recognizes Queen's Constitutional Role

Perhaps the best Birthday gift to Her Majesty lay in the restoration of loyalty and reality to the Speech from the Throne in 2006. At the Opening of the first Parliament of the Harper government, the Governor General explicitly referred to herself as "the representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II" so ending years of constitutional adventurism by some staffers at Rideau Hall and the PMO. Mme Jean went on to make a personal reference to the Sovereign (a long-time Throne Speech tradition also ignored in recent years) as she observed that "Canadians rejoice in the coming eightieth birthday of Her Majesty later this month, and in her more than fifty years of service as Queen of Canada."

Prime Minister Shows Loyalty

In his first speech in the House of Commons as Prime Minister, Stephen Harper offered his own kind words heaping praise on Canada's Queen: "I would like to pay tribute to our head of state, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, whose lifelong dedication to duty and self-sacrifice have been a source of inspiration and encouragement to the many countries that make up the Commonwealth and to the people of Canada." Mr Harper's website prominently featured a section allowing Canadians to send birthday greetings to Her Majesty.

Canada Post Issues Commemorative Birthday Stamp

The Canada Post Corporation – acting on its own initiative – issued a commemorative domestic first-class letter rate stamp marking The Queen's 80th birthday, which was available throughout the year.

Lieutenant Governors Celebrate

Amongst the vice-regal celebrations...

The Hon John Harvard, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, hosted a special reception April 21st at Government House in Winnipeg. His Honour observed that the event was an opportunity to pay tribute to our sovereign and to Manitobans who were born on the very same day as the Queen.

The Hon James K. Bartleman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, invited Ontarians to celebrate Victoria Day (The Queen's Official Birthday in Canada) by hosting a birthday book signing at Queen's Park in Toronto. Well wishers outside Toronto were encouraged to sign an electronic book on the Lieutenant Governor's Website.

The Senate Lauds Her Majesty

May 17th saw The Senate of Canada pass a motion to offer best birthday wishes to The Queen.

Hon. Gerald J. Comeau (Deputy Leader of the Government): *Her Majesty has deep respect and admiration for Canada and its people, and we have deep respect and admiration for our Queen. It is*

therefore a very great honour for me, seconded by Senator Fraser, to move this motion marking the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada.

Hon. Joan Fraser (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): *I want to add my voice to that of Senator Comeau. Honourable senators will be familiar with the phrase "Your Gracious Majesty." I can think of no one to whom the adjective applies more appropriately than to Queen Elizabeth II. She is indeed a woman of rare grace, rare elegance and rare dedication to duty, who has in her long and distinguished reign shown particular affection for this country. We on this side are pleased to support the motion.*

MP's Offer Birthday Greetings

Jim Abbott (CPC: Kootenay-Columbia): *Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 21, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will celebrate her eightieth birthday. On behalf of the Government of Canada, my colleagues and I would like to convey our most sincere wishes to Her Majesty for many more years of health and happiness as our head of state.*

The Crown of Canada is a unique part of not only our system of government but our national identity...

Lui Temelkovski (Lib: Oak Ridges-Markham): *On April 21 Queen Elizabeth II will mark her 80th birthday. My office is pleased to have launched a very successful initiative to mark this important milestone. I sent out hundreds of birthday cards for constituents to fill out for the Queen. We distributed more than 500 photographs of the Queen to constituents, and also organized a series of coffee and cake receptions throughout the riding...*

Scott Reid (CPC: Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington):

Mr. Speaker, Victoria Day next Monday will mark the official 80th birthday of our sovereign, Queen Elizabeth. For more than half a century, Canadians have been blessed with a monarch of exceptional grace and the entire Commonwealth has been united by her strong and dignified presence. Queen Elizabeth's wisdom has guided two generations of subjects of all races and diverse backgrounds... Our Queen has reigned during five decades of worldwide turbulence and instability, but she herself has been a rock of stability and has brought her office into the 21st century as a modern, vital institution. Fifty-four years after her ascension to the throne, Her Majesty has more support than ever from her subjects in Canada, in all her realms and around the world. We salute our sovereign on this great anniversary. May her reign continue for many years to come. God save the Queen.

Queen's Honour: Tattoo now "Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo"

It is typical that Her Majesty would reciprocate the loyalty and love so evident in her 80th birthday celebrations by giving back to the community. The latest example is her decision to honour the Nova Scotia International Tattoo with the designation "Royal." The Tattoo is the world's largest indoor show spectacle, and has now re-designed its Pipe Band's uniform so that they may be dressed in a new and especially designed "Royal Tattoo" Tartan.

LITERACY CAMPS IN NORTHERN ONTARIO OFF TO A GOOD START

Vice-Regal Project Exemplifies Role of Crown



Deanne Slipperjack, 9, tries on Ontario Lieutenant-Governor James Bartleman's reading glasses and shares a laugh with His Honour during his visit to a Summer Literacy Camp in Neskantaga

by Peter Moon

Nearly 3,000 children took part in 35 literacy camps last summer in Ontario's Far North as part of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario's Aboriginal literacy program.

"I'm really pleased that the response of the communities has been so good," said Lieutenant-Governor James Bartleman after visits to camps in Wunnumin Lake, Nibinamik, Neskantaga and Eabametoong.

"It was something to go there and see the joy in the eyes of the children and the enthusiasm on the part of their parents for this program," he said. "Success will only be achieved if the program is a partnership with the community and in those four communities that is something that is the case."

Councillors at the camps include members of the communities and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal councillors from Frontier College.

"It's been a great experience for me and the kids," said Kelly Roote, a 20-year-old councillor in Eabametoong and a member of the Saugeen First Nation, near Southampton, who was seeing Ontario's Far North for the first time. "I've learned a lot by coming up here and it's been great to see the way the kids respond."

The camps are a key part of the lieutenant-governor's Aboriginal literacy program, which has included collecting and distributing 850,000 good-quality used books, twinning Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal schools, and Club Amick, a program to ensure that every child who attends the summer camps will receive an age-appropriate book every month as well as other reading material.



The summer literacy camps began the summer of 2005 with five pilot projects in Fort Albany, Kingfisher Lake, Muskrat Dam, Neskantaga and North Caribou Lake. Their success led to the establishment of 35 three-week camps this summer in 29 First Nations without year-round road access. The morning camps are open to children aged five to 10 and the afternoon camps are for adolescents aged 11 and up. The camps offer reading and structured activities such as sports and games.

A lack of reading skills has been established as a major contributor to the high school drop-out rate among Aboriginal children. "Literature and reading is a ticket out of this whole problem of poverty and despair and the way to an education," Mr. Bartleman said.

"What this program does is help them to read and then when they go back to school they have learned something," said Harry Papah, a band councillor in Eabametoong, whose three children are enrolled. "At first my children didn't want to come to the literacy camp. But they came and ever since the first day they have enjoyed it and now they want to read books. It's a benefit for my kids. I want them to have careers when they grow up and this is going to help them."

Mr. Bartleman has raised almost \$6-million from private and government sources to ensure the summer camps and his other literacy initiatives can continue for at least another five years. A member of the Mnjikaning First Nation at Rama, he is Ontario's first Aboriginal lieutenant-governor.

(Sergeant Peter Moon is the public affairs ranger for 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group at Canadian Forces Base Borden.)

Lynda Haverstock – Royal Representative par excellence

by Michael Jackson

Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan from 2000 to 2006, Lynda Haverstock will, in my opinion, go down in the history of the Canadian Crown as one of the best vice-regal representatives not only this province but the entire country has seen. As Saskatchewan chief of protocol during almost her entire time in office, I was privileged to work closely with this extraordinary woman and to observe her achievements at first hand.

Lynda Haverstock's unusual background served her well in the vice-regal office. Born and raised in Swift Current in Saskatchewan's western ranch country, she was a high school drop-out and a teen single mother. Then she was afflicted with an illness which confined her for some years to a wheelchair. She recovered brilliantly from these setbacks, not only to complete high school but to earn a PhD. in clinical psychology, teach university and become a national expert in farm-related stress. These experiences, plus assisting her daughter who suffers from multiple sclerosis, have made Lynda Haverstock an intensely caring, compas-

took pride in being the Queen's representative in Saskatchewan and did her utmost to promote the Crown. And that was substantial indeed. Gifted with eloquence and wit and passion as well as her impressive intellectual credentials, Lynda Haverstock made an enormous impact on the public perception of and appreciation for the Crown, the Queen, the Royal Family and all that they represent for Canadians. She never failed in any speech to bring "official greetings on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada". In that (like many other lieutenant governors), she clearly differentiated herself from the incumbents of Rideau Hall, where the current doctrine is for Governors General to make as few allusions to the Queen and the Crown as they can get away with.

In her six-and-half years in office, Lynda Haverstock displayed intense energy, not only in the standard vice-regal constitutional and ceremonial duties, but in a particular educational and social vocation too. She criss-crossed her vast territory, visiting communities large and tiny, speaking to school chil-



The Province of Saskatchewan official farewell to its Lieutenant Governor, led by Premier Lorne Calvert

Photo courtesy Saskatchewan Provincial Secretary

sionate, resilient individual. Her concern for others, especially the disadvantaged, is deep-felt and genuine. It shone through her tenure as lieutenant governor.

It was not surprising that Lynda Haverstock should be attracted to politics, and politics to her. In 1989 she was recruited as leader of the nearly moribund Saskatchewan Liberals – the first female leader of a political party in the province's history. Elected to the Legislature in 1991 as the sole Liberal member, she led a renewed party to eleven seats in the 1995 election. But the notoriously fractious provincial Liberals ousted her in a caucus revolt and she served her remaining years in the Legislature as an independent member, choosing not to run in the 1999 election. I recall Dr. Haverstock as an articulate, persuasive politician who was respected on both sides of the House. It has been said that Lynda Haverstock came close to becoming premier of the province; from the monarchical point of view it was a good thing she did not. Instead, she was named late in 1999 by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as Saskatchewan's nineteenth lieutenant governor. It turned out to be a brilliant appointment.

Dr. Haverstock emphasized from the outset that she strongly believed in Canada's constitutional monarchy. She

dren, First Nations, conferences and conventions. Her weekly list of engagements was staggering, and yet she had to turn down more invitations than she could accept. Her speeches, far from being replete with vice-regal platitudes, were substantive, visionary and passionate. Lynda Haverstock is one of the most eloquent speakers I know. She has a charisma and presence which her personal elegance and attractive appearance could only enhance. All this she devoted unfailingly to the service of her province, her country and her Queen.

One of her lasting achievements of which she is rightly proud is the spay/neutering program for domestic animals in northern Saskatchewan. Recruiting *pro bono* services of veterinarians, raising funds, promoting awareness, Dr. Haverstock helped small Aboriginal communities deal with a perennial problem and in the process contributed to the education of their children in life skills. Indeed, as Lieutenant Governor she paid special attention to the Crown's enduring link with the First Nations. She faithfully attended annual Treaty Days and vigorously promoted the historic Treaty relationship to all Saskatchewan people.

When the Government of Saskatchewan undertook initiatives related to the Crown, Lynda Haverstock supported

An Honour of the Crown – the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal

by Michael Jackson

To mark its centennial in Confederation in 2005, Saskatchewan created an honour of the provincial Crown: the Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan. First envisaged as early as 1990 by the Conservative government of Premier Grant Devine, the Centennial Medal was decided in principle by the NDP government of Premier Roy Romanow nine years later and established by his successor, Premier Lorne Calvert, in 2003.

Like other Saskatchewan honours, the medal is governed by *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Act*, which states that it is an “honour of the Crown in right of Saskatchewan” and is to be presented by the Lieutenant Governor, or a person designated by the Lieutenant Governor, to deserving citizens who have made a significant contribution to the province. The Centennial Medal is the fourth provincial honour, after the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, established in 1985, the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal (1995) and the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal (2003).

The medal itself displays on the obverse the Royal Crown above a wreath of western red lilies, the Saskatchewan floral emblem. Beneath the lilies is the provincial motto, from the coat of arms granted by Queen Elizabeth II in 1986,

Multis E Gentibus Vires, “From Many Peoples Strength”. Around the circumference are the words “Saskatchewan 1905-2005”. On the reverse of the medal is the provincial shield of arms granted by King Edward VII in 1906. The medal was designed by Warwyk Communications in Saskatoon and manufactured by Bond Boyd Ltd. in Toronto.

In order to be officially worn with Canada’s national honours, a provincial honour must be approved by federal order-in-council on the recommendation of the Honours Policy Committee chaired by Rideau Hall. Status in the national precedence of orders, decorations and medals was granted to both the Saskatchewan and Alberta Centennial medals early in 2005, opening the way for them to be presented to members of the RCMP and Canadian Forces – and members of the Royal Family.

Typically, commemorative medals are awarded in relatively large numbers and to a wide range of people. Based on experience with the Canada 125 Medal in 1992 and the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, Saskatchewan decided to strike 4,200 centennial medals and present as many of them as possible to recipients at events held across the province. The first of these took place at the Legislature in Regina on New Year’s Day, 2005, when Premier Calvert presented



Photo: Saskatchewan Provincial Secretary



Saskatchewan Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock presents Centennial Medals

the first medal to Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock and she presented the second to the Premier.

The last events occurred eighteen months later: the cast and production staff of the hit television comedy show *Corner Gas* received their medals in Regina at the end of May 2006, and personnel of the Saskatchewan Dragoons were honoured in the presence of their Colonel-in-Chief, the Earl of Wessex, in Moose Jaw on June 3rd.

Of the 4,200 medal recipients, 30% were nominated by the Government of Saskatchewan. These included all members of the Legislative Assembly, judges, Saskatchewan senators and MPs, community leaders in municipal, cultural, sports, Aboriginal, religious, volunteer, military and religious organizations, and the public service. These organizations, all Members of the Legislative Assembly and federal MPs were invited to submit the remaining 70% of the nominations.

Saskatchewan chose to honour with the Centennial Medal distinguished people from outside the province. First and foremost were members of the Royal Family. Lieutenant Governor Lynda Haverstock presented the medal to the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit with the Queen in May 2005. The author was privileged a few weeks later to make the presentation on Her Honour’s behalf to the Earl and Countess of Wessex in Toronto. During 2006 the Canadian High Commissioner in London is expected to present the medal to the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall, the Princess Royal and the Duke of York.

Not forgotten were those loyal servants of Canada’s Queen, members of Her Majesty’s Household and staff. At a special ceremony in Regina during the May 2005 royal visit, the Lieutenant Governor presented Centennial Medals to Sir Robin Janvrin, Private Secretary to the Queen; the Countess of Airlie, Lady-in-Waiting; Christopher Geidt, Assistant Private Secretary; and Penny Russell-Smith, Press Secretary. Also honoured were Brigadier Sir Miles Hunt-Davis, Private Secretary to the Duke of Edinburgh; police officers Ian Boyes and Paul Fuller; and Angela Kelly, the Queen’s personal assistant. Key Canadian figures were honoured too: Kevin MacLeod and Jacqueline Filion, veteran royal visit staff in the Department of Canadian Heritage

(the late General M.G. Cloutier, Canadian Secretary to the Queen, had received his medal earlier in the year).

At the same ceremony the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Rick Hillier, and RCMP Commissioner Giuliano Zaccardelli received the medal. In September 2005 during the centennial festivities Prime Minister Paul Martin and Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and her husband John Ralston Saul were similarly honoured. Early in 2006 Captain Nick Wright, Private Secretary to the Princess Royal, and Brigadier John Smedley, Private Secretary to the Earl and Countess of Wessex, were presented with the medal in London by the Saskatchewan chief of protocol in recognition of their stalwart service in arranging “working” royal visits to the province.

Then in May 2006, during their first official visit to Saskatchewan, Governor General Michaëlle Jean and her husband Jean-Daniel Lafond received the Centennial Medal from the Lieutenant Governor in a televised official welcome in the Legislative Chamber. The new vice-regal couple beamed as their citations were read and Dr. Haverstock pinned the insignia on them to thunderous applause – a good start to their relationship with the Province of Saskatchewan.

85% of the recipients elected to receive their medals at the 85 presentation events held across the province – a very high ratio in this kind of program. The Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Lynda Haverstock, presided at most of these events, delegating the others to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Justice of the Court of Queen’s Bench and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court.

The assessment of the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal program has been very positive. Among the outcomes is a sharply increased awareness of official honours among the people of Saskatchewan, thousands of whom attended the various presentation ceremonies. Since it was emphasized that the medal was an honour of the provincial Crown, the role of the Crown was reinforced across the province. Finally, the already high profile of the Lieutenant Governor was even further enhanced. The lesson was clear: the success of the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal program was due in large part to that non-partisan, royal institution – the Canadian Crown.

continued from the previous page

them with her characteristic enthusiasm and insight. She was honorary chair of the provincial committee for the Queen’s Golden Jubilee in 2002 and of its sub-committee for the statue of the Queen on her Saskatchewan horse Burmese – which Her Majesty unveiled in 2005 in the legislative grounds in Regina. Her Honour was patron of the Government House Foundation, which raised over a third of the \$6.4 million cost of the new Queen Elizabeth II Wing and its associated J.E.N. Wiebe interpretive centre on the Crown at Government House Heritage Property in Regina. This major provincial centennial project was opened by Her Majesty, too, in 2005. I know from my direct experience that Dr. Haverstock played a key role in overcoming bureaucratic obstacles and ensuring the success of these projects.

She contributed enormously in other ways to the provincial centennial in 2005. When the government’s centennial planning was faltering, she personally imagined, inspired and led the Lieutenant Governor’s Centennial Gala of the Arts. After two years of preparation and fundraising, this original extravaganza of music and dance featuring Saskatchewan artists was staged in Saskatchewan’s largest arena in Saskatoon in May 2005. It attracted an audience of 10,000 – with, as guests of honour, Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh – and was televised live across Canada by CBC. Her love of the arts was also reflected in her program of the Lieutenant Governor’s pin for volunteers in the arts.

Lynda Haverstock embraced with enthusiasm Saskatchewan’s honours of the provincial Crown. As Chancellor of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, she presided at its investitures with grace and charm. The first ex officio vice-regal member of the Order, she was also the first to wear its chancellor’s collar of office and the first to invest members of

the Royal Family as honorary members: the Prince of Wales in 2001 and the Earl of Wessex in 2006. She presented the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal each year in the Legislature with equal aplomb. Dr. Haverstock took great pride in the expansion of provincial honours through the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal in 2003 and the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in 2005. These medals, presented at ceremonies across the province, gave her an opportunity to work her magic on a wider, grassroots audience. The thousands of people who attended these events were amazed by her charismatic touch in bestowing honours so personally and intimately on each recipient.

Dr. Haverstock was no shrinking violet when it came to her views on the Canadian Crown in general and the provincial Crown in particular. Her time in office coincided with a major push by Rideau Hall to assert the primacy of the Governor General as Canadian “head of state”, in the process, of course, minimizing the role of the Queen and... that of the Lieutenant Governors. Lynda Haverstock would have none of that. She was strongly motivated by her admiration for the Queen personally and for the monarchy embodied by Her Majesty. This was coupled with her belief that the office of lieutenant governor vitally symbolized provincial co-sovereignty in Confederation. Rideau Hall’s brand of Ottawa centralism was not for her. It is reported that she expressed her views cogently in the periodic conclaves of the Governor General and Lieutenant Governors, to the displeasure of the former and the bewilderment of some of the latter, less inclined than Dr. Haverstock to rock the vice-regal boat.

Rock that boat she did, and the Canadian Crown is the better for it. Lynda Haverstock transformed the office of Lieutenant Governor in Saskatchewan and in so doing helped reinvigorate the monarchy for Canadians.



Chief Justice E.D. Bayda administers the Oaths of office to Dr. Gordon Barnhart. Seated are Mrs. Naomi Barnhart and Mrs. Betty Calvert.

Saskatchewan Hails Vice-Regal Appointment of Gordon Barnhart

by Michael Jackson

Saskatchewan's genuine regret at the retirement of Lynda Haverstock as Lieutenant Governor was matched by widespread acclaim for her successor, Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart. The first vice-regal appointment by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Dr. Barnhart was installed as the Queen's twentieth representative in the province on August 1st, 2006. He brings impressive credentials to the position.

Born and raised in the small town of Saltcoats in eastern Saskatchewan, Gordon Barnhart was briefly a history teacher, then in 1967 became assistant clerk in the Saskatchewan Legislature at the tender age of 24 – the youngest legislative clerk in the Commonwealth. He was Clerk of the Assembly from 1969 to 1989, momentous years in Saskatchewan politics during which three different parties formed government. With the firm leadership which became his hallmark, Dr. Barnhart strengthened the legislature despite the rancorous partisanship which often afflicted the institution. He skilfully guided successive Speakers in the intricacies of presiding over the Assembly's debates and introduced televising of the proceedings in 1983.

Gordon Barnhart accepted a new challenge in 1989 when he became Clerk of the Senate of Canada. I believe that he was disappointed at his inability during his five years in Ottawa to overcome resistance and implement much-needed administrative reforms for the Upper Chamber. It was no doubt with a sense of frustration but also a sense of relief that he returned to his home province in 1994

to teach history and politics at his *alma mater*, the University of Saskatchewan, while pursuing studies for a PhD in history.

In 1998, meeting another challenge which he had been told was insurmountable, Dr. Barnhart completed his doctoral thesis on Walter Scott, Saskatchewan's first premier. The thesis became a book, *Peace, Progress and Prosperity: A Biography of Saskatchewan's First Premier, T. Walter Scott*, published in 2000. This was followed in 2002 by *Building for the Future: A Photo Journal of Saskatchewan's Legislative Building* and by *Saskatchewan's Premiers of the Twentieth Century* in 2004. Dr. Barnhart served as University Secretary from 2000 to 2005, when he retired to Saltcoats.

Gordon Barnhart is an internationally-known expert on parliamentary democracy, committed to strengthening democratic institutions at home and abroad. He created and directed Saskatchewan's legislative intern program. He has advised the Canadian International Development Agency and the United Nations and provided consulting services to South Africa, Vietnam and Russia.

I have known Gordon Barnhart for a quarter-century and can bear witness to his impressive determination, energy and intellect. He is not only a firm supporter of the Canadian Crown but profoundly understands the institution and its importance to Canada's political culture. He will bring to the vice-regal office unparalleled knowledge and expertise. Supporters of the monarchy in Canada should stay tuned.

Give A Free Monarchist League Trial Membership!

The best source of new members for the Monarchist League of Canada is the referrals of current members. If you have friends, relatives, work colleagues or possibly members of your faith community, Legion Hall or athletic club who seem interested in – or perhaps puzzled about – the Canadian Crown – why not seek their permission (we don't want spend League funds to pester folks who aren't sympathetic) to send us their names, along with their postal and e-mail addresses.

We'll sign them up for a six-month trial membership and send them League materials and Canadian Monarchist News. At the end of six months, we'll hope they will renew – or they are free to tell us to cancel their affiliation.

Send nominations to domsec@sympatico.ca

(or mail them to PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9)

FROM PARLIAMENT HILL

Responses from MP's to Monarchist League Letter

by Gavin Guthrie, *Dominion Vice-Chairman, Political Action*

In the early days of Her Majesty's 39th Canadian Parliament, nearly one year ago, I performed one of my first "official" duties: the important task of making contact with each of the Members. They were informed about the League, its mandate and activities, as well as new personnel forming its executive. Most importantly, however, they were canvassed on their opinions on the Maple Crown, stating that, since they had all recently taken their parliamentary Oath of Allegiance to their sovereign, the League looked forward to their re-affirming their support for Canada's monarchy. Some of the MPs were, of course, returning for another session in the House, and many of these were already familiar with the League and its activities. Others, however, were fresh on Parliament Hill, and it was therefore thought advantageous to notify them of the League's existence and influence.

The vast majority of the hundreds of letters sent garnered a reply, though, admittedly, most were simply acknowledgements of the receipt of our words. No worries, though: the presence of the League had still been brought to their attention! What should give us greater heart, however, was that of those replies that were not just straightforward acknowledgements, not a single one put forward a negative opinion about our constitutional monarchy. Even better is that there isn't sufficient space in this publication to résumé every letter that explicitly expressed a positive view of Her Majesty and the Crown. We will make do with a selection.

■ Then-Minister of Canadian Heritage, Hon Bev Oda (CPC: Durham), assured the League that under her direction the Ministry would continue to educate Canadians about our national symbols, heritage, culture and traditions, including the Crown, which she described as Canadian.

■ Bruce Stanton, (CPC: Simcoe North) said that he supported the Monarchist League, and praised the organization for its dedication to preserving and celebrating the role of the Monarchy. He added: "The Queen is our Head of State and must remain."

■ Lui Temelkovski, (Lib: Oak Ridges-Markham) shared projects organized in his riding, as described elsewhere in this issue. He also issued over 500 colour photographs of The Queen to schools, public buildings, and constituents. In his constituency newsletter, Mr Temelkovski wrote: "This is an important milestone in The Queen's life and for Canada. She has been Queen of Canada for over 54 years and has reigned over Canada as it has gained more independence and come into its own as a nation." Well done!



Loyal Liberal MP Lui Temelkovski, provided inspiration and postcard for Markham constituents to send 80th Birthday wishes to The Queen.

■ Jason Kenney, (CPC: Calgary Southeast and now a member of the Cabinet) reaffirmed his "strong and loyal" support for the Canadian Crown, and expressed his pleasure with the League's efforts to teach young Canadians about the Crown and its place in our constitutional framework. Mr. Kenney went further to add a handwritten personal note with a welcoming pro-monarchy theme.

■ Though Hon Rob Nicholson (CPC: Niagara Falls) referred to Her Majesty as the "Queen of England," we can forgive him of this in light of his support for the Crown and the retention of The Queen as our Head of State, as well as his personal addition of "PS – You can count on me in this area!"

■ A veteran of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces, Laurie Hawn, (CPC: Edmonton Centre,) wrote that he was pleased to be serving The Queen once again, albeit in a different way, and explicitly stated his personal support for the Monarchy. It was heartening to hear that he values the tradition, history and principals of constitutional monarchy in Canada.

■ Scott Reid, (CPC: Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington) expressed his support for the Monarchy. More, he attached his communication to Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay, in which he asked that The Queen's name be restored to the Letters of Credence and Recall, stating that Canada's ambassadors should report to foreign nations under the authority of Her Majesty The Queen. Quite right, Mr. Reid!

■ The League received the admiration of The Hon Byron Wilfert (CPC: Richmond Hill) for "the efforts being made to keep the Canadian Crown a valuable figure of Canada." Beyond that, his words demonstrated his regard for the importance of the Crown to Canada's history, traditions, values and government, and assured us that the Canadian government continues to support The Queen's role within Canada. As if that were not enough, Mr. Wilfert also wanted to draw our attention to the congratulations book he acquired for his constituents to sign in honour of Her Majesty's eightieth birthday, and the royal portraits he obtained for distribution to local organizations and constituents.

■ Hon Bill Graham (Lib: Toronto Centre), then the interim Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, despite telling his constituents in a newsletter that the group he led was no longer addressed as such, now merely being known as the Official Opposition, reassured the League that "while the Liberal Party is in fierce opposition to the minority Conservative Government, you can be assured that we remain loyal to Canada and the Crown."

As but a small sample of the letters received, this is a strong showing of support for the Crown amongst our parliamentarians! May they keep up their good work. And may you all, our loyal members and readers, keep your elected representatives on mark to ensure they don't forget that they serve you through our Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

BOOK REVIEW

On Royalty
by Jeremy Paxman
(Penguin, \$26)
by Jake Lindsay

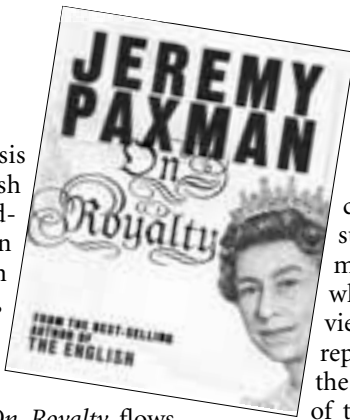
The latest thesis published by British journalist and broadcaster Jeremy Paxman certainly continues in his tradition of quirky, yet intelligent story telling and intellectual exploration. From a reader's perspective, *On Royalty* flows like an interwoven collection of anecdotal stories, which he builds in order to come to several profound conclusions.

A helpful and amusing account is the Duke of Edinburgh's "rule of thumb" when HRH is introduced to married couples. That is, every fifth man will curtsy rather than bow, his nervousness causing him to forget how to act as he merely just copies the curtsy of the woman in front of him. The mystique and aura surrounding royalty, Paxman concludes, is a necessary component of its continuing appeal.

Paxman's broader subject matter is royalty in general, as almost no European royal house, past or present, remains unmentioned. Although the book does engage in some 'compare-and-contrast', it is essentially a British examination of the contemporary House of Windsor, with only a handful of references to Canada.

The majority of the book focuses on examining the trappings of royalty, and how the 'image' of modern royalty is crafted, managed, and scrutinized. The relationship between the Royal Family and the media is discussed, particularly where it relates to the relatively recent funerals of The Queen Mother and Diana, Princess of Wales. The author argues that these poignant times define our conception of "royalty" and serve to validate the "obsession with symbols of rank and organization" which define a hierarchical institution such as a monarchical system of government.

Critically, Paxman debunks the supposed apolitical nature of the Queen. He concludes that having a political opinion is essential in a monarch, but that dangers can arise when such political views are imposed without legitimate authority. He gives numerous examples, some distant in time, and others as recent as



the Iraq conflict, in which our present Queen has taken a political stance, albeit in a private and non-partisan manner.

Although Paxman does not clearly identify whether he is a supporter or detractor of the monarchy, he certainly attacks what he feels are the fallacious views of ardent monarchists and republicans alike. He states that the republicans' focus on the cost of the monarchy is an unimportant argument which has failed to win much support, and also rhetorically asks if the abolition of the monarchy would achieve anything whatsoever. His limited defense of the Royal Family, however, is far from glowing. In a theme repeated throughout the book, Paxman compares the monarchy to a form of "tribalism" with the addition of military, religious, and political adornments.

On Royalty is an enjoyable read, though the book is probably an oversimplification of the role of the Royal Family, and examines the modern function of the Royals from an overly-cynical journalistic standpoint. Paxman makes a tongue in cheek reference to this in his *Acknowledgments* section, quoting a publisher who stated that a book on the monarchy must take an extreme position, either highly critical or extremely glowing, in order to be profitable! Though I do not believe *On Royalty* to fall at either 'extreme', it certainly is a guarded defense of the constitutional monarchy, and makes good reading for anyone interested in this subject.

BOOK IN BRIEF

Monarchy
by David Starkey
Harper, \$39.95

The second volume of the distinguished historian's account of the British Monarchy covers the period from the end of the Wars of the Roses to the Reign of Victoria. The hero of the work's diverse cast of characters is Victoria's Prince Consort, Albert. It was he, Starkey argues, who set the tone for the modern monarchy we know today, and changed the hitherto-alien and libertine image of the Royals of the Regency period to the stolid, respectable and dutiful family model personified by all the Windsor sovereigns.

Monarchist League Education Initiatives

SASKATCHEWAN LG LAUNCHES MONARCHIST LEAGUE'S REVISED EDUCATIONAL WEBSITE

At a holiday Reception at the Mandel Art Gallery, Saskatoon, hosted on December 30, 2006 by the Monarchist League's North Saskatchewan Branch, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, Dr Gordon Barnhart, was graciously pleased to launch the Dominion League's revised educational website. As the site was projected onto large screens, the 45 members and guests present were delighted to note its contemporary graphics and imaginative contents, and particularly such stand-out sections as *Sport and the Canadian Crown*, downloads for teachers and class handouts. Designed by Education Coordinator Nathan Tidridge, the site www.monarchist.ca/education will gradually be expanded to reflect both Nathan's classroom experience as a teacher, and the array of informative and enjoyable contents available on the Maple Crown. To give all those present a reminder of the site, outgoing Branch Chairman Nigel Molaro designed and distributed a most attractive bookmark containing the site's address on the Web. The outreach component of the event was underlined as it was publicized with advertising in campus newspapers, and a feature interview coordinated between Dr Barnhart and the University of Saskatchewan campus weekly journal.

THE LEAGUE'S NEW EDUCATIONAL BOOKLET THE CANADIAN MONARCHY

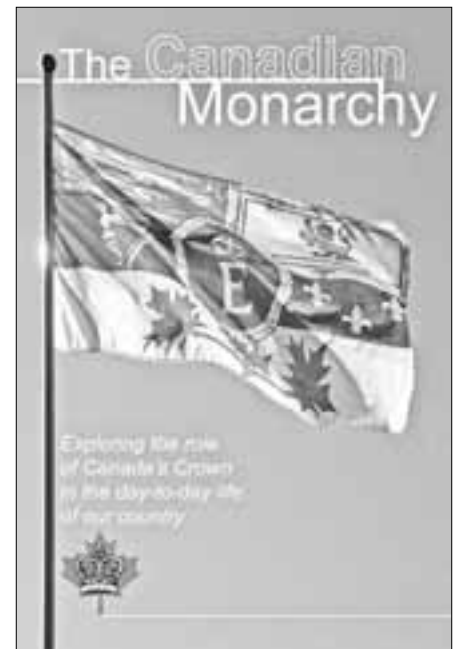
by Nathan Tidridge,
Education Coordinator

The survival of the Crown in Canada is closely linked with proper education. Ambivalence comes with misunderstanding, and the Crown has long been misunderstood in this country.

It starts in our schools. As a teacher in Ontario I have become aware that teaching resources about the Crown are scarce (and I understand that the same experience is being echoed across the country). Information available to teachers is often brief, and/or misinformed. References to the "Queen of England" and the monarchy as an institution in decline are common frameworks of delivery.

The idea behind developing *The Canadian Monarchy* booklet was to provide an easily-understandable resource for Canadian teachers and students, as well as the general public. The booklet needed to be a jumping point for those interested in exploring the Crown further, as well as a quick read for anyone interested in Canada's oldest institution.

Most people are visual learners, and this is especially true for high school students. From the beginning, it was important to make the booklet both colourful and full of Canadian visuals. Gavin Guthrie did a superb job of laying out a crisp, professional design that is informative and pleasing to the eye. As well, the pictures selected for the booklet are contemporary and encompass many different aspects and regions of the country. We wanted to develop a booklet that would visually grab a reader's attention, leading them into the text. I believe we



have accomplished this, and are indebted to Gavin for his hard work.

Explaining the Crown can quickly become a very abstract and academic affair, but it doesn't have to. For the general public and students alike, the text needed to explain the main facets of the Canadian crown in approachable language. Dr. Michael Jackson's resources *The Monarchy in Saskatchewan* and *The Crown in Canada* formed the foundations of a text that presents the Crown in a way that is accessible to people who may be exploring the subject for the first time. Introductions are offered to such important subjects as *Authority in Canada* (and the often mis-understood separation of Head of State and Head of Government), *First Nations People, Treaties and the Crown*, the *Canadian Honours System* and *Canadian Heraldic Authority*. Dr. Chris McCreery's overview of the Canadian Honours System highlights his extensive study (and authorship) in this area, and hopefully will entice readers to want to learn more. That is one of our hopes for the booklet: that it causes readers to want to explore further the many topics it outlines.

Copies of *The Canadian Monarchy* have been sent to every Canadian Lieutenant-Governor, Senator, and Member of Parliament. As well, Buckingham Palace, Rideau Hall and the PMO have received copies (along with other key governmental agencies). Provincial Legislative distribution is to commence in Spring, 2007. The hope is that governments will see this as an approachable, cost-effective resource for teaching Canadians about their Crown. In my own school, the booklet will be used to teach students about the Crown, and then ask them what they think about it as a Canadian Institution – an exercise that I hope will be duplicated in classrooms across the country. The recently revamped education website for the Monarchist League of Canada, offering resources and discussion points for Canadians, complements *The Canadian Monarchy* booklet, which is a cornerstone of this overall educational thrust.

In the short time since its introduction, the resource has been warmly re-

continued on the next page



Calgary Youth Member Coordinates Lieutenant Governor's High School Visit

by Joshua Traptow

On September 22nd, 2006, my high school, Bowness High (located in Calgary, Alberta) celebrated its 50th Anniversary with an evening BBQ, attended



by over 1500! On behalf of the school I sent invitations to various politicians and public figures – our guests of Honour were the Lieutenant Governor, the Hon Norman L. Kwong and Her Honour Mrs. Mary Kwong. I found out that hosting the Queens Representative involves a ton of work but in the end it was well worth it!

A few days before the BBQ His Honour's Aide-de-Camp and security officer visited the school to make sure all details were in place – even that their Honours don't drink tea or coffee but boiled water! The day of the BBQ I had the task of ensuring that everything was ready for their arrival at 6:00 pm. As host, I was expected to meet them at the curb – I felt nervous that I was going to forget the protocol instructions – but I didn't. I saw a black Buick pull up with the flag of the Lieutenant Governor: Their Honours had arrived ...time for some butterflies in my stomach. When Their Honours exited the car the Aide-de-Camp introduced me, and on behalf of the students and staff I welcomed them and told them how grateful everyone was that they were able to attend and help us to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. As we were walking into the school I was surprised with

how much their Honours knew about it and how they kept asking questions, whether about the art work or rugby memorabilia displayed or the various additions to the school.

When I had found out in July that His Honour had accepted our invitation I also became aware that my parents had gone to William Aberheart High School with their son Greg. So after I had introduced their Honours to the special guests I advised Mrs Kwong of this, and her face just lit up, calling across the room to His Honour "Normie" who laughed and remarked what a small world we live in.



Just before the program started, Their Honours presented me with a pin, with the crest of the Lieutenant Governor on it, which I now wear at all of the Calgary Branch's Monarchist dinners and every other important event I attend.

As we were walking out across the grass to the outdoor stage our football team in its green and gold uniforms had lined up on both sides to provide a clear path: I asked His Honour if these uniforms reminded him of his time playing for the Edmonton Eskimos. At the end of His Honour's speech he acknowledged his role as HM's representative in Alberta as on behalf of The Queen he congratulated our school on 50 years of "Pride and Excellence." Their Honours then unveiled a plaque commemorating Bowness 50th Anniversary. As everyone was exiting the stage I asked Their Honours if they would like to meet my parents and they said of course. So I motioned my mom and dad over to the stairs and introduced my parents. Inside we had the official photo taken of all the guests and their hosts which now hangs in the library of the school and then presented their Honours with gifts and Bowness 50th Anniversary Books.

Hosting a vice-regal guest involves a lot of planning; but it also creates a sense of recognition and dignity that no politician or other figure can equal!



Education Focus for Young Monarchist Meeting in Ottawa

by Eugene Berezovsky

On November 4th, 2006, the Young Monarchist Group met in Ottawa for its 3rd Annual Conference. It was the first time the meeting was held outside of Toronto and was certainly our most successful to date. Some Toronto youth had met for a Pub Night on August 19th, and enthusiastically endorsed the project.

Under the guiding hands of Youth Coordinators Eugene Berezovsky, Mon-

opportunities for campus monarchism and campus print advertising. New modes of outreach were a common theme throughout the conference and discussion focused on online opportunities such as social networking sites. This part of the meeting, led by Ted Williams, has already been employed to help YMG members at universities stay in contact with each other. Finally, the issue of outreach to new Canadians was also given



ica Cop and Ted Williams, the event brought together young monarchists under 30 years of age from across Canada to the University of Ottawa to discuss the future plans of the group and the direction of young monarchism in Canada.

The meeting heard presentations from participants on a variety of important issues the Young Monarchist Group is hoping to address. The League's Education coordinator, Nathan Tidridge, led the group in discussion about the League's new education programs and new opportunities for reaching out to younger Canadians in an effort to spread understanding of the Canadian monarchy. The first versions of an education website were unveiled and plans to make major improvements to the League's site were discussed. In addition, Nathan shared a proposed teaching aid for young students in the elementary level showed the evolution of the Canadian Crown through its nearly 500 year long history.

The conference also heard from long time member Brock Weir, who gave an insightful and thorough presentation on

high priority and resulted in a new project for the YMG. The plan is to create a brief educational pamphlet explaining the meaning and significance of Canada's Oath of Allegiance. This Oath, taken by all new Canadians at their citizenship ceremonies, is one of the strongest connections millions of Canadians have with their Crown. And yet it is still often misunderstood for lack of clarity. In order to reach as large an audience as possible with this project, it was proposed the pamphlet be translated in several languages.

The 2006 YMG Conference was a major collaborative effort among many individuals who contributed their time and effort to bring all of the pieces together as we undertook our bold move to the nations capital. As special notes mention is due to our Ottawa area members who helped with billeting, site booking and minute-taking. And we are of course indebted to all our members to who took time to come out to this important annual meeting.

Education...

continued from previous page

ceived. The booklet was used during the installation of Nova Scotia's next Lieutenant-Governor (Dr. Michael Jackson's passage on the provincial Crown was read at the beginning of the ceremony) with 60 copies distributed to young cadets participating the event. The protocol office in Nova Scotia sees the booklet as a tool they can use in their focus on youth and education, and have since ordered more copies. Other vice-regal offices have placed orders – the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island's office ordering 1000 copies! Members of Parliament and Senators from across the country have requested booklets, ensuring a second printing within a short time (not bad since our initial printing was 10,000).

The Canadian Monarchy is a starting point for a renewed push for proper education of the Crown to Canadians. To

paraphrase Carl Sandburg: "When a society or civilization perishes, one constant can always be found: They forgot where they came from." We need to remind people of our foundations.

A great thanks is owed to Dr. Michael Jackson and Dr. Chris McCreery for their contributions, Gavin Guthrie for his beautiful design and layout, and all of the people – notably John Aimers – who helped polish the dozen or so drafts before the final booklet. This is an ongoing project that will evolve and develop with the Crown – please pass on errors, areas that need development, and other improvements to me. Together we can ensure this resource remains contemporary, accessible and relevant.

I would encourage members to circulate as many booklets as they can into their communities. Local schools, offices, libraries and other information centres all should make use of such a resource. The success of this project depends on our ability to circulate it throughout Canada. The sky is the limit!

BY THEIR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

The Monarchist League of Canada gratefully remembers those departed members whose bequests over the last decade have assisted to provide for the maintenance of the League's work across the Dominion of Canada whose Sovereign they faithfully served in life and whose welfare they forgot not in death. R.I.P.



*Ronald Roy Anger, Toronto, Ontario
William Atkinson, Ajax, Ontario
Walter Heslop Bilbrough, Toronto, Ontario
Ann Elizabeth Jean Brown, Orillia, Ontario
Kenneth Connolly, Stoney Creek, Ontario
Francis William Dollman, Victoria, British Columbia
William Vernon Goodfellow, Hamilton, Ontario
Ronald Powell Graham, Hamilton, Ontario
Reginald Gordon Harris, Kelowna, British Columbia
Isabel Louise Hill, Fredericton, New Brunswick
Ruth MacKay Kennedy, Halifax, Nova Scotia
James Milton MacDonald, Toronto, Ontario
Eileen Evelyn Parker, Calgary, Alberta
Natalie Platner, Markham, Ontario
Helen Ralston, Toronto, Ontario
Daniel Edward Sage, Corbeil, Ontario
Grace Smith, Toronto, Ontario
Murray W. Waterman, Calgary, Alberta
Elsie Wight, Ottawa & Toronto, Ontario*



A prominent League member and benefactor, Mr. Alex Paton of Victoria, BC, has written a letter on the subject of wills, which he kindly gave permission for the League to circulate in any way that might be helpful. The Dominion Chairman sent it, along with a covering letter from the League, to all Life Members and to major contributors. If you would like to receive copies of this material, The Dominion Secretary would cheerfully send them to you on request. In his final paragraph, the Chairman stated, "As I reflect on what, together, we have accomplished over this last quarter-century and more, nothing would give me greater satisfaction than to know that some of our most dedicated members will wish to help continue the work which we have endeavoured to do in life."

Make Sure The Work Goes On!

Members who would like to ensure the continuation of the work of the Monarchist League of Canada in the years ahead, so that generations of the future may know the benefits of the Monarchy, are urged to consider the League's needs in making their wills. A suggested form of bequest, devised by the League's Honorary Solicitor, is provided below.

I give and bequeath (or, in the case of real property: I give, devise and bequeath) to the Monarchist League of Canada Incorporated, P.O. Box 1057, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E9, the sum of _____.



2007 Accession Luncheon

Jacques Monet speaks to celebrants

The League's Annual Accession Luncheon was held on Sunday, February 11, in spacious surroundings of the Vanity Fair Ballroom of Toronto's Meridien King Edward Hotel. Over 120 guests attended, representing no less than 17 Ontario communities and Montreal! Chaired by incoming Dominion Chairman Robert Finch, those present enjoyed a goat cheese salad, coq au vin and chocolate mousse meal. It was punctuated by the Loyal Toast, given by the summer's Intern to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, University of Ottawa student

Nigel Molaro. Guest speaker, the distinguished Jesuit historian Jacques Monet, sj, challenged the crowd with his eloquent and original interpretation of the role of the Crown in building "the New Canada." Fr Monet's address will be published in the next issue of CMN. Farewell remarks by League Founder John Aimers were met with a prolonged standing ovation. Robert Finch then dismissed the guests to the Evensong of Thanksgiving for the Accession which was held across the street at St James' Cathedral in the presence of The Lieutenant Governor.



LEAGUE NOTES

ROBERT FINCH APPOINTED DOMINION CHAIRMAN

The Board of Directors has been pleased to appoint Robert Finch as Dominion Chairman, effective on Founding



Robert Finch, elected Dominion Chairman

Day, February 23, 2007, the 37th Anniversary of the Founding of the League.

This past year, Robert has served as the League's Chief Operating Officer. He first joined the Monarchist League of Canada in 1998, and then acquired considerable experience in its operations, beginning in 1999 when he joined the Executive Committee of the Hamilton & District Branch. 2002 found him appointed Coordinator of the Dominion Young Adult Monarchist group. He became Dominion Vice-Chairman (Branch Operations) in 2005. Bob will continue to be assisted by fellow officers Gavin Guthrie, Vice-Chairman for Political Action, and Nathan Tidridge, Education Coordinator.

Born 1977 in Burlington, Ontario, Robert currently resides in Hamilton, where he has recently become engaged to his long-time girlfriend Monika. A graduate of McMaster University (Business), he works in the industrial marketing field. He is a keen fan of the Hamilton Tiger Cats.

GRAEME ROBERT TOWER SORLEY 1933-2007



The Victoria Branch lost its imaginative Branch Chairman, long-serving former Membership Secretary, and great friend with the death on January 23rd of Graeme Sorley. Born in Bermuda, educated at Stowe and Cambridge, Graeme subsequently served with the Royal Dragoons in Egypt, and then pursued a successful career in the oil industry in the UK and the USA before he came to Victoria for an active retirement. An avid sailor, tennis player, and chronicler of family history, Graeme exuded positive energy. His lifetime of loyalty to the Crown, deeply felt, was expressed practically in thoughtful planning and meticulous organization. Thus it was in 2002 he received the League's Silver Badge of Service from HRH Prince Michael of Kent. He faced his final illness with characteristic courage and unselfishness. Indeed, I received a handwritten letter from Graeme just weeks before his death, delighting in how he had defied the doctors' "predictions" and so had been able to participate fully in his son David's wedding, and in two of his children's moves from Calgary and Singapore. "I regret having effectively to bow out of my Monarchist responsibilities," he wrote, "but that was a casualty of my health, not of enthusiasm." True words, accounting for the respect with which we extend sympathy to Brenda and all Graeme's family, as we mourn with them the passing of a man of sterling integrity, committed duty and profound loyalty. JLA

NATHAN TIDRIDGE AWARDED SILVER BADGE OF SERVICE

The Monarchist League has a modest system of honours, consisting of a Gold Badge of Service, limited to 10 living badge-holders, for service at the Dominion level; a Silver Badge of Service, for service at the Branch or local level, or in a specific endeavour; and Honorary Life Memberships, usually awarded to non-members for useful advocacy of the



Nathan Tidridge receives Badge of Service from Robert Finch, Dominion Chairman-designate

Crown in their own professions. These honours are awarded from time to time, with one Silver Badge usually presented each calendar year.

At the Accession Luncheon held in Toronto on February 11, the Dominion Chairman-designate, Robert Finch, had the privilege of announcing the name of a new honoree, who has been an active League member since he was 16. His career as a monarchist began with a splash in the local newspapers, when he demanded to know why his local public library refused to hang a picture of Canada's Sovereign. More recently, as a teacher in the public school system, his explorations into the shockingly cavalier treatment of the Monarchy on the part of textbooks authorized for use in Ontario schools has enlightened and disturbed the Friends of the Canadian Crown. His imaginative use of classroom materials for his students led him to spearhead, write and then have produced the League's outstanding new educational booklet, *The Canadian Monarchy*, which is enjoying national distribution. His sense of appeal to contemporary Canadians is also reflected in the on-going fresh re-design of a new and exciting education section of the League's web site.

Inexhaustible, enthusiastic and deeply committed to the Canadian Crown, this outstanding League member is managing to renovate a farm house as he prepares for his marriage to his childhood sweetheart Christine not long from now. So, for his multiple contributions over many years, and in expectation of his ebullient spirit providing many more challenges and opportunities for to the League over the coming decades, the Silver Badge of Service was awarded to Education Coordinator, Nathan Tidridge, of Millgrove.

VHS CONVERSION IN PROGRESS

Have you noticed your home videotapes beginning to deteriorate in quality? The League found this happening to its extensive and valuable collection of VHS tapes, which are now being converted to DVD format, thanks to the generosity of Carleton University member Brock Weir. A longtime member, Brock responded to the League's appeal for help in conserving some 200-300 hours of material. Professional transferral would have cost a minimum of \$3000!

The collection falls into three main categories: first, records of League events such as the Ruby Jubilee Banquet with King Michael and Queen Anna of Romania; second, television interviews with the Founder and other League spokesmen; third, and largest in size, historic films of Royal tours and occasions, largely consisting of professionally-produced documentaries purchased by the League to lend members during the heyday of the video loan library it operated during the 1980's and early 1990's. It is hoped that by summer, a complete collection of DVD's (which have a lengthy lifetime) will be in the League's possession, at which point it will be a simple and inexpensive process to "burn" copies for members wishing to purchase these fascinating materials for home enjoyment. In the meantime, a huge vote of thanks is owed to Brock Weir!

NIGEL MOLARO: SUMMER INTERN AT ONTARIO LG'S OFFICE

Nigel Molaro, University of Ottawa student, former House of Commons Page and holder of the Caring Canadian Award, was the Monarchist League's 10th summer intern in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Queen's Park. In late August, His Honour held a Reception to thank Nigel for his service, at which time the previous summer intern – Eugene Berezovsky, who had continued to work part-time in the vice-regal suite over the last year – also took leave of His Honour.



Nigel Molaro at his desk in Ontario LG's Office



Farewell Reception Guests at Queen's Park, l-r: Jake Lindsay, Nic Horsfield, Nigel Molaro, Eugene Berezovsky, Robert Finch



Vania Cecchin, Personal Assistant to His Honour, is flanked by 9th and 10th Monarchist League Interns



The Lieutenant Governor presents farewell gifts to Nigel Molaro

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Richard Berthelsen, a protocol specialist who has worked both at Rideau Hall and Queen's Park, on his full-page "Three for Thought" review of Royal books featured this Autumn in *The Globe and Mail*... former Dominion Officer **Ven Peter Hannen**, who addressed members of the Canadian Constitutional Club at McGill University... **Ken Lane**, a Life Member who is the proud owner and operator of The Royal London Wax Museum. Ken never misses an opportunity to celebrate the Canadian Crown and royal heritage both in his popular attraction and its newsletter *Wax-Facts*... **Robert McMullan** of Toronto, Executive Director of Abbeyfield Houses Society of Canada, who was recipient of a Royal Patron's Award for his devoted long service to the Society, of which HRH The Prince of Wales is Patron... Montreal member **Gary Sims**, whose eloquent letter commending Prince Harry's bravery on being deployed to Iraq was published by the Gazette on February 26...



CHEW AWAY AT REPUBLICANISM

Join the Monarchist League of Canada
Complimentary trial memberships available
domsec@sympatico.ca
(800) I'M LOYAL

BRANCH NEWS

Calgary, N. Saskatchewan, Winnipeg, Montreal & Northumberland members welcome their respective Lieutenant Governors

◇ **Victoria** members were deeply saddened by the death of their Chairman and previously long-serving Membership Secretary *Graeme Sorley*. A large contingent attended Graeme's funeral, at which flowers from the Dominion League had been arranged by Graeme's successor, *Bill Blore*. Bill's executive team was strengthened with the return to office as Treasurer of past Chairman *Bruce Hallsor*, who succeeded another long-time devoted activist, *Alex Paton*. A large celebration Lunch was held to honour The Queen's 80th Birthday, in addition to a Service of Thanksgiving addressed by Bruce Hallsor. The usual Christmas Tea brought out a good contingent of members, as well.

◇ **Vancouver** Chairman *Keith Roy* reports that some 40 members, many of whom were attending a League event for the first time, enjoyed a Pub Night in the Autumn. Proceedings featured a most enjoyable Royalty Trivia Quiz, with an assortment of suitable prizes!

◇ On November 25th, 2006 the **Calgary** Branch held a service at St. John the Evangelist Church to celebrate the 59th Wedding Anniversary of The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. This was fol-



Senate Speaker Daniel Hays with Youth Coordinator Joshua Traptow at Calgary Branch Dinner

lowed by a well-attended dinner at which Senator Dan Hays was the guest speaker. Senator Hays serves as the Official Leader of Opposition in the Senate and previously as Speaker of the Senate, 2001-2006. Accession Day, February 6th, 2007, found the Branch celebrating HM's 55th anniversary as Sovereign with a dinner at the Kensington Legion, with special guests His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, the Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM, AOE and Her Honour Mrs. Mary Kwong. The Branch's deliberations have been enriched by the appointment to the executive of its first Youth Coordinator, local high school student *Josh Traptow*.

◇ **North Saskatchewan** members enjoyed their holiday Reception on December 30 at Saskatoon's Mendel Art Gallery. This was for many their first opportunity to meet *Their Honours*, the Lieutenant



Retiring N. Saskatchewan Branch Chairman Nigel Molaro, Laurel Gillis and Her Honour Mrs Barnhart listen to the Lieutenant Governor's remarks



The Lieutenant Governor chats with guests at League Christmas Reception in Saskatoon

Governor of Saskatchewan and Mrs Barnhart, who mingled with guests after His Honour announced his Patronage of the Branch. The Branch is excited to welcome its new Chairman, *Robin Mowat*, who succeeds Founding Chairman *Nigel Molaro* who now makes his home in the nation's Capital where he is a student at The University of Ottawa. Young Branch volunteers *Carmen Brown*, *Amber Parillo*, *Trent Evaniksy*, and Chairman *Nigel Molaro* were guests at the installation of Saskatchewan's 20th Lieutenant Governor at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building in August 2006. Their Honours spoke briefly with the volunteers after the ceremonies. In the Spring, Nigel had the honour of being asked by then Lieutenant Governor *Lynda Haverstock* to emcee her Luncheon tendered on the occasion of the first official visit of *Their Excellencies*, the Governor General of Canada and M. Jean-Daniel LaFond. Nigel bid the Governor General farewell in fluent French, stating, "Vos Excellences, merci infiniment d'avoir passé un après-midi avec nous. Votre visite en province et votre engagement à la Couronne ainsi qu'à tous les Canadiens est fortement apprécié. Nous admirons l'enthousiasme avec lequel



Manitoba Monarchists sharing Queen's 80th Birthday celebrate with Lieutenant Governor John Harvard and Branch Chairman Darcie von Axelstierna



Hamilton Branch's 80th Birthday Tribute

vous avez assumé votre nouveau rôle en tant que représentante de la Reine. Nous espérons que la Saskatchewan pourra de nouveau vous accueillir dans un avenir proche.

◇ **Winnipeg** Branch members were delighted to participate in *The Lieutenant Governor's Birthday Party* honouring Her Majesty The Queen's 80th!

◇ At the annual Accession Sunday Luncheon, attended by over 120 members from several **Ontario** Branches, **Toronto** participants were especially pleased to join the crowd in saluting the 94th birthday of long-time member *Lena Pickup*, whose daughter *Felicity* was present. Though unable to attend herself, Lena was delighted to hear of the upcoming tribute when the *Dominion Chairman* had called on her at her apartment a few days previously to convey the good wishes of League members. Incoming Dominion Chairman *Robert Finch* addressed the Toronto Branch's AGM in January. Earlier in the Autumn the Branch's programme had featured a particularly interesting lecture on the Thai

Monarchy by *Doreen Vanini*. The Dominion League organized its second annual Christmas Party at a pub the week preceding the holiday... a good time was had by all.

◇ *Sylvia Cook*, **Hamilton** Branch Chairman, reports that she and her team who mounted and then manned a League booth at the city's "British Show" in February were "overwhelmed" by the interest and response of the crowd. "We could hardly keep up with placing elastic bands around the free pictures of The Queen we were handing out," Sylvia said, reflecting on the more than 600 colour lithos distributed, along with a car-trunk full of other League materials, during the three-day event, which attracted a number of new volunteers and rejuvenated the Branch. In the Fall, the Branch arranged for a plaque "Celebrating Queen Elizabeth II 80th Birthday" to be affixed to a bench in Bayfront Park, close to the Branch's Jubilee Tree, which has apparently now grown quite tall!

◇ The Dominion Chairman joined **Belleville** members in feting the 90th



Quebec Lieutenant Governor Lise Thibault is assisted by St John the Evangelist Rector Fr Keith Schmidt in cutting Queen's 80th Birthday Cake after Mass of Thanksgiving in Montreal



London Branch co-Chairman Sandra Barker, joined by past Chairman Al Boyd and Branch Treasurer Eleanor Pearce, presents Luncheon Proceeds to Wellspring London Cancer Support Centre.

BRANCH NEWS



Northumberland Branch welcomes Hon Mayann Francis, Nova Scotia's new Lieutenant Governor, at Autumn Reception. Her Honour is flanked (l-r) by Branch Secretary Joan MacPhail, Secretary-Treasurer Sharon Holmes, Chairman Olive Pastor and Hazel Roddam, Chaplain

birthday which past branch Chairman and doughty loyalist *Raymond Gunsolus* celebrated in February.

◇Members in *Ottawa* were saddened by the death just before Christmas of long-time loyalist and Branch Executive member *LCol Paul Dunseath*. Paul was also a former Commanding Officer of the Governor General's Foot Guards. The Branch bade an affectionate and grateful farewell to its departing Chairman, the long-serving *Leo Regimbal*, and welcomed new Chairman *Allan Jones*, formerly the Branch Secretary.

◇Many members in *Montreal* attended a Mass of Thanksgiving for The Queen's 80th birthday, held at the Church of

St John the Evangelist in the gracious presence of *Mme Lise Thibault*, *Lieutenant Governor*. Branch Chairman *Doug Dalton* was interviewed by media about the ongoing popularity of the Monarch in Quebec.

◇On November 23, over 60 *Northumberland, NS*, Branch members led by their indefatigable Chairman *Olive Pastor* joined in welcoming Nova Scotia's newly-installed *Lieutenant Governor*, *HH Mayann Francis*, who spoke at the Branch Luncheon held at the Braeside Inn, Pictou. A Christmas Party followed just a few weeks later, and the busy members were anticipating their February Bake Sale.

Toronto Member at Palace Garden Party



by Joseph Hagger

On July 20 last summer, as I stood in front of the Grand Entrance to Buckingham Palace with my radiant 80 year old mother on my arm, I had to think to myself – what an honour this is. With my stepfather and partner joining my mother and me, our invitations from the Lord Chamberlain's Office, personal entry cards and photo id in hand, we formed queues with the other approximately 8,000 invited guests in the Quadrangle to enter the Gardens. Cameras are not allowed as photography is not permitted in the Palace or the Gardens.

Now you might wonder how we came to be invited in the first place. The credit must go to my mother Florence Hagger, of Sudbury, Ontario, born exactly the same day as Her Majesty on April 21st, 1926. I wrote to the Queen at Christmas time asking if her Majesty would send my mother birthday greetings as they shared the occasion. The Queen's Lady-in-waiting replied stating that this is not the normal procedure as the Queen only acknowledges 100th birthdays and 60th anniversaries; however there could be exceptions this year for persons sharing the birthday of Her Majesty. Lo and behold by registered mail from Buckingham Palace my mother received the most beautiful card from, and signed by, the Queen on the day before their shared 80th birthdays.

At the end of January I also wrote to Her Excellency the Governor General and asked if in view of the shared birthday, we could receive an invitation to the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in London. An assistant to Her Excellency told me to apply through the Canadian High Commission, London, via Anne Stewart, the Social Secretary. I e-mailed her immediately and Miss Stewart provided me with the necessary applications. After approximately 2 weeks our applications and security checks were approved and our journey began, a memorable experience, not just for my 80 year old mother and her husband, but us as well.

From the Quadrangle we pass through two ground floor rooms of the Palace. The art work, tapestries and furnishings leave you in awe. As one enters the Terrace and proceeds down the steps into the Gardens one is immediately

taken by a 40 acre spectacle, including a lake and island in the middle. Flower gardens, decorative flowering trees and shrubs stand out against the crisp whiteness of the main, diplomatic and Royal tea tents. Ladies wear day dress with a hat while gentleman are attired in morning or lounge suits or business dress. Seating is obviously limited for such a crowd but we were able to secure two shaded chairs for my mother and her husband to the left of the Royal tent, with good view of all the Members of the Royal Family in attendance. This was a plus indeed as London was experiencing a heat wave!

Two military bands play music alternately throughout the afternoon. We were served lemonade, and invited to join the queues forming in front of the Main tea tent to enjoy the magnificent display of finger sandwiches (cucumber and watercress, cheddar cheese and tomato, egg salad, and smoked salmon), cakes and biscuits being provided with tea, cold coffee latte and apple and pear juice, as well as ice cream from The Queen's own dairy farm. We were all very impressed with the organization, efficiency and attention to detail: not an easy task when feeding 8,000 guests.

Yeoman of the Guard in their bright red uniforms position themselves amongst the crowds. At exactly 4:00 p.m. the National Anthem announces the arrival of Her Majesty on the Terrace Steps. She is radiant in yellow, and accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Anne the Princess Royal, Prince Edward and Sophie the Earl and Countess of Wessex, Prince Michael of Kent and Princess Alexandra. Gentlemen at Arms then form lanes for the Queen and Members of the Royal Family to move and mingle through the guests as they make their way to the Royal tea tent where the Queen entertains dignitaries and ambassadors from various Commonwealth countries. We enjoyed our clear view of Margaret Thatcher and Dame Vera Lynn as guests in the Royal Tent.

At 6:00 p.m. the Queen and Members of the Royal Family return to the State Apartments. Unfortunately the Queen did not pass near enough to us to speak as she arrived or departed but just the honour of being in her presence and invited guests to the Palace sufficed for this once in a life time event. If there was any downside to the day it was only the one and a half hour queue for taxis as guests departed!

LEAGUE DIRECTORY

The Monarchist League of Canada

WEB SITE: www.monarchist.ca

Memberships, renewals and general inquiries

Secretariat-General:

PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9
(800) I'M LOYAL – domsec@sympatico.ca

Dominion Chairman: Robert Finch

(905) 912-0916 – chiefopo@monarchist.ca

Dominion Vice-Chairman, Political Action:

Gavin Guthrie – polaction@monarchist.ca

Education Coordinator:

Nathan Tidridge – education@monarchist.ca

Branches (B) and Contact Groups (C)

(C) **Newfoundland:** (Acting):

Jean Lewis (709) 722-1239

(B) **Halifax, Nova Scotia:**

Matt Godwin (902) 864-7959
godwin_matthew@hotmail.com

(C) **Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia:**

Peter & Lucy Traves (902) 798-3389
ltraves@ca.inter.net

(B) **Pictou County, Nova Scotia:**

William James Palmer (902) 752-6385
w.palmer@ns.sympatico.ca

(B) **Northumberland, Nova Scotia:**

Olive Pastor (902) 485-6614
o.pastor@ns.sympatico.ca

(C) **South-West Nova, Nova Scotia:**

Prof. Lester Bartson (902) 245-4490
Cherryhill1767@ns.sympatico.ca

(B) **Saint John, New Brunswick:**

Marjorie Harrison (506) 832-3033
corgi@nb.sympatico.ca

(C) **Sussex / King's County, New Brunswick:**

Prudence Preeper (506) 432-6713

(C) **Quebec City Region:**

Very Revd. Walter Raymond
(418) 694-1358 wraymond@ogs.net

(C) **Montreal, Québec:** Dr. Douglass Dalton

(514) 845-5908 ddalton@videotron.ca

(B) **Ottawa, Ontario:**

Allan Jones
allanejones@rogers.com
Major Leon Regimbal (613) 866-6357
chairman.ottawa_mlc@rogers.com
Paul Benoit (Media Inquiries)
(613) 747-7947 paulbenoit@rogers.com

(B) **Kingston, Ontario:**

Mrs Marlene McCracken (613) 389-0295
marlenemccracken@hotmail.com

(B) **Belleville, Ontario:**

Eric Camolese (613) 392-8019
errickcamolese@sympatico.ca

(C) **Peterborough, Ontario:**

Branch Secretary: Marjorie Sheppard
greenworld@sympatico.ca

(C) **Barrie-Simcoe, Ontario:**

Major John Fisher (705) 739-7604
majjrfisher@rogers.com

(B) **Toronto, Ontario:**

Beth Clarke beth13@sympatico.ca

(B) **Hamilton & District, Ontario:**

Mrs Sylvia Cook (905) 574-7110
scook@quickclie.net

(C) **Niagara Region, Ontario:**

Calvin Arnt (905) 938-1776
americantory@cogeco.ca

(B) **Guelph-Grand River, Ontario:**

Martin Vierula (519) 884-8017
mhsvierula@canada.com

(B) **University of Waterloo, Ontario:**

Matt Bondy m_bondy@hotmail.com
mjbondy@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca

(B) **Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario**

James Mackness (519) 884-2932

(B) **London, Ontario:**

Fr. Gordon Maitland (519) 645-7518
gmaitland@sympatico.ca

Sandra Barker (519) 673-0354
ajbsjb@sympatico.ca

(C) **Windsor, Ontario:**

Christopher Lucki
(519) 966-5145 clucki@hotmail.com

(C) **NW Ontario:** Capt. David Ratz

(807) 939-2298 dratz@vianet.ca

(B) **Winnipeg, Manitoba:** Darcie Axelstierna

(204) 775-5121 darcie_d@yahoo.com

(B) **Regina & S. Saskatchewan:**

Fr. Derek Nicholls (306) 949-8690
dereknicholls@sasktel.net

(B) **Saskatoon & N. Saskatchewan:**

Robin Mowat (306) 343-5883
robin.mowat@usask.ca

(B) **Calgary, Alberta:** Rev. R.S.H. Greene

(403) 270-7557 greenefr@cadvision.com

(B) **Northern Alberta:** Capt. Troy G. Steele

(780) 420-8226 rhq_salh@hotmail.com

(C) **Vancouver, British Columbia:**

Keith Roy (604) 261-8781 or
(604) 454-4219 (cell) keith@keithroy.com

(B) **Victoria, British Columbia:**

Bill Blore (250) 656-0853

alfredblore@shaw.ca

(C) **Central Vancouver Island,**

British Columbia: Harry Weatherley
(250) 752-1051 pathar@telus.net

(B) **Courtenay-Comox Valley,**

British Columbia:

Jesse Scott (250) 338-6846
brijes@shaw.ca

Monarchist Youth Coordinators

Ted Williams – t_tedward@hotmail.com

Eugene Berezovsky –

bond7man@hotmail.com

Monica Cop – mizz_cop@hotmail.com

YOUR OPINION WANTED

*Two major events are just over the horizon
for which advance planning must begin now!*

The 40th Anniversary of the Founding of the Monarchist League of Canada, 1970-2010

~

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012

~

Please use the space below to write your imaginative suggestions as to how the League should consider celebrating both events, and what projects all levels of government should undertake to mark the historic occasion of Her Majesty's 60 years on the Throne.

POST your thoughts to PO Box 1057, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9
or E-MAIL them to *domsec@sympatico.ca*

SUGGESTIONS FROM: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

10 free League postcards (MC 143)
with every \$20 of purchases (before shipping).
Simply write FREE LEAGUE CARDS
in box and in price box, NIL

Canadian Monarchist News – Winter-Spring 2007 – 27

THE BACK PAGE

This feature is the League's new notice board, a better use of its prominent position than the "Sales for Subjects" section, which now appears overleaf. Watch THE BACK PAGE in each issue for interesting announcements, offers and action projects.

CAN'T FIND QUEEN STAMPS? HERE'S THE SOLUTION!

Canada Post has issued a permanent first-class letter rate definitive bearing The Queen's picture. But non-CP owned outlets (such as your corner store) may sometimes not stock them. You may find it easier to obtain these pre-gummed stamps in booklets of 10 by ordering on-line or phone from Shop Canada Post. On-line: www.shopcanadapost.ca (Visa, Mastercard and American Express cards accepted.) For ordering, information or assistance, call toll-free at (866) 607-6301. If you telephone, the SKU number for the Queen's stamp booklet is 111177, and the cost is \$5.20 each – delivery is free for orders over \$25, so order five or more booklets today and end your shopping frustrations!

BRITISH JOURNALIST SEEKS YOUR EXPERTISE

I am a British journalist working on a book and TV programme about trees planted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. Obviously they are all over the world, and since HM has made 23 visits to Canada since 1959, I imagine there are number in your country. For example I know that one was planted in Coronation Park, Edmonton in July 1959. Do you know of any others, please? Reply to: walbert@ntlworld.com

What Has The League Done? Order Our New *Chronology*

The Monarchist League of Canada has recently published a four-page booklet outlining highlights of our history and accomplishments. This is a great recruiting tool – you will be surprised and pleased as you read this breezily-written summary of our achievements! Order your *complimentary* copy by emailing your request, together with your name and postal address, to – domsec@sympatico.ca or simply leave the same information on our toll-free line at (800) I'M LOYAL.

New Education Section on the League Website: An Action Suggestion in Four Easy Steps

- Run to your computer – or use one at the local library or belonging to a friend
- Check out the new "Learning About the Canadian Crown" section at www.monarchist.ca/education
- Forward the web address above to 10 friends who have children or who are teachers
- Repeat with fresh names as often as possible

Colour Litho Poster of Queen–FREE!

The Hamilton Branch recently could scarcely keep up with the demand, giving away over 600 of these beautiful photographic portraits of The Queen at its booth in a recent exposition. Isn't there a library, fire hall, Legion Hall or school in your community which needs an up-to-date picture to assert our pride and Canadian identity? Look on reverse of this page to find this item listed on our SALES FOR SUBJECTS page. It's available at no charge: you pay only the cost of shipping and handling.

HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT...

The League has thrown away its two postage meters. Well, actually, we've returned them to Pitney Bowes. They were convenient – and we liked our advertising slug and logo – "Monarchy is the best policy." However, the price of rental and filling was climbing to absurd levels. And many Monarchists wrote to ask why did we not follow our own advice and use Queen stamps? We listened. We acted. We saved \$2000 of your gifts for a more useful purpose! Thus, as of December 1 of last year, all first-class mailings from the Dominion Secretariat now proudly bear Queen's stamps! Thank you for your encouragement – and your patience as we made the transition!

SEND YOUR THOUGHTS ON CANADIAN IDENTITY & THE CROWN TO JASON KENNEY

In the recent cabinet shuffle, the Prime Minister named Calgary MP Jason Kenney, an outspoken supporter of the Monarchy, as Minister charged with responsibility for Canadian Identity. Whether you are Tory, Grit, NDP or Green, here's your non-partisan opportunity to write the Minister with your thoughts on how the Crown can be used creatively to enhance Canadian values, institutions and pride. Send your ideas and comments in one of the following ways:

BY MAIL: The Hon Jason Kenney, PC, MP,
House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

BY EMAIL: Kenney.J@parl.gc.ca

BY FAX: (613) 992-1920 or (403) 225-3504