

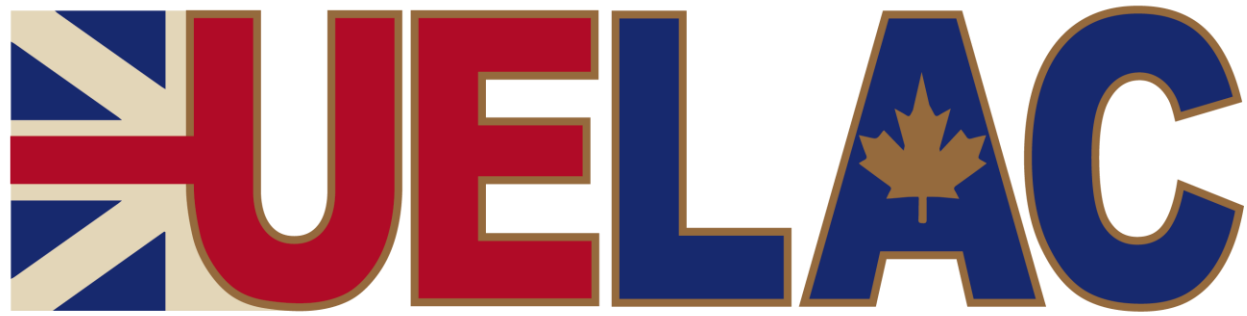


**UELAC President's Address  
Gala Banquet  
Saturday 03 June 2023  
By  
Carl Stymiest UE**

Mr. Guest Speaker, The Honourable Steven Point OBC, Distinguished Guests, Members of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Heritage Friends and finally, Family.

I am honoured to address you this evening as your newly elected UELAC Dominion President. As I step into this role, to fill big shoes of the many who have proceeded before me, I wish first to **express my gratitude for the trust and confidence you have placed** in me to lead this association. It is a responsibility that I take seriously and pledge to fulfill to the best of my ability.

Before I review my vision and priorities, I would like to reflect on the rich history of our membership. We have come a long way since 1914, when our founding UELAC Charter was presented. Together, we have worked tirelessly to uphold our mission....



**THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS'  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA**

***"To enrich the lives of Canadians through fostering public awareness of our national history, and, in particular, of the United Empire Loyalists and their contributions to Canada, while also celebrating their memory and perpetuating their heritage as an integral part of the Canadian identity."***

It is here we wish to create an environment in which ALL members feel included, valued, and supported. That is why under the leadership of the former and Late Dominion President, Suzanne Morse-Hines, the UELAC Board of Directors instituted the UELAC Code of Conduct for the Board of Directors and the local branches across Canada. It was Sue's leadership whom we also honour this evening with the presentation of the first UELAC Suzanne Morse-Hines UE Memorial Genealogy-Family History Award.

As your new President, it is time for us to build upon this solid foundation and chart a course towards an even brighter future. To conduct this, I believe we must prioritize **FOUR KEY** areas: Community, Growth, Advocacy, and Innovation.

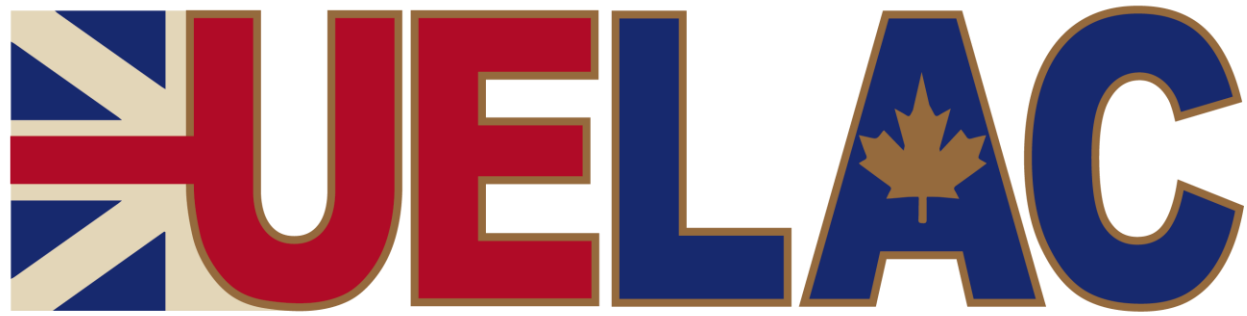


# UELAC

## THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Primarily, we must strengthen our sense of **Community** within this organization. This means fostering meaningful connections among partnerships and connections among members across this nation; creating opportunities for members to engage with one another in meaningful and impactful ways. Whether it be through 'in-person' events or virtual meetings, we must come together to share our ideas, experiences, and knowledge, and to support one another in our shared mission.

Second, we must focus on **Growth**. This means expanding our membership base and reaching out to our youth through new partnership and communities who share our values and goals. To do this, we must capitalize on our existing strengths and unique offerings, while also being open to innovative approaches and ideas. In 2022, we accomplished this by entering an historical partnership with the Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry Historical Society by moving, Dominion Office and UELAC Library and Archives from Toronto to the Cornwall Community Museum, and most recently, under the leadership of Dominion Past President



## THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Trish Groom and the Board of Directors Committee by hiring a new part-time Office Administrator for our Cornwall site.

Thirdly, **Advocacy** must be centrepiece of our efforts. Our membership has always been vocal and active in promoting the heritage and history of our Loyalist Ancestors during the American Revolution, its causes, and issues we care about. I believe we, as a not-for-profit association, must continue to do so. By advocating on behalf of our members, we can have a greater impact within our loyalist community.

Finally, we must embrace **Innovation**. As we navigate the rapidly changing landscape within the wider society, we cannot be afraid to adapt and evolve. This means exploring modern technologies, methods, and solutions that can help us better serve our membership and achieve our UELAC goals.

I strongly believe that by focusing on these FOUR areas, we can create a stronger, more vibrant, and a more impactful organization. **BUT** I cannot do this alone. It will take the



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collective efforts of each Board member and every Branch member to make this vision a reality.

I would be amiss, if I did not sincerely thank my Primary Branch of Vancouver and the other 12 branches I belong to across the country; the Pacific Region for their long-standing support over the years; the entire UELAC Board of Directors and in particular, the guidance and leadership of Past Dominion President Trish Groom; the direction of long-standing UEL friend, UELAC Treasurer, and Prairie Region Vice President, Barb Andrew, and last, but certainly, not least, the late Dominion Past President Sue Morse-Hines, for her advice and council, and who reached out to me several years ago to serve on the Board.

In closing, I want to reiterate my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to working with each one of you; to build our legacy and create a brighter future for all members of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.



Thank You

Carl Stymiest UE

UELAC Dominion President

03 June 2023 (UELAC Hybrid Conference & AGM- 01-04 June 2023)

Richmond, BC, Canada