



**CELEBRATING HISTORY:
United Empire Loyalist Week Begins June 14
In Niagara-On-The-Lake**

The rich legacy of the United Empire Loyalists will be honoured during **United Empire Loyalist Week, June 14-21 2025** as declared by Proclamation by Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

The commemorative event will kick off on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 9:30 AM with a stirring performance by the Fort George Drum and Fife Band, bringing history to life through traditional music. Following this, at 10:00 AM, a flag-raising and wreath laying ceremony will take place at the Cenotaph on Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake, with Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa alongside members of the Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada.

This annual ceremony pays tribute to the Loyalists who helped shape Canada, preserving their stories and contributions for future generations. All are welcome to attend and take part in this meaningful occasion, which reflects the deep historical roots of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

June 19 is United Empire Loyalist Day in Ontario. The day was formally established in 1997 (Bill 150) by the Ontario Legislative Assembly to commemorate and celebrate our province's Loyalist heritage. Ontario's provincial motto, "*Loyal She Began, Loyal She Remains*" pays respect to that history.

Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch, Vice President David Servos U.E.: "*The Loyalists were instrumental in building the communities we call home today. Honouring their legacy ensures that their stories continue to inspire future generations. We invite those with Loyalist ancestors or who have an interest in history, to join our local branch of almost 200 members.*"

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa: "*Niagara-on-the-Lake was the cradle of Loyalist settlement and the home of one of the most famous Loyalists, Colonel John Butler.*"

Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, CEO and Curator Sarah Kaufman: "*The United Empire Loyalists were an integral part of the development of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. We are honoured at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum to hold a significant collection of Loyalist pieces that help to tell our early history.*"

For more information, please contact David Servos at 519-200-4783 or by email at david_servos@hotmail.com, or visit www.coljohnbutleruel.com or uelac.ca.