

Christmas Message from the President of the UELAC

December 2, 2024

Dear Members and Friends of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada,

As we approach the joyous season of Christmas and the beginning of a new year, I wish to extend warm greetings and heartfelt wishes to all our branches, members, and their families. May this festive season bring you peace, joy, and cherished moments with your loved ones.

Reflecting on the past year, I am filled with gratitude and pride for the accomplishments of our Association. Together, we have:

- Successfully hosted the <u>UELAC National Conference</u> in Cornwall, Ontario, in June 2024, which celebrated the theme "*The Story Continues*," emphasizing our shared heritage and vibrant community. This gathering strengthened bonds and highlighted the importance of preserving Loyalist history and heritage.
- Expanded the online Loyalist Directory, adding numerous records of Loyalist ancestors, thanks to the contributions of resolute members and researchers. This work continues to honour our ancestors and educate future generations.
- Awarded the <u>2024 Loyalist Scholarships</u> to two deserving students, **Blake McGready** and **Graham Nickerson**,

supporting their academic pursuits and furthering our mission of promoting historical loyalist research.

- Published perceptive editions of the <u>Loyalist Gazette</u>, offering members rich historical content and updates on association activities.
- UELAC Committee's report progress at all levels of accomplishments, i.e., Library & Archives, 2025 UELAC Conference, UELAC-Family Search Project (Genealogists), Scholarship, Education & Outreach, Volunteer Recognition, and our Website, <<u>uelac.ca</u>>.

These achievements reflect the unwavering dedication of our members and the strength of our shared mission. As we look forward to 2025, let us continue to celebrate and preserve the remarkable legacy of the United Empire Loyalists.

On behalf of the National Board of Directors, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May the coming year bring health, happiness, and success to each of you.

Warm regards,

Carl Stymiest

Carl Stymiest, UE National President United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada