



PRAIRIE LOYALIST

FROM THE LAND OF LIVING SKIES.....

**UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH**

April 2026



Vol 19 No 2



saskuelac.ca



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS ***WHERE THE TEA IS SERVED IN CUPS***

2026

National AGM (this is a virtual meeting only)
Saskatchewan UEL Day: Regina
Canada Day Party: Government House, Regina
Branch picnic: TBA
Regular meeting: Regina
Regular meeting: Regina
Christmas Lunch: Regina

Saturday May 23
Friday June 19
Wednesday July 1
TBA
Saturday September 19
Saturday November 21
Saturday December 5



2027

New Year Levée: Government House, Regina
Annual General Meeting: TBA
Regular meeting: TBA
National Conference, Kingston

Friday January 1
Saturday February 20
Saturday April 17
June 17 - 20

*** Regina meetings will be at Western Pizza, 3847 Albert Street South unless otherwise noted*

FROM THE EDITORS PEN...

With hopes that the last snowfall has fallen, we look forward to spring.

As this year marks 250 years since the birth of a republic forged in revolution, the Loyalist story stands as a reminder that it did not end with independence. As our Loyalist ancestors walked away with almost nothing, they helped build a country that, in time, gave them everything.

We have some exciting things happening in the branch right now! We have several Cemetery Dedications coming up, we have a youth focused educational book in the works, and we will soon have a quarterly edition of the Young Prairie Loyalist geared towards youth.



If you would like to share anything in an upcoming newsletter, contact the newsletter editor at scott.hazelwood@gmail.com. The deadline for the next newsletter will be June 24, 2026.

*Scott Hazelwood
Prairie Loyalist Editor*



PATRON

Her Honour the Honourable
Bernadette McIntyre, S.O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH UELAC EXECUTIVE 2026

President	<i>Jennifer Schafer UE</i>
Vice President	<i>Scott Hazelwood</i>
Past Co-President	<i>Ken Mackenzie UE</i>
Past Co-President	<i>Harvey Smith UE</i>
Secretary	(vacant)
Treasurer	<i>Gerald Adair UE</i>
Genealogist	<i>Gerald Adair UE</i>
Assistant Genealogist	<i>Margaret Adams UE</i>
Membership Chair	<i>Kathy Webster UE</i>
Publications Chair	<i>Scott Hazelwood</i>
Archivist	<i>Harvey Smith UE</i>
Care Comm. Chair	<i>Beverley Risser UE</i>
Director	<i>Judy Sanders UE</i>
Director	<i>Barb Schmuland UE</i>



THE CARE COMMITTEE

If you or a loved one is ill, in hospital or have suffered a loss, we encourage you or your loved ones to let the Care Committee know, to ensure that compassionate thoughts and prayers are directed your way during a challenging time. And if there is a celebration to mention, let's share the good news as well.

We are connected through our ancestors, our heritage and a familial sense of sharing and caring.



Contact

Bev Risser UE
306-586-3211
bevrisser@sasktel.net





BRANCH NEWS & EVENTS

SASKATOON BRANCH MEETING

On April 18th, we switched things up and had our branch meeting in Saskatoon. Our bylaws call for at least one meeting a year in Saskatoon. Traditionally, but not obligatory, this has been September, but with several certificates to be presented to northern members April was the perfect time.

After lunch, our meeting consisted of nine certificates to be presented and an informative update on a youth version of the story of the Loyalists. An A-Frame sign was purchased to be present at meetings and events to indicate clearer to passers-by who we are, and to direct members to our location.

Our next membership meeting will be held on June 19th at Western Pizza in Regina. Note that this will be lunch and a very short meeting before heading to the cairn for UEL Day. There will be no zoom meeting on this day.

is this
you? →

HELP WANTED

BRANCH SECRETARY

The Saskatchewan Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada is seeking a dedicated individual to serve as Branch Secretary.

This role supports the orderly conduct of branch affairs, including preparing meeting agendas, recording minutes, and maintaining correspondence and records.

As part of a group of dedicated – yet fun – volunteers, this position offers an opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way while enjoying fellowship with others who share an interest in Loyalist heritage and genealogy.

If you enjoy organization, communication, and contributing to a meaningful cause, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Please contact:
Jennifer Schafer, UE
jschafer654@gmail.com



EDUCATIONAL BOOK PROJECT

At our Saskatoon branch meeting, Janie Fries presented an update on our book project. The project has undergone some changes already from a coloring book idea to a novel, to now a Grade Five educational book project. The proposed series will include multiple short books with teacher resources aligned to curriculum outcomes. Content will include diverse perspectives, including Indigenous and Black Loyalists. Publishing options, including print-on-demand, were discussed, along with the importance of curriculum approval. Janie will continue to work with our author, Dave Richard, on moving this project forward. This is an exciting new project for our branch!

LOYALTY IN DISPLACEMENT

A Reflection on 250 Years (1776-2026)

*As others celebrate a break from the Crown, we remember packed wagons and uprooted lives.
As others mark a new beginning, we remember goodbyes and the long road north.
As others raise banners in celebration, we remember what was carried in silence.
As others commemorate victory in a revolution, we remember resettlement and starting over.*

*Two hundred and fifty years ago, families endured exile.
Neighbours stood by as they watched old friends walk away with nothing.
Market and tavern goers visited quiet, once busy counters.
Even congregations were diminished in size.*

*Some chose to stay.
Some chose exile.*

Each side made a choice. Each side made a stand. And history remembers.



UE Certificate!

President Jennifer Schafer presented UELAC certificates to five members at our Saskatoon branch meeting, outlining their Loyalist ancestry and the criteria for receiving the UE designation. Recipients also received commemorative Saskatchewan UELAC pins. Congratulations to each recipient and their families. Jeff Soucy accepted certificates on behalf of his brothers who could not be present.

Member

Jeff Soucy
Russell Soucy
Timothy Soucy
Christopher Soucy
Kathy Sharman
Trisha Hutton
Holly Pitka
Janie Fries
Janie Fries

Loyalist Descendant

John Collison
John Collison
John Collison
John Collison
Benjamin Green
Robert Perry
Jonas Laraway, SR
Peter Weaver
Johannes Marcellis



Janie Fries, left, and Jeff Soucy, right, accepting their UE Certificates from Branch President Jennifer Schafer and Branch Genealogist Gerry Adair.

UE Certificate!



Tricia Hutton (top left),
Holly Pitka (top right) and
Kathy Sharman (left),
accepting their UE
Certificates from Branch
President Jennifer Schafer
and Branch Genealogist
Gerry Adair.



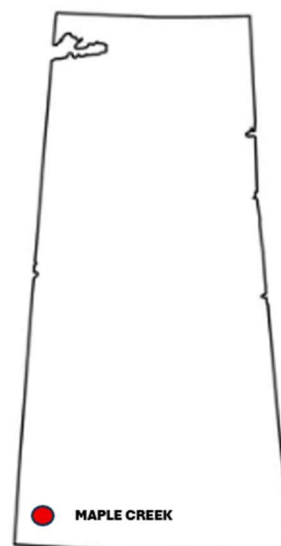
Ce etery Dedication

MAPLE CREEK - 2026

On Monday May 4, 2026, branch members will do a cemetery dedication ceremony in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan.

Invitations have been sent to council members and family descendants and posters have been put up in the town.

Carpooling from Regina has been arranged and a reservation at a restaurant has been made. Please let Jennifer know if you are planning on attending. Period dress is encouraged for those attending to help make the day special and newsworthy.





There are many Saskatchewan cemeteries where descendants of Loyalists are buried, and the Cemetery Committee is looking for submissions for Cemetery Plaques.

Provide the name of the cemetery, where it is located and any known Loyalist ancestors that are buried there to any committee member; you do not have to be a Branch member. Remember that any of your family members that are also descended from your Loyalist should also be on your list and they do not have to be proven!

Committee members are:

- Gerry Adair UE
- Judy Sanders UE
- Harvey Smith UE
- Barb Schmuland UE

Plaques are now at the following Saskatchewan cemeteries.

- Dilke Cemetery, Dilke, Saskatchewan
- Fairlight Cemetery, Fairlight, Saskatchewan
- Inglesfield Cemetery, Maryfield, Saskatchewan
- Maryfield Cemetery, Maryfield, Saskatchewan
- South Cemetery, Moosomin, Saskatchewan



Join us on June 19th at the cairn in Wascana Park as we celebrate UEL Day in Saskatchewan.

We will gather at the cairn (south shore of Wascana Lake, just east of the Queen Elizabeth II Gardens) at approximately 1:30pm for our program.

This is a public event; all are welcome to join.



Are you looking for Loyalist Merchandise and Memorabilia?

Everything from Christmas ornaments, cuff links and luggage tags to shirts, hats, flags, family name ribbons, books and souvenir licence plates. A **NEW ITEM** now available is the UELAC Challenge Coin and the Revolutionary War Coin of Remembrance.

Select items are available at each meeting in the care of Gerry Adair.

Items are also available online on our Branch Website saskuelac.ca/items-for-sale or the National Website uelac.ca/store/.

Do you have your copy of *Loyalist Descendants in Saskatchewan*? If you have, let your friends and family know if you enjoyed it. If you haven't got a copy, or would like to purchase one as a gift, you can get one at any branch event or by contacting Gerry Adair at gerry.pat@sasktel.net.

This Saskatchewan Branch book is \$30.00 if picked up in person or \$50.00 including shipping to anywhere in Canada.





“I Was Not British - But I Was Loyal”

A Fictional Account from the View of a Loyalist Non-British Settler

My name is Johann Meyer.

I was born in the German states, near the Rhine River, and came to the Americas to build a better life. I was not British. I did not grow up speaking English. But I was thankful to the British Crown for welcoming us here with land, law, and peace.

I settled in the Mohawk Valley of New York with other German-speaking families—farmers, blacksmiths, and millers. We worked hard. We lived quietly.

Then came the Revolution.

Some said it was a war for freedom. But to many of us—immigrants, strangers, outsiders—it felt like a war against order, against the very system that had given us a chance. The British had protected our towns from raids. They gave us land grants. They allowed us to worship and speak our language.

So, we stayed loyal.

That made us enemies.

Rebels called us “foreigners.” They burned our crops. They accused us of spying. My cousin Hans was dragged from his home and beaten. My neighbour’s barn was torched with the animals still inside.





I had no choice but to flee. My wife carried our baby. I pushed a cart piled with blankets and the few tools I could save.

We made our way north with the other Loyalists—some British, yes, but many not: Germans, Dutch, Irish, Mohawk, African. We were all different, but we were together in exile.

The British gave us land in Canada, along the shores of Lake Ontario. It was cold. Wild. Unfamiliar. But I had seen worse.

We built our home with frostbitten hands.
We prayed in German.
We sang the old songs.
And when my son was old enough to understand, I told him:

“You may not have an English name. But you come from people who kept their word.”

They call us United Empire Loyalists.
That name holds many kinds of people—
not just those born under the British
flag, but those who stood with it when
the world turned upside down.

I was not British.
But I was loyal.
And I helped build a country from the cold ground up.



* Watch for another *Trail of Tales* in the next issue of *Prairie Loyalist*.



THE LAST POST



The Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, S.O.M., C.D., S.V.M.

21st Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan
and Patron of the UELAC Saskatchewan Branch

It is with deep sorrow and profound love that the family of The Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield announces her passing on April 8, 2026, at the age of 82.

Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, on October 25, 1943, Vaughn lived a life of extraordinary purpose, style, and spirit. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Gordon Schofield, and by her parents, George and Doris Solomon.

She leaves behind a family who adored her and who were the greatest joy of her life: her daughter, Whitney Wignall and husband Simon Wignall; her son, George Schofield and wife Amanda Schofield; her sisters, Adrian Burns and husband Greg Kane, and Sharon Stuart; and her cherished grandchildren, Alexander Dean Wignall, William Charles Wignall, Alexis Holly Schofield, Gabriel George Solomon Schofield, and Maximillian Gordon Schofield. She is also lovingly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

Vaughn Solomon Schofield lived boldly, loved fiercely, and left an indelible mark on every life she touched. She will be remembered for her grace and glamour, for her strength and service, for her laughter and loyalty, and for the extraordinary way she made those around her feel.

Her life was beautiful, her legacy enduring, and her memory will forever remain a blessing to all who knew and loved her.





State Funeral of The Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield

A State Funeral was held at Living Hope Alliance Church in Regina on April 25, 2026, for the people of Saskatchewan to pay their final respects to The Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, twenty-first Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan. The service, held by direction of the Government of Saskatchewan, was conducted with full ceremonial honours befitting her office as the Sovereign's representative in the province.

Dignitaries from across Saskatchewan were in attendance, including the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Chief Justice. The arrival of the Lieutenant Governor and the assembled officials marked the beginning of a solemn and carefully ordered ceremony rooted in tradition and respect.

The service opened with the Vice-Regal Salute, followed by the procession of the casket led by an RCMP piper. Borne with dignity by members of the Royal Canadian Air Force from 15 Wing Moose Jaw., the casket was draped in the provincial flag, followed by symbols of service—her medals, white roses, and an RCAF field service cap. Upon reaching the front, a vigil was maintained by members of the RCAF, the Canadian Army, the Royal Canadian Navy, and the RCMP.

Throughout the service, prayers, scripture, and hymns offered both comfort and reflection. *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee, How Great Thou Art, and Amazing Grace* were sung, echoing the themes of faith, gratitude, and farewell. Readings from Psalm 23 and the Gospel of John were complemented by the words attributed to Chief Tecumseh, reminding all present of the enduring values of life, legacy, and memory.

Tributes delivered during the service painted a picture of a life devoted to others. Her Honour The Honourable Bernadette McIntyre spoke of a life well lived—marked by generosity, humour, and a tireless commitment to community. Premier Scott Moe reflected on her personal motto of "giving," noting that her life was defined by service and a genuine desire to improve the lives of those around her. Brigadier-General Gwen Bourque highlighted her steadfast support for the Canadian Armed Forces, emphasizing that she cared deeply for the people behind the uniforms and the institution they served.

A family eulogy brought a more personal dimension to the ceremony. While her public accomplishments were many, she was remembered most dearly as a mother, grandmother, and sister. Stories of her life, travels, and experiences revealed a woman whose strength of character was matched by warmth and devotion to her family.

Following a slideshow of memories set to *I Did It My Way*, the final ceremonial elements of the service took place. The Saskatchewan flag that had draped the casket was reverently removed and presented to her daughter, while her medals were returned to her son. These acts, carried out with quiet dignity, symbolized both the honour of her service and the passing of her legacy to the next generation.

The service concluded with the Royal Anthem and a recessional, as the casket was piped out in a final tribute. Attendees were invited to gather outside for a Royal Canadian Air Force flypast from 15 Wing Moose Jaw; however, due to weather, this final gesture of honour was unable to proceed.

Even so, the spirit of the day remained unchanged. The ceremony stood as a fitting and dignified farewell—honouring a life marked by service to the Crown, devotion to community, and a steadfast commitment to the people of Saskatchewan.



Members of the UELAC
Saskatchewan Branch exchange
New Year greetings with Branch
Patron, Her Honour, Lieutenant
Governor Vaughn Solomon-
Schofield at Government House
in Regina on January 1, 2016.



May 1, 2026

