

ATLANTIC REGION CONFERENCE HELD IN SAINT JOHN

UELAC members from P.E.I., Nova Scotia and New Brunswick gathered in Saint John on Friday October 15 for their Atlantic Region Conference. An evening reception held at the Union Club on Germain Street helped everyone great old friends and put faces to names of new friends.



The Safari Room at the Cherry Brook Zoo was a very unique location for the conference's *Speakers Corner* with a theme of *Loyalists as Refugees*. Following the opening ceremonies conducted by Regional Vice-President Jim McKenzie, teacher and author [Stephen Davidson](#) initiated the theme with a presentation on "Loyalist Refugees". He included a number of historic references to the term "refugee" from the 18th century in regards to the United Empire Loyalists. We can look to the precedence set by George Washington, Governor Haldimand and John Chandler to further justify our current use of the term.

Dr. [Bonnie Huskins](#) spoke on "Building a new community: sociability and the Shelburne Loyalists" This theme derived from her on-going analysis of the significance of `social occasions` (i.e., balls, banquets, frolics, parades, and so on) for the first two generations of Loyalist families in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. For her, "Sociability" could be subdivided into four categories, *Celebratory, Tavern, Associational* and *Every Day*.



Following lunch, Stephen Davidson addressed the subject "Notable Black Loyalists of New Brunswick" drawing attention to the leaders involved with the development of the Sierra Leone settlement by Black Loyalists.

David Laskey, President of the New Brunswick Branch, gave the fourth presentation: "Loyal Refugees: they didn't all graduate from Harvard." With power point images of wills and estate inventories, he drew attention to the varied economic successes of his ancestors.

On Saturday evening, everyone gathered at the Union Club once more for the Gala Banquet. The speaker of the evening was the Dominion President, Frederick H. Hayward who focussed on various achievements of the UELAC that could be categorized under *Recognition, Resolution* and *Relevance*.

On Sunday, Stephen Davidson and the Dominion President served as lay readers at the church service at Trinity Church "The Loyalist Church". Before taking their seats, everyone got a chance to see the Royal Coat of Arms of the Hanoverian Dynasty that originally hung in the Council Chamber of Boston's Old State House prior to the Revolution.

The New Brunswick Branch is to be congratulated for hosting an excellent mini-conference.

FHH



David Laskey & Rev. Dr. Marc E. Smith, Fredericton



Lew and Jan Perry, Halifax



Saint John Councillor Donny Snook brought greetings from Canada's oldest City – 225th Anniversary



Peter Van Iderstine, PEI & Norman Lawton, Ajax



Ruth MacDonald, PEI & Frances Morrisey, NB



Andrew Gunter, Fredericton & Norman MacDonald, PEI



Stephen & Jill Davidson, Carolyn Laskey, Jim & Marilyn McKenzie and Edward Morrisey.



At the Union Club – October 16



Before the Processional – October 17 – Norman Lawton, Peter Van Iderstine, Andrew Gunter, Ruth Lesbirel, David Flewelling, Jill Davidson



Dominion President
Frederick H. Hayward

With appreciation to Steven Lesbirel for the photography that captured the conference.