



Canadian Monarchist News

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An occasional Newsletter for members & friends of The Monarchist League of Canada

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THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE OF CANADA - 54th ANNIVERSARY 1970-2024

JACQUES MONET DIES AT 94

*The great Canadian Monarchist:
friend of and helper to the League & its cause.*

Jacques Monet was above all a great friend, to the core a loyal monarchist, an intellectual who wore his scholarship lightly, and a man whose deep faith was steeped in the traditions of the Jesuits, of whose history in Canada he wrote extensively. He also wrote of the Canadian Crown with both intellectual appreciation and practical sense.

Eventually a Life Member of the Monarchist League of Canada, it took him some time to realize (and for the League to purge) the more extreme and curious "monarchists" whom he had encountered in the early days of our existence were in fact not representa-

tive of the organization.

Those pangs of the first half of the 1970s dealt with (during some part of

which he was working at Rideau Hall for the Légiers), Jacques formed a strong friendship with the Dominion Chairman,



The Accident of Birth

A king is a king, not because he is rich and powerful, not because he is a successful politician, not because he belongs to a particular creed or to a national group. He is king because he is born. And in choosing to leave the selection of their head of state to this most common denominator in the world - the accident of birth - Canadians implicitly proclaim their faith in human equality, their hope for the triumph of nature over political manoeuvre, over social and financial interest; for the victory of the human person.

Fr Jacques Monet SJ, FRSC

a token of which was a wonderful clay image of Buckingham Palace he acquired for him during a London trip. Just before his health became precarious, he gave the League a diverse assortment of artfully-crafted Medallions - both university and church-related - many of which he had acquired during his tenure as President of two colleges: Regis, and the University of Sudbury.

His office and habit did not preclude his enjoying life. We always shared lunch at Terroni when he was in town. In these convivial meals he would show one of

his fine attributes: the ability to talk about himself and his diverse experiences without being at all self-referential in a way so many of us can be when we speak of our own lives of lesser accomplishments than Jacques'.

One of our precious memories of Jacques was his sitting over two length Saturdays at my dining nook table as he translated our English educational booklet into French - his work remains today its mainstay. He could have been working on his own next book or relaxing - instead, he consumed a tuna melt and some wine to whet his fluid, insightful style as author.

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JACQUES MONET MEURT À 94 ANS

*Le grand monarchiste canadien:
ami et soutien de la Ligue et de sa cause.*

Jacques Monet était avant tout un grand ami, un monarchiste loyal, un intellectuel qui portait son érudition avec légèreté, et un homme dont la foi profonde était ancrée dans les traditions des Jésuites, dont il a beaucoup écrit sur l'histoire au Canada. Il a également écrit sur la Couronne canadienne en faisant preuve à la fois d'appréciation intellectuelle et de sens pratique.

Devenu membre à vie de la Ligue mo-

narchiste du Canada, il lui a fallu un certain temps pour réaliser (et pour que la Ligue se débarrasse) que les « monarchistes » les plus extrêmes et les plus curieux qu'il avait rencontrés dans les premiers temps de notre existence n'étaient en fait pas représentatifs de l'organisation.

Après avoir surmonté les difficultés de la première moitié des années 1970 (pendant une par-

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Not a trace of grandeur lay in Jacques' character. Kipling might have been thinking of him when he wrote of a man's possessing the ability "to walk with kings, nor lose the common touch." One small witness of this – illuminating is so often in the little, seemingly unimportant moments of a life show so much of true character – was how the Via Rail attendants did not hide that they thought the world of him during his frequent backing and forthing between Montreal and Toronto. He treated them as friends – and they responded.

This short tribute leaves out much more that could be included: all memorable, all good. But Jacques was as private in many ways as he could be social and fun on "occasions," so we must cease lest he roll in Paradise from the praises spoken of him as he was laid to rest.

Not surprisingly, what we can conclude as paramount in this man's long and good life is a verse of Scripture: *Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek*. One can read learned expositions on the meaning of this to Christians, especially to priests – or one might just as well think of the wisdom of a young Sister, who said that if the Rule of her Order were forever lost, it could be recovered simply by observing the Mother Superior. Jacques would never claim that ability – would probably have laughed and dismissed it – but it is not a bad encomium for anyone whose life truly brought light into "this dark world and wide." JLA

jesuits.ca/stories/a-most-interesting-life-father-jacques-monet/

RIP Jacques Monet... why does this make me sad? I only met him twice. Guess 13 years of Jesuit school education in Lebanon endeared me to them.

Karim, from Montreal

Je me souviens de mes quelques échanges téléphoniques avec Jacques et de notre correspondance. Il écrivait toujours en rouge! Un homme d'un rare savoir avec qui j'ai pris plaisir à collaborer, principalement sur la traduction du livret. It's a great loss for the League and for mankind as a whole.

Etienne, from Drummondville, QC

In the sacred silence of farewell, Jacques is released into the embrace of eternity, knowing that his light will continue to shine brightly in the tapestry of the lives of his loved ones. And as his memory is carried forward, may comfort be found in the knowledge that love is eternal, and that Jacques' spirit lives on in the beauty that surrounds us.

*Jesuit Advancement
Office, Toronto*



Remembering Canada's Jacques Monet, S.J., historian of Jesuits and the Monarchy

extracts from an article in "America" by John Meehan, S.J.

...Born in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Québec, on Jan. 26, 1930, Monet grew up in a bilingual family steeped in the cultural and political history of Canada. His love for the monarchy was already evident when, as a young boy, he witnessed from the balcony of his father's law office the royal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to Montreal in 1939.

Inspired by the Jesuits he met at Loyola College, Montreal, he put aside his childhood dream of becoming a radio actor to enter the Jesuit novitiate at Guelph in 1949. Jesuit life became "the most exciting vocation I can think of," as he later recalled, without experiencing "one dull moment." After studies in the humanities and philosophy, Monet taught for two years at St. Mary's University High School in Halifax, where his love for history led him to doctoral work at the University of Toronto. His thesis on 19th-century French-Canadian nationalism, published in 1969 as *The Last Cannon Shot*, reflected his argument that the monarchy defended freedom and minority rights...

After his ordination in Montreal and tertianship in Wales, Monet taught history at the University of Ottawa, where he remained until 1982. During this period, he befriended academics and political leaders in the nation's capital, becoming a close advisor to Jules Léger, Canada's then-governor general. As chair of the university's history department, he became well-known nationally, assuming leadership in the Canadian Historical Association, the Social Sciences Federation and the Royal Society of Canada.

Monet taught and published widely on

Canadian history, especially on the role of the monarchy, making him "one of the foremost experts on the Crown in Canada," according to *The Toronto Globe and Mail*. His scholarly work earned him the Queen's Jubilee Gold Medal, the Governor General's Gold Medal and the Centenary Medal of the Royal Society of Canada. Educators, policymakers and media across Canada sought his insights into political and church history. In 2012, Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed Monet to the Advisory Committee on Vice-Regal Appointments, a nonpartisan body of eminent persons to determine the choice of governors general and lieutenant governors. Monet was a frequent commentator on national radio and television networks, in both English and French, especially for royal and papal visits, thus, in a way, fulfilling his childhood dream...

A born raconteur, his anecdotes and bons mots endeared him to many, whether he told the long or the short version. From 1992 to 1999, Monet served as president of the University of Sudbury, an experience he remembered fondly as "a microcosm of Canada" for its bilingual and tri-cultural mandate – with a program in Indigenous studies, one of the first in Canada. During this time, the government of France made him a chevalier of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques for his contributions to the Francophone community.

For the rest of his active life, Monet was director of the Jesuit province archives, first in Toronto and then in Montreal, making regular trips between the two cities. His crowning achievement took the form of two major scholarly works: a three-volume *Dictionary of Jesuit Biography* and a three-volume history of the Jesuits in English Canada. A sudden collapse in early 2019 brought him to the Jesuit infirmary where, amid declining health and failing memory, he nonetheless kept his gracious charm, warm smile and signature red sweater.

Inspired by his patron St. James and the Canadian martyrs, Monet lived out his priesthood through friendship, often over a fine meal with loved ones. On such occasions, he evoked a phrase from St. Isaac Jogues: "Quelques amis bien choisis" ("a few well-chosen friends"). His friendship was found in kind gestures: thoughtful notes of congratulations or condolences, always in beautiful penmanship in red ink with a fountain pen, never a ballpoint; regular annual visits to friends near and far; weddings and baptisms for former students.

He memorialized special evenings with friends by having them sign the wine bot-

tle, a collection that grew in size over the years until a superior sought to get rid of them. Ever the obedient Jesuit, Monet meticulously removed each label to save and cherish his friends' signatures.

His many expressions of support, encouragement and friendship were never forgotten by those fortunate to receive them. A gentleman par excellence, Jacques Monet always remembered those dear to him with cards, flowers and prosecco. And they remember him with affection and gratitude.

Le hasard de la naissance

Un roi est un roi, non pas parce qu'il est riche et puissant, non pas parce qu'il est un politicien prospère, non pas parce qu'il appartient à une croyance particulière ou à un groupe national. Il est roi parce qu'il est né. En choisissant de confier la sélection de leur chef d'État à ce dénominateur le plus commun au monde - le hasard de la naissance - les Canadiens proclament implicitement leur foi dans l'égalité humaine, leur espoir de voir la nature triompher des manœuvres politiques, des intérêts sociaux et financiers, et de voir la personne humaine l'emporter.

Père Jacques Monet SJ, FRSC

A TALE OF TWO PORTRAITS OF THE KING

DISTRIBUTION OF LEAGUE'S PHOTO OF KING QUICKLY SUPPLANTED BY OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PHOTO

April 26th brought the League's King Photo off the press, after months of delay while Canadians were waiting for Ottawa to provide the Official one, for which we had been for some time the official distributor for the public. Chairman Finch made it clear from the beginning that we would be but filling a gap, responding to widespread demand; and that we would cease making available our own picture the moment the feds produce the official one - we had delayed for so long only in expectation of Ottawa's delivering on its promise.

As always, the invaluable Ted Sancton sourced possible pictures, organized our licensing and payment and had them in



our hands quickly. The process from Robert's decision to the availability for our portraits took - two weeks. One might say our "bureaucracy" is a little less than the feds'!

To be fair, and *continued on page 4*

suite de la page 1

tie de cette période, il travaillait à Rideau Hall pour les Légères), Jacques a noué une solide amitié avec le président du Dominion, dont un témoignage est une merveilleuse image en argile du palais de Buckingham qu'il a acquise pour lui lors d'un voyage à Londres. Juste avant que sa santé ne devienne précaire, il a donné à la Ligue un merveilleux assortiment de médaillons artistiquement travaillés - liés à l'université et à l'église - dont beaucoup avaient été acquis pendant son mandat de président de deux collèges : Regis et l'Université de Sudbury.

Sa fonction et ses habitudes ne l'empêchaient pas de profiter de la vie. Lorsqu'il était en ville, nous déjeunions toujours ensemble au Terroni. Au cours de ces repas conviviaux, il montrait l'une de ses plus belles qualités : la capacité de parler de lui-même et de ses diverses expériences sans être du tout autoréférent, comme beaucoup d'entre nous peuvent l'être lorsque nous parlons de nos propres vies, dont les accomplissements sont moins importants que ceux de Jacques.

L'un de nos précieux souvenirs de Jacques est qu'il s'est assis pendant deux longs samedis à la table de mon coin repas pour traduire en français notre brochure éducative en anglais - son travail reste aujourd'hui la pierre angulaire de cette brochure. Il aurait pu travailler sur

son prochain livre ou se détendre - au lieu de cela, il a consommé un sandwich au thon et du vin pour aiguiser son style fluide et perspicace en tant qu'auteur.

Il n'y avait pas la moindre trace de grandeur dans le caractère de Jacques. Kipling pensait peut-être à lui lorsqu'il a écrit qu'un homme pouvait « marcher avec les rois et ne pas perdre le contact avec les gens ordinaires ». Un petit témoignage de cela - mais c'est si souvent dans les petits moments, apparemment sans importance, d'une vie que se révèle le vrai caractère - fut la façon dont les accompagnateurs de Via Rail ne cachaient pas qu'ils l'estimaient beaucoup lors de ses fréquents allers-retours entre Montréal et Toronto. Il les traitait en amis - et ils lui répondaient.

Ce bref hommage laisse de côté bien d'autres choses qui pourraient être incluses : toutes mémorables, toutes bonnes. Mais Jacques était aussi discret à bien des égards qu'il pouvait être sociable et amusant à certaines occasions. Nous devons donc cesser, de peur qu'il ne roule au Paradis, de recevoir les éloges qui seront prononcés à son sujet lorsqu'il sera enterré.

Il n'est pas surprenant que nous puissions conclure que ce qui a joué un rôle primordial dans la longue et bonne vie de cet homme est un verset de l'Écriture : *Tu es prêtre pour toujours selon l'ordre*

de Melchisédek. On peut lire des exposés savants sur la signification de ce verset pour les chrétiens, en particulier pour les prêtres, ou on peut tout aussi bien penser à la sagesse d'une jeune sœur qui disait que si la règle de son ordre était perdue à jamais, elle pourrait être retrouvée simplement en observant la mère supérieure. Jacques n'aurait jamais revendiqué cette capacité - il aurait probablement ri et l'aurait rejetée - mais ce n'est pas une mauvaise définition de quelqu'un dont la vie a vraiment apporté la lumière dans ce « monde obscur et vaste »

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A FEW MEMORIES OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

by Christopher McCreery, MVO

based on the writer's address to
Accession Day Luncheon,
September 8, 2024

Today I have been asked to offer a few memories of our late Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II. Two years ago, I was on that short initial list of people who received a call from the Secretary to the Governor General to let me know

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not claiming for one moment to know the inside to-ing and fro-ing within the Palace and our friends at Canadian Heritage, it seems apparent that The King's illness and the many demands concurrent with the new Reign were in no small way responsible for the delay. Mid-July - about seven weeks into the League's photo selling like hotcakes - brought the good news from Ottawa. We kept our promise, and sold no more of ours.

The Canadian picture is a good characterization, and was taken by photographer Millie Pilkington in June 2024 in the White Drawing Room of Buckingham Palace. On a ribbon around his neck, The King is wearing the insignia of the Order of Canada, which he received as Prince of Wales from then-Governor General David Johnston in 2017. On the left breast of his jacket, The King is also wearing a bar of medals from Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. We might have wished for our Flag to be a part of the image, and HM to be wearing a Canadian Forces uniform - many here would not necessarily recognize each one's varied significance.

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our summer helpers, the inevitable deluge for pictures was handled with efficiency, and most photos were sent out within a few days of our receiving orders. Nic worked his way through the long list of *every* municipality in Canada (some thousands - we purchased it from a list provider which included email addresses) to alert their Mayors and Reeves and explain how to order a picture; and then of MLAs and MPPs in the provinces. This mentally-fatiguing undertaking task was done in good humour - and is still bearing fruit. Interestingly, too, a number of federal MPs and other government offices have run through their allocation from Canadian Heritage and turned to us for more - a happy problem.

Reflected in orders received, readers may be pleasantly surprised to learn that in many parts of Quebec one finds signifi-

that "London Bridge was down," the not so secret code to let government officials throughout the Realms know that Queen Elizabeth II had passed and King Charles III had acceded to the Throne. The morning before that call came was a busy one. We had the entire Provincial Cabinet at Government House - what was then "Her Majesty's Executive Council for the Province of Nova Scotia," for their annual Cabinet meeting with the Lieutenant

cant pockets of admiration and respect for The Sovereign, no matter the view of Constitution let alone separation. These include the Eastern Townships; the "ski belt" north of Montreal through Ste Agathe to Mont Tremblant; the south bank of the upper St Lawrence (think of Mont-Joli, Metis and upwards); and the region around the Old Capital - Quebec City. Indeed our efforts there may or may not meet with great success in the narrow sense of public picture-hanging. But every calm and reasoned approach made to our friends there, will at least serve to remind them of the loyalty Quebec displayed in their grandparents' times - and who knows, may yet again? Milton knew whereof he wrote in a different context. "Time will run back and fetch the age of gold."

League members will also be pleased to know that CH's allowed us to charge \$25 for the encasing and shipping the pictures, rather than the \$20 that obtained for those of our Late Queen. So we are enabled to break even - but not to be forgotten, we make many new friends who want to hear about our work.

HOW MANY HAVE YOU DISTRIBUTED? DRY MOUNTING SUGGESTION

How about encouraging your local library to display this living symbol of our nationhood? Have you asked youth groups in your community to hang one in their premise, such as Cubs and Scouts, 4-H, YM/YWCA, Boys & Girls Club Canada - and many more.

Most budgets are tight, and are at least partially subsidized by tax dollars - so here's a tip a lot of people haven't heard of - *Dry mounting*. Any good photo shop can dry mount the photo of The King at a cost far less than the significant expense of conventional frame & glass framing; it is very light - a child could carry it - and is easy to hang on many surfaces, avoiding damage to expensive paint jobs or having to fiddle with a hammer and metal fixtures.

Governor, and poignantly - to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to have His Honour present Platinum Jubilee Medals to each member of the Cabinet. Of course in Halifax we were not aware of what was transpiring at Balmoral or that during those morning events we were holding what turned out to be the last meeting of a Cabinet in any of the Realms under Queen Elizabeth II, which had transitioned into the first meeting of a Cabinet during the reign of King Charles. It also turned out to be the first investiture of the new Reign.

But, I am a bit ahead of myself, by starting at the conclusion of the long and distinguished reign.

I have been immensely fortunate to have been involved in a number of Royal Tours and other Royal events here in Canada and in the United Kingdom. My first Royal encounter was during the 1984 Royal Tour, when I was 9 years old. I vaguely recall my parents taking me to see the Britannia which was moored in Kingston Harbour in September of that year and that Queen Elizabeth was somewhere - but at nine years old I was not terribly engaged when it came to visiting Heads of State.

During Queen Elizabeth's later Canadian Tours of 1997 and 2002, I was able to see The Queen in person for the first time. In Toronto at Ontario Place I saw her, but didn't have an opportunity to speak with Her Majesty - His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh had engaged me in conversation about a rather horrendously ugly tie I was wearing - at the time I was quite proud of the tie which displayed the recently revised Royal Arms of Canada and all the provincial shield. It was very busy, and HRH was keen to know what it was all about. He poked me in the middle of my chest where the Crest of Canada was located and said "you recognize what that is," and we then chatted briefly about heraldry and the Governor General's Flag - and the unfortunate changes made by the then Governor General to the lion. I think he was humouring the rather awkward 22 year old budding heraldic enthusiast standing before him.

Next was the conclusion of Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee Tour at the official reception centre located at the Macdonald Cartier International Airport in Ottawa. This time I actually had an opportunity to say hello. It was a wind-swept, but not terribly cold October day, and I have a few blurry photos of The Queen's Personal Canadian Flag flying



Head Table included The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Chairman Finch (right); and co-MC & Quebec Senior Officer Karin Al-Dahdah (left) and partner. Others: Guest Speaker Christopher McCreery & partner; Loyal Toaster Callum Morrison (Manitoba Branch), co-MC Jamie Burton, Life Member Martin Vierula & League friend Michael Smith. La table d'honneur: le lieutenant-gouverneur de l'Ontario, le président Finch (à droite) et la co-MC & Québec Senior Officer Karin Al-Dahdah (à gauche) et son partenaire. Autres participants: Le conférencier invité Christopher McCreery et son partenaire; Callum Morrison (section Manitoba), co-MC Jamie Burton, membre à vie Martin Vierula et l'ami de la Ligue Michael Smith.

and the jet taking off, but none of the actual Royal Couple!

I came to know a bit more of The Queen's passion for Canada and interest in honours when in 2005 I requested a foreword for my first book on the Order of Canada, and then through various personal interactions.

My first opportunity to be introduced to The Queen came during the 2010 Royal Tour, which included a series of events in Nova Scotia to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the baptism of Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Henri Membertou, the centennial of the Royal Canadian Navy (what was still the Canadian Navy), the rededication of Government House Halifax as the oldest official residence in Canada, and a number of other military and cultural events.

At this point I was still very green vice-regal secretary, having only been appointed in late March of 2009 - but I lacked no enthusiasm or confidence. It was of course an unexpected gift to be told three months after I started my job in Halifax that I would be helping to organize a Royal Tour. At this point, Government House was coming to the end of its 3 year restoration, and we didn't yet have floors installed in any of the state rooms, we had not yet reoccupied the official residence, we had no artwork, carpets, curtains or household staff - but I was too young and inexperienced to understand the magnitude of the challenge ahead. Thankfully I had a great deal of support from the then Canadian Secretary to The Queen, Kevin MacLeod, the Protocol Office and the Lieutenant Governor of the day, the Honourable Mayann E. Francis.

In the winter of 2009/10 we had the first Royal Tour advance visit to review the various sites and flow of events. I recall walking Sir Edward Young (now Lord Young of Old Windsor), then The Queen's Deputy Private Secretary through the second floor of Government House - still with open sections revealing pipes and

wires - to show members of the Royal Household where the Royal Couple would be staying and where they would take their meals. It must have been a less than reassuring site for the Royal Household to be toured through a partially finished official residence with strained assurances from an inexperienced vice-regal secretary telling them "oh and this is the Royal Suite, where Her Majesty will stay, we will have it set up with floors and air conditioning in the next month." I would later discover that the Royal Tour planners had wisely tentatively booked suites at the Prince George Hotel, just in case Government House was not ready for Her Majesty and His Royal Highness to take up residence in when June 28th arrived.

Thankfully, it all came together, the house was fully functional, staffed and ready for Her Majesty to reopen a building she had first stayed in during the 1951 Royal Tour as Princess Elizabeth, and one connected all the way back to her Great Great Grandfather, Prince Edward Duke of Kent & Strathearn, Queen Victoria's father. The Royal Couple arrived in Halifax during a rain storm - the plane touched down and they proceeded off to the Garrison Grounds to be officially welcomed back to Canada - and the rain stopped. I was in front of Government House, with one of the Lieutenant Governor's Aides-de-Camp, a RCN Lieutenant, now Captain, Drew Graham, preparing the temporary platform for Her Majesty to unveil what turned out to be the first and only quadrilingual plaque she had ever been asked to reveal. The platform, covered in green outdoor carpet was soaked - as were Drew and I. We went out with push brooms to squeeze all the water off the platform - all I had in my head was an image of the Queen, the Duke or my Lieutenant Governor slipping on the soaked outdoor carpet on national television. I had already made an unfortunate appearance on the CBC's national explaining why it was necessary to

renovate a bathroom at Government House on account of a project manager's planning error that saw the Queen's Suite and the Wentworth Suite share a single bathroom!

The Royal Couple arrived and were greeted by the Lieutenant Governor and escorted to the platform to unveil the plaque. I along with all the household staff were lined up in the front foyer of Government House to be introduced to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness.

The plaque unveiling ceremony concluded with dignity and efficiency, Her Majesty was presented with the Royal Key to Government House, and then escorted by Mayann Francis, into building and we were individually introduced. I then accompanied the Royal Couple and the Lieutenant Governor on a tour of the main floor of Government House. As our little group traipsed through the recently restored rooms, Her Majesty paused in the Drawing Room - and pointed at the large Turkish Sofas and said "weren't those once a pale blue colour" everyone looked at me and I confirmed they had once been covered in "1970s crushed velvet" to which HM replied "this looks much nicer" pointing to the red and gold silk damask that now covered the sofas. An impressive memory for a minor detail as she had not been in that room for 16 years!

The Royal Couple then proceeded up to the second floor and the state bedrooms, escorted by the Lieutenant Governor and The Queen's Canadian Equerry Scott Nelson.

The following two and a half days were filled with more than a dozen different events; visit to the recreated Mi'kmaq Village which had been constructed on the Halifax Commons, the International Fleet Review in honour of the Navy's Centennial, a luncheon in honour of the RCN, the provincial welcome reception and artistic performances.

(The second half of this text will be featured in the next issue of CMN).

LEAGUE'S 30 NOMINATIONS FOR A NATIONAL HONOUR THE KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL

From Robert Finch,
Dominion Chairman

We recently has to deliberate over the League members who should receive The King Charles III Coronation Medal. Our allocation was especially difficult this time around, as only 30,000 Medals are being awarded, as opposed to 60,000 for the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Additionally, the efficient work of Rideau Hall in identifying partners in the distribution, of which the League is one, meant that we received quite a few requests and nomi-

nations from members and non-members alike, this time to nominate 30 rather than 60 deserving monarchists (the 2012 number reflects a nominations made available to the League from the Government of Canada and several Lieutenant Governors).

From the beginning, those with whom I consulted agreed on certain core principles: Absent extraordinary circumstances, League members should constitute our honourees. No one would be named for simply holding an office. Nominations from other people would normally take precedence from those who

self-nominated. This Honour should be spread across the country as much as possible, while at the same time having regard to the geographic imbalance of the membership. Good efforts should be recognized as well as terrific successes - anyone who works in volunteer organizations will understand that the latter is generally much rarer, anyway!

After receiving considerable and helpful, I am delighted to let you know which of your fellow members constituted our recommendations to Her Excellency: One half or more of these have by print time been presented.

NOMINATIONS DE LA LIGUE POUR UNE DISTINCTION NATIONALE LA MÉDAILLE DU COURONNEMENT DU ROI CHARLES III

De Robert Finch,
Président Nationale De La Ligue :

Nous avons récemment délibéré sur les personnes qui devraient recevoir la Médaille du Couronnement du Roi Charles III. Notre attribution a été particulièrement difficile cette fois-ci, car seules 30 000 médailles sont décernées, contre 60 000 pour le Jubilé de diamant de la Reine, aujourd'hui décédée. De plus, le travail efficace de Rideau Hall pour identifier les partenaires de la distribution, dont la Ligue fait partie, a fait que nous avons reçu un grand nombre de demandes et de nominations de la part de membres et de non-membres, cette fois-ci pour nommer 30 plutôt que 60 monar-

chistes méritants (nous avons reçu ce dernier nombre grâce à une combinaison du gouvernement du Canada et de plusieurs lieutenants-gouverneurs). La seule consolation à cet égard, une arme à deux tranchants, hélas, est que de nombreuses sections luttent encore, après la catastrophe, pour trouver de bonnes équipes de direction et pour aligner leurs activités sur les attentes clairement définies dans le plan de la section.

Dès le début, les personnes que j'ai consultées se sont accordées sur certains principes fondamentaux : Les membres de la Ligue devraient constituer nos lauréats, sauf circonstances extraordinaires. Personne ne sera nommé pour avoir simplement exercé une fonction.

Les nominations d'autres personnes auraient normalement la priorité sur celles qui se sont présentées elles-mêmes. Cet honneur devrait être réparti dans tout le pays autant que possible, tout en tenant compte du déséquilibre géographique des membres. Les bons efforts doivent être reconnus, tout comme les grands succès - quiconque travaille dans des organisations bénévoles comprendra que ces derniers sont généralement beaucoup plus rares, de toute façon !

Après avoir reçu une aide considérable et utile, j'ai le plaisir de vous faire savoir lesquels de vos collègues membres constituent nos recommandations à Son Excellence :

Karim Al-Dahdah, Montreal, QC - Senior Officer of The Monarchist League of Canada in Quebec. Frequent media commentator whose reasoned advocacy wins



credibility even among those who do not support the institution. *Agent principal de la Ligue monarchiste du Canada au Québec. Commentateur fréquent des médias dont le plaidoyer raisonné gagne en crédibilité même auprès de ceux qui ne soutiennent pas l'institution.* **Sandra Barker, London, ON** - Chairman of the Monarchist League of Canada's London Branch for many years, even in retirement she continues to promote the Monarchy with a variety of activities and outreach projects. **Eugene Berezovsky, Toronto, ON** - Former League Intern, and for over a decade on staff of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario: imaginative, loyal and always helpful to the League. **Jonathan Brickwood, Toronto, ON** - Senior Toronto officer of the League, has led members on three trips to UK for Royal events, frequent media commentator and expert

organizer of online meetings. **(Ms) Jamie Burton, Port Stanley, ON** - Active in League Branches, generous in substance as in spirit, always willing to assist the League's work as needed. **Valerie Cade** -





Regina, SK She has served as Regina/South Saskatchewan Branch Secretary for many years: meticulous event organizer and record-keeper. **Roy Eappen, Montreal, QC** - For decades this ebullient and good-humoured endocrinologist has supported the League with substantial practical assistance, be it a generous donation or a rare "Queen" Barbie Doll for our auction sales. *Pendant des décennies, cet endocrinologue bouillant et de bonne humeur a soutenu la Ligue en lui apportant une aide pratique substantielle, qu'il s'agisse d'un don généreux ou d'une poupée Barbie "Queen" - rare pour nos ventes aux enchères.* **The Late Doris Finch, Hamilton, ON** (*The provisions of the Medal awards provide for inclusion of nominees within one year of their deaths*) Loving matriarch of a loyal family, her example of loyalty and courage amidst challenge enabled the current Dominion Chairman to

Ontario Lieutenant Governor: First Presentations of Coronation Medals At League Accession Lunch



A marvelous time was had by all, the more special as Her Honour told the company that these were the first Coronation Medals she had presented.

Tout le monde a passé un moment merveilleux, d'autant plus que Son Honneur a déclaré à la compagnie qu'il s'agissait des premières médailles du couronnement qu'elle.

feel encouraged and supported through the many difficult moments concomitant to the position. **Daniel Guenther, Winnipeg, MB** - Able media spokesman for the League, nationally and in Manitoba (Senior Officer in the province); leader of two League trips to UK for Royal occasions; innovative and imaginative. **Alice Haigh, Oakville, ON** - Though now confined to a nursing home, her spirit is undaunted, and her ardent monarchism coupled with generosity of spirit and substance remains strong and true. **Bruce Hallors, Victoria, BC** - For decades, this KC has been a thoughtful Senior Officer and Media Spokesman for the League in British Columbia. His legal training and calm spirit brings much-needed continuity and good sense to the League Branch in Victoria. **Valerie Holden, Victoria BC** - Victoria Branch Secretary for decades, she keeps in regular touch with the membership of a diverse body, motivated by her own deep loyalty to the Maple Crown. **Dr Richard Isaac, Toronto, ON** - A distinguished Coroner, life member and generous supporter of the League for 50 years, his life of loyal service is an example of devotion to Crown and community. **Katharine Lathrop, Sutton, QC** - A stalwart supporter of Crown and League since its inception in 1970. *Une fervente partisane de la Couronne et de la Ligue depuis sa création en 1970.* **Barry MacKenzie, Antigonish, NS** - This former Chairman of the League's New Brunswick Branch brought innovative programming and fresh life to its work. He remains reliable and generous in the gifts of his spirit and time. **Ian McKechnie, Lindsay, ON** - His willingness to be of assistance on a variety of projects, coupled with good sense and a high degree of organization, is of substantial assistance to the League's work. **Nancy McFadyen, Toronto, ON** - Her good humour and deep loyalty, coupled with a generous nature, assists the League and encourages all who know her to a lively understanding of the value of the Maple Crown. **Kenneth Munro, Edmonton, AB** - Long-serving Chairman of the Edmonton/N Alberta League Branch, his thoughtful monarchism leads others to loyalty. **Alec**

Her Honour graciously posed with the recipients of the Coronation Medal. Front row (l-r) Nicolas Rowe - Mary de Toro - Eugene Berezovsky - The Lieutenant Governor - Sandra Barker - Ann Shuttleworth - Dominik Wrona - Ian McKechnie. Rear row (l-r) Byron Thomas - Nancy McFadyen - Jonathan Brickwood - Felicity Pickup (obscured) - Jamie Burton - Roy Eappen

Nilsson, Stockholm, Sweden - When in 2022 the League was tasked to distribute the Platinum Jubilee pin on behalf of the Government of Canada, this Canadian university student coordinated the distribution on one day's notice for the ensuing hectic months, bringing organization and good humour to the benefit of public and League. **Felicity Pickup, Toronto, ON** - Member of the League for nearly five decades, she was a pillar of the work of the Toronto Branch. Practical as she is devoted to the Crown loyal, her gifts of advice and substance have long exemplified the best of rational loyalty in the Dominion. **Nicolas Rowe, Toronto, ON** - For



more than 10 years, even while being a house-husband with two growing children, and Manager of a large condo, his expertise has unstintingly - often into the wee hours - coordinated the League's complex computer needs and issues, including solving the apparent disappearance of its data base! **Keith Roy, Vancouver, BC** - A former summer Intern, he has for more than a decade been the League's national media spokesman based in Vancouver. This responsibility he has necessarily relinquished as he is now a nominee for election to the next Parliament. **Marjorie Shephard, Peterborough, ON** - For many years, a pillar of the League's Peterborough Branch, regularly organizing shop window displays within the city. A generous and giving spirit brings loyalty to many by her example. **Ted Sanc-ton, Lachine, QC** - From the inception of the League in 1970, his good-humour and expertise has enabled the League to look "professional" in print including design-

ing the League magazine. *Depuis la création de la Ligue en 1970, sa bonne humeur et son expertise ont permis à la Ligue d'avoir une apparence «professionnelle» sur papier, notamment en concevant le magazine de la Ligue.*

Ann Shuttleworth, Mississauga, ON – An enthusiastic volunteer on behalf of the League, whether speaking to youth groups or holding a get-together in her magnificent garden, her loyalty to the Crown and assistance to the cause is firm, and true and cheerful. **Aron Spidle, Halifax, NS** – Succeeding a long-serving Nova Scotia branch chairman, he has brought to slender resources and a scattered membership a varied program, and done so with a loyal and imaginative spirit. **Heather Taylor, Mount Pearl, NL** – She has gradually and determinedly begun to re-build the League Branch and reach out to people in Newfoundland & Labrador after decades of leadership by one of her inimitable predecessors. **Mary de Toro, Gloucester, ON** – Former Ottawa Branch Chairman of the League, she brought imaginative programming to a long-stagnant Branch in a city obviously important to the League's work. *Ancienne présidente de la section d'Ottawa de la Ligue, elle a apporté une programmation imaginative à une section longtemps stagnante dans une ville manifestement importante pour le travail de la Ligue.* **Byron Thomas, Georgetown,**



ON – A League member for more than four decades, buoyed by a deep and lively faith, with thoughtful outlook and informed loyalty he gives practical advice and constant, generous assistance even when his proposals are not adopted. **Dominik Wrona, Mississauga, ON** – A former summer intern, entering Rotman Business School this Fall, he has used his loyalty and practical talents in not only secretarial assistance but also by gradually re-building a League presence on social media, and designing attractive catalogues for the Annual Auction

THE COST & VALUE OF THE CANADIAN CROWN \$1.61 per CANADIAN yearly

One of the little-reported but more significant projects which you make possible for the League to undertake is this triennial offering, of which the latest report was released in late June. A thorough survey of the work done by our Royal Family during their homecomings to Canada or in support of the Canadian Forces and civil organizations, together with the activities of the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governors day in day out, reveal how the remarkably low cost of the Canadian Crown is indeed a bargain! and its value, immense. Print copies are sent to members of the Royal Family and their households, the Vice-Regals and their private secretaries and key members of the federal government and bureaucracy – together with League members in good standing who do not have email and have asked for it.

We invite you to take a deep dive into the latest Survey, posted on our website at www.monarchist.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Cost_of_the_Crown_Summer_2024.pdf

A few ideas for use the Survey to encourage conversation and “spread the word” about:

- ♦ the trifling per capita cost of the Canadian Crown and the value it brings, especially how the Lieutenant Governors do so much for so little public funds;
- ♦ the breadth of activities and support of causes by which the Royals and vice-regals expose good works to the public, thereby encouraging their financial support and offers of volunteer assistance.
- ♦ the credibility they therefore bring as actors on the stage of our polity – most of which is ceremonial and routine, but whose very presence give stability to our nation as the embodiment of authority that seeks nothing for itself.

If you are willing to distribute just three (or more!) copies of the Survey, please slip a \$5 bill into an envelope, with your name and address, requesting same – or you can go to the League Store and make a “Fighting Fund” donation in the amount of \$5.03 – the three cents indicating to us your purpose.

LE COÛT ET LA VALEUR DE LA COURONNE CANADIENNE 1,61\$ par Canadien et par an

Ce projet triennal est l'un des projets les moins médiatisés mais les plus importants que vous permettez à la Ligue d'entreprendre. Une étude approfondie du travail accompli par notre famille royale lors de ses retours au Canada ou en soutien aux Forces canadiennes et aux organisations civiles, ainsi que des activités quotidiennes du gouverneur général et des lieutenants-gouverneurs, révèle que le coût remarquablement bas de la Couronne canadienne est une véritable aubaine! et que sa valeur est immense. Des copies imprimées sont envoyées aux membres de la famille royale et à leurs ménages, aux vice-rois et à leurs secrétaires privés, ainsi qu'aux principaux membres du gouvernement fédéral et de la bureaucratie – de même qu'aux membres en règle de la Ligue qui n'ont pas de courriel et qui ont demandé à recevoir le questionnaire.

Nous vous invitons à vous plonger dans la dernière enquête, qui est maintenant affichée sur notre site Web à l'adresse suivante: www.monarchist.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Cost_of_the_Crown_Summer_2024.pdf

Voici quelques idées pour utiliser l'en-

quête afin d'encourager la conversation et de “faire passer le mot” au sujet de ce qui suit:

- ♦ le coût insignifiant par habitant de la Couronne canadienne et la valeur qu'elle apporte, en particulier la façon dont les lieutenants-gouverneurs font tant avec si peu de fonds publics;
- ♦ l'étendue des activités et le soutien des causes par lesquels les souverains et les vice-rois exposent les bonnes œuvres au public, encourageant ainsi leur soutien financier et les offres d'aide bénévole.
- ♦ la crédibilité qu'ils apportent donc en tant qu'acteurs sur la scène de notre politique – dont la plus grande partie est cérémoniale et routinière, mais dont la présence même donne de la stabilité à notre nation en tant qu'incarnation d'une autorité qui ne cherche rien pour elle-même.

Si vous souhaitez distribuer seulement trois exemplaires (ou plus!) de l'enquête, veuillez glisser un billet de 5 \$ dans une enveloppe, avec votre nom et votre adresse, pour en faire la demande – ou vous pouvez vous rendre à la boutique de la Ligue et faire un don au “Fonds de lutte” d'un montant de 5,03 \$ – les trois cents nous indiquant votre objectif.

WHEN WILL QUEEN'S STATUE BE RETURNED TO PARLIAMENT HILL?

Several members have recently asked us this very reasonable question.

The short answer is – not for at least eight years! 2032 is the projected completion of what is a very complicated process to bring the Houses of Parliament into the modern era of usage and enlarging space for much-needed accommodations, while at the same time safely removing, preserving and storing countless historic elements.

Come 2031 all of us will certainly want to prepare that there is no doubt that



Equestrian statue of Elizabeth II as dedicated on Parliament Hill, June 30, 1992, during Ruby Jubilee homecoming. (top) and Temporary home of Queen's statue on Sussex Drive roundabout, adjacent to Rideau Hall. (below)



LA STATUE DE LA REINE SERA-T-ELLE SERA-T-ELLE RAMENÉE SUR LA COLLINE DU PARLEMENT ?

Plusieurs membres nous ont récemment posé cette question très raisonnable. La réponse est simple : pas avant huit ans ! 2032 est la date prévue pour l'achèvement de ce qui est un processus très compliqué pour faire entrer les Chambres du Parlement dans l'ère moderne de l'utilisation et de l'agrandissement de l'espace pour des aménagements indispensables, tout en retirant, préservant et stockant en toute sécurité d'innombrables éléments historiques.

En 2031, chacun d'entre nous voudra certainement s'assurer que la statue

d'Élisabeth retrouve une place d'honneur sur la Colline, car selon notre Constitution, la Souveraine fait partie du Parlement. Pour l'instant, son emplacement à l'extérieur de Rideau Hall est certainement approprié.

Vous serez peut-être intéressé de lire le compte-rendu détaillé du gouvernement sur le projet ambitieux en cours :

www.canada.ca/fr/services-publics-appvisionnement/services/infrastructure-immeubles/cite-parlementaire/projets-cite-parlementaire/projet-edifice-centre

Elizabeth's statue returns to a place of honour on The Hill; for under our Constitution, the Sovereign is a part of Parliament. For now, its location outside Rideau Hall is certainly appropriate.

You might be interested in reading the Government's very interesting and detailed account of the challenging project now underway:

www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/services/infrastructure-buildings/parliamentary-precinct/projects-in-parliamentary-precinct/centre-block-project

Prizegiving Time for our Royals

The Daily Telegraph's Royal Editor, Hannah Furness, recently created and published an "end of term" Royal Prize-giving during the family retreat to Balmoral. All in good fun – but like all good humour, also bearing truth! Some extracts below – *send us your own nomination or two for our Royals and Vice-Regals, the latter's hard works too often under-reported.*

Best of British Award for Stoicism: **Princess Anne**, who was kicked in the head by a horse, then back before we knew it... For Keeping the Show on the Road: **Queen Camilla**... who absorbed the frightening news her husband had cancer and set out to fill the gap in his public engagements with a tour de force or her own... Best Dancer: **Prince William**, whose dad dancing at a Taylor Swift concert lifted our spirits (Hon Mention to **Prince Louis'** hip wiggles at Trooping the Colour)... The King-in-Training Award: **Prince George**, whose polite and increasingly confident appearances with his papa have seen him shake hands with football royalty... The EIIR Award for Speaking to the Nation [let's not forget the Realms]: **The Princess of Wales**, whose video message announcing her cancer diagnosis, reassuring that she will be OK. Perfectly pitched as calm, measured and personal... The Sovereign Award for Public Duty: **The King**, whose openness about his health this year has transformed public opinion and save lives... his determination to use his own misfortune to help others has been genuinely moving...

An Interesting Work of Comparative Government Review

by de coronam Peritus

The Enduring Crown Commonwealth
by Michael J. Smith &
Stephen Klimczuk-Massion

This new book provides an engaging and timely examination of the enduring connections shared between the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand through constitutional monarchy and the many shared

values that underline the relationship between the four realms. The book's opening chapters provide a fascinating and well researched synopsis of the rise and fall of the Crown Commonwealth through the events during the second half of the twentieth century and walk the reader through the trails and tribulations of the transformation of Empire into Commonwealth. The quality of the book's research comes through here especially with the inclusion of some long forgotten historical anecdotes related to the depth of the connection between the four realms during the Korean War and the period that immediately followed.

For students of the Canadian Crown, chapter three, which provides an insightful survey of the various efforts to "phase out" constitutional monarchy in Australia, New Zealand and Canada, and the underlying resilience of the Crown in each country, providing specific examples of how elements of the Crown have been preserved, or in some cases restored in each realm. All this in spite of the familiar refrain that the transition to a republic and breaking of "ties with the British monarchy" – to quote the oft used phrase of the public broadcasters in Australia, Canada and New Zealand – is not inevitable and about which the demise has been often reported, yet far from realized.

For many of our readers, it will of course be the references to Canada that provide the most interesting element. The return of the RCN and RCAF, the innovations and difficulties of the Clarkson era at Rideau Hall, the preservation of the Oath of Allegiance and the central and revived nature of the Crown-Indigenous relationship are all covered in a sensitive and insightful manner. It is not just Australia, Canada and New Zealand that are examined, but also the post-Brexit United Kingdom is included and woven throughout the latter part of the book. So often the UK is omitted from discussion of the realms. Smith and Klimczuk-Massion, do an admirable job of including the UK's position as a realm – with all the opportunities and challenges of the last fifteen years, are covered.

The book's most valuable contribution is its discussion of the "stirring start to the Reign of King Charles," and the chal-

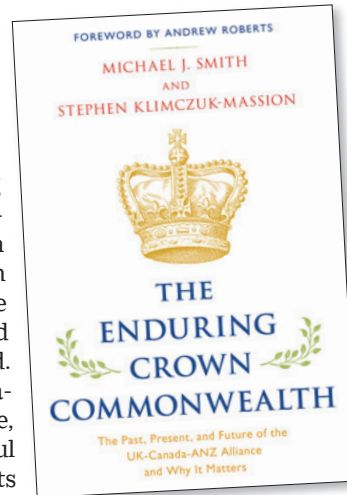
lenges ahead. The passing of our longest serving Sovereign, a person who was arguably the most selfless and duty focused head of state of the last century, has provided her son, and the overall institution of constitutional monarchy, with a unique challenge given the outstanding depth of

Her late Majesty's life and service. The authors do not shy away from clearly outlining the challenges ahead for His Majesty – again they do this with a sense of optimism and yet are realistic about the threats and opportunities that must be acknowledged.

The overall sense of confidence that a more formal alliance between the UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand is possible is, to this reviewer at least, is some-

thing more likely to develop informally and organically, and at points the authors strain to make the case for such a deeper relationship. This may yet happen, depending on how the unstable geopolitical landscape develops over the next decade as the Carolinian age deepens – but it will more likely remain an elusive and unrealized goal. The sincerity of the author's desire for the development is earnest and they do an admirable job of laying out the reasons why such an enhanced relationship would be in the interests of all four countries – well beyond simply bolstering the Crown Commonwealth.

The book's structure and use of introductory quotations and headings make an otherwise dense subject easy to read, consider and absorb. For those more academically inclined, the end notes provide a treasure-trove of reference and other sources worth consulting, well beyond simply backing up the research and text. Overall, *The Enduring Crown Commonwealth: The Past, Present, and Future of the UK-Canada-ANZ Alliance and Why It Matters* makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of constitutional monarchy and the relationship between the four realms and the Crown. It lacks the dry analytical approach of Brady's *Democracy in the Dominions*, which is now more than sixty years out of date and brings the Crowned Commonwealth into its modern context in a way no other accessible scholarly work has in the 21st century.



Australia – Further Retreat From Republicanism

During a September press conference announcing a cabinet shuffle, the Australian Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, a republican, revealed at the least a lack of enthusiasm for any concrete steps towards a republic. The country has high bar for such a significant constitutional change: not only a majority of those voting, but agreement by the electors in all the Australian States. A 1999 referendum completely failed, both nationally and in the States; and recent polls have shown that about 60% of folk down under favour retention of the Monarchy.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, unless I'm wrong, it looks like you've axed the republic as a portfolio. Why have you done that and is that an admission that that was a bit of an indulgence and not realistic?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, the portfolio was appointed first under the previous Labor Leader, it's something that I inherited. I said at the beginning of, I said before I was elected Prime Minister, I intended to have one referendum, it's the only thing I committed to. Previously the Labor party went to elections committing to multiple referendums. At the moment the only person who's committed to another referendum during the next term if he's elected is Peter Dutton. [Leader of the Opposition]

That these views on the part of the Prime Minister mirrored a general feeling was manifest in the recent warm welcome given The King & Queen during their short homecoming en route to the Commonwealth gathering in Samoa. Large crowds, including many younger people, were evident everywhere Charles and Camilla went; and the one awkward moment by a solitary Parliamentarian was roundly rebuked by her fellow members, monarchical and republican alike.

LORD FELLOWES - 1941-2024

LATE QUEEN'S PRIVATE SECRETARY FORGED LINKS WITH THE LEAGUE

Sir Robert Fellowes, as he was known while The Queen's Private Secretary for nine years during the 1990's (he had previously served HM for 12 years as Assistant Private Secretary), steered Her Majesty with insightful good advice and total discretion through an unprecedented upheaval in the Royal Family during the ten years of his tenure - from the fire at Windsor Castle to the upheavals in the Marriage of Charles and Diana, not to mention the divorces of Anne and Andrew. That he was married to Lady Jane Spencer, Diana's sister, certainly would have left someone of lesser steel daunted. Yet he commanded the total confidence of The Sovereign, and near-universal admiration for his role.

Not known until this writing, as any exchange of absolute confidences must be, was that he forged a very positive relationship with the League and its Founder. Unsurprisingly, this had previously been correct, but neither particularly warm nor confidential in tone or substance. Sir Robert often spent an hour with the latter at the Palace when he was in London - and on one occasion, at a Garden Party at Rideau Hall when the sheer numbers made it possible to carry on a prolonged useful conversation! Sir Robert did share a number of the League's concerns with HM. Indeed on one or two occasions, the Dominion Secretary of the day known for her absolute rectitude, found mail from the Palace, occasionally forwarded by the Prime Minister, marked "Secret" - which she refused to open!

The book will always remain closed on these exchanges. But without The Queen's

approval, it is certain that four members of the Royal Family would not have visited with League members at functions it organized, not to mention one ten-day tour across Canada. And it is certain those events and many other helpful outcomes and understandings would likely not have occurred without Sir Robert's holding and sharing a positive view of the league.

Excerpt from *The Guardian* on Lord Fellowes' death:

Although part of the traditional recruitment pathway for senior royal courtiers - family connections, Eton, the City and the Guards, "quite a gilded cage," as he admitted - the tall, bespectacled Fellowes was by no means a stuffed shirt, being both approachable (even to the *Guardian*), courteous, unassuming and cool-headed. Not only was he central to steering the Queen through the crises as her closest professional adviser, but he was also gently innovative.

He pointed the monarchy towards paying tax for the first time in nearly a century and played a part in the Way Ahead group of senior household officials, which hacked away at some of the palace's more arcane traditions, not least cutting back some of the many hangers-on. He even advocated publication of a biography of George V revealing that he had declined to save his cousin Tsar Nicholas II and his family after the Russian Revolution, an episode some at the palace had wanted to keep secret even 70 years on: the Queen accepted his advice and the book went ahead.

In the supreme crisis of the reign, the week after Diana's death, when popular criticism of the Queen for not returning to London reached hysterical levels, incited by the tabloid press, it was Fellowes who persuaded her back to Buckingham Palace early. He drafted her live broadcast - "So what I say to you now, as your Queen and as a grandmother, I say from my heart" - that did much to calm the situation.

Robert was the son of Sir William - Billy - Fellowes, the land agent of the Sandringham estate in Norfolk for nearly 30 years and a shooting companion of George VI, and his wife Jane (nee Ferguson), herself the great-aunt of Sarah Ferguson, who married Prince Andrew. As the Queen pointed out at Fellowes' leaving party from the palace in 1999, she first met him when as a young princess she went to see him as a new baby: "He is the only one of my private secretaries I have



held in my arms..."

Almost from the start he found himself dealing with the collapse of the royal marriages, one after another, saying ruefully later: "I came into this job for many reasons. Not one of them was to be a marriage guidance counsellor." By far the most personally painful was the slow breakdown of his sister-in-law Diana's marriage to Prince Charles. She had been a bridesmaid when Fellowes married her sister in 1978.

When the state of the marriage first became widely known through the publication of Andrew Morton's book, *Diana: Her True Story*, in 1992, Fellowes asked her directly whether she had collaborated with Morton and she denied it, saying "certainly not". His subsequent private briefing led directly to... [the] chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, accusing the media of making the story up - notoriously he complained of "the odious exhibition of journalists dabbling in men's souls."

Very soon it became clear that Diana had lied to him, and Fellowes offered his resignation to the Queen. It was rejected, but the princess's bad faith affected their relationship for the rest of her life. She derided him as one of the palace's "men in grey suits", who she claimed made her life a misery. Fellowes told *The Daily Telegraph* afterwards: "I was deeply fond of her. She was a very good person. She found it difficult in life to find happiness."



New Set of Royal Values Issued by Buckingham Palace

The annual report issued recently by Buckingham Palace suggested that The King's preference for a "slimmed-down" Monarchy was beginning to take effect. The complicated arrangements for financing the institution in the United Kingdom are unique to it, and for the most part do not "cost" the British taxpayer anything.

They certainly cannot be compared to the "costs" associated with the Canadian Crown, as revealed in our latest triennial report about its cost and value. Those do come from the taxpayer – and what a bargain they are at \$1.61 per Canadian annually! We read a survey this morning stating that the average cost of a medium coffee from Tim Horton's is \$1.79 – you can draw your own conclusions!

Since we're in the process of welcoming many new friends to the League, and

want to know or be reminded of the details of the Maple Crown's frugal financing, you can read the recent report online at www.monarchist.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Cost_of_the_Crown_Summer_2024.pdf

However, the reduction in the number of working members of our Royal Family certainly does impact Canada and the other Realms, and not for good, in both the immediate and middle-term horizons, in the sense that their regular homecomings here will perforce be reduced. The problem has been further exacerbated by the illnesses of The King and the Princess of Wales.

Our late Queen famously was quoted as saying "We must be seen to be believed." The seven pithy words reflect that as ever EIIR was on point, and no fairy-land Monarch.

The five values in the Palace report are as follows: "Act with Care"; "Make an Impact"; "Succeed Together"; "Stay Curious"; and "Lead by Example". All unexceptional, to be sure. The change of Reign, especially one of historic duration during which society was utterly changed in many ways, of course brings a healthy re-consideration of how the institution should work, and to a greater extent mirror the best of today's values. and the evolving expectations of the Monarch's subjects – us.

How matters will evolve as particularly touching the Maple Monarchy remains to be seen. It may well be that time, circumstance and especially pressure from the Realms, will move The King to make more use of some of his family who already occasionally perform "unofficial" duties – witness a recent Palace Garden Party.

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Readers will find a much larger selection of items by accessing the League website Store: store.monarchist.ca/en/products – Une sélection légèrement différente des articles chez notre Boutique en ligne: store.monarchist.ca/fr/produits

LEAGUE ROYAL POSTCARDS

- P6** The Queen & "the Iron Duke" 2020
- P7** The Cambridge children & William 2021
- P8** Philip & George carriage-riding c. 2017
- P9** The Queen & Prince of Wales 2021
- P11** The Queen with Canadian soldiers at Windsor 2021

Prices only for paying members in good standing. Others \$4 each card, limit 5 of each card

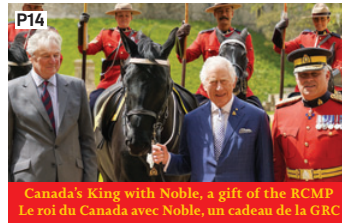
P13 Charles joins the dance in NWT

P14 The King with Noble, horse presented him by RCMP *Illustrated below*

P15 William and George, future Kings of Canada *Illustrated below*

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William & George: deux futurs rois du Canada



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and
William & Catherine CMN 254 →
\$20.00 per pin

