

# **KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

## ***November Announcements 2014***

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday evening, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Frontenac Public Library's Central Branch, 130 Johnson Street. Military historian and member of KHS Council, **Paul Van Nest**, commemorates **Armistice Day** with an account of the Second Battle of Ypres in the First World War. Major John McCrae, a Canadian medical officer, was inspired to write the famous poem *In Flanders Fields* by the death of his friend, Lt. Helmer, a Royal Military College graduate. Information contact: Paul Van Nest at pvan nest@cogeco.ca or (613) 544-6802.

### **DECEMBER CELEBRATION:**

Members of the Kingston Historical Society and their guests are invited to gather for a festive and social get-together on **Wednesday evening, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 pm at the Renaissance Event Venue** (285 Queen Street). This is our annual awards celebration, an opportunity to recognize individuals and organizations who have contributed exceptional work to the community around preserving, documenting and promoting Kingston's past. Live seasonal music will also be presented this year courtesy of KHS member and Kingston Chamber Choir Artistic Director Gordon Sinclair. An ensemble of choir members will perform at 6:30 pm. Awards will be officially presented at 7:00 pm, followed by a small plate buffet at 7:30. The cash bar will be offered throughout the evening. Parking is located behind the building, accessed from Colborne Street. A donation at the door of \$10 per person would be gratefully received to help cover costs. The next regular meeting of the Society at the library will be held in January.

### **SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD 200<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY:**

The mail-out today includes your reservation form for tickets to the KHS Sir John A. Macdonald bicentennial tribute banquet on **Saturday evening, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00 pm** at the Senior Staff Mess at the Royal Military College. The Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas Cromwell of the Supreme Court of Canada, and a former lawyer and resident of Kingston, will be the after-dinner speaker. Because of its special nature, this anniversary event will also include live period music at the grand piano in the reception venue, courtesy of John Hall, as the guests arrive at 6:00 pm, and an after-dinner mini-concert of live vocal patriotic music, thanks to Gordon and Sandra Sinclair. Formal ceremonial pageantry will include a toast by Sir John A. Macdonald, in the company of Lady Agnes Macdonald. Dress: evening attire, formal Scottish regalia, or business suits. This event is expected to sell out quickly, and is being promoted only to KHS members at the start. Members may invite one other couple as guests. If there are any tickets left after December 19<sup>th</sup>, they will be offered to the general public, first come, first served. **All reservations must be accompanied by a cheque** made out to the Kingston Historical Society.

The dinner reservation cost this year is \$80 each. Information contact: Warren Everett, Coordinator at sw.everett@yahoo.ca or (613) 545-9316.

### **AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND SUPPORT:**

As the Annual General Meeting of the KHS approaches in February, KHS Council announces that the following positions will become open to volunteers or nominations: Sir John A. Dinner Coordinator, Programme Chair, Awards Committee Chair, Website Coordinator, Vice President, and President. For more information, please contact Gordon Sinclair at sinclair@kingston.net or (613) 531-9413.

### **SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD COMMEMORATIVE COIN:**

To mark the bicentennial of the birth of Canada's first Prime Minister, KHS is offering a handsome special edition minted coin. This attractive nickel plated souvenir can be purchased throughout 2015, and will be for sale at the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. The cost is \$10 each. Some gold coins are also available. More information: Gordon Sinclair at sinclair@kingston.net or (613) 531-9413.

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### **SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT AND MUSIC BOOK:**

Donna Ivey and Norma Kelly of Rideau Street Publications in Kingston produced a unique collection of music written and dedicated to Sir John A. Macdonald and Lady Agnes Macdonald between 1871 and 1897. A concert launch of the book, which took place to celebrate the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kingston Historical Society in 2004, is being recreated in April 2015 to mark the bicentennial of Sir John A.'s birth. The producer will be Sarah Gibson-Bray. The venue will be Sydenham Street United Church. Details are yet to be announced, but the concert date will be either April 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>. Copies of this fine music collection are available again through Novel Idea Books, or by calling Donna Ivey at (613) 547-5263, or emailing wolfeisland@kos.net. The books will also be featured for sale at the concert.

### **JENNIFER McKENDRY'S NEW BOOK:**

A long time Kingston Historical Society member and respected local historian, Jennifer McKendry, has published a comprehensive body of thorough research with fascinating results. **MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN KINGSTON: a Survey of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Buildings** gives readers an exceptional photographic presentation and highlights architectural features of 20<sup>th</sup> century structures in Kingston in a dramatic and insightful way. Copies are available for purchase at Novel Idea, 156 Princess Street and at Society meetings. The cost is \$11. Contact information: Jennifer McKendry at mckendry@kos.net or (613) 544-9535.

### **GOOD NEWS RE JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>, KHS CATARAQUI CEMETERY EVENT:**

Admired and well-known Canadian political leader Bob Rae has agreed to be the speaker at the Kingston Historical Society's gravesite commemoration service for Sir John A. Macdonald on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society** will meet in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Frontenac Public Library, 130 Johnson Street, on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. John Fielding of the Kingston Historical Society will speak on the topic: *A Boy, a Company, a Town: Tony Daicar's Immigration to Canada and the Development of the Bata Shoe Company and the Town of Batawa*. Visitors are welcome. Further details at [www.ogs.on.ca/kingston](http://www.ogs.on.ca/kingston).

**2. Kingston District Branch, UEL United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada** will hold its Annual General Meeting at 1:00 pm on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at St. Paul's Church Hall, corner of Montreal and Queen Streets in Kingston. The speaker will be Jean Rae Baxter, UE, whose most recent historical novel, *The White Oneida*, was inspired by events in the life of Joseph Brant, a notable Loyalist. Visitors are always welcome. Please join us for luncheon sandwiches and squares before the meeting at 11:30 am. Cost is just \$3.50. For further information, please call Carol at (613) 546-2256 or email us at [kingston.uelac@gmail.com](mailto:kingston.uelac@gmail.com)

### **KHS NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DELAY:**

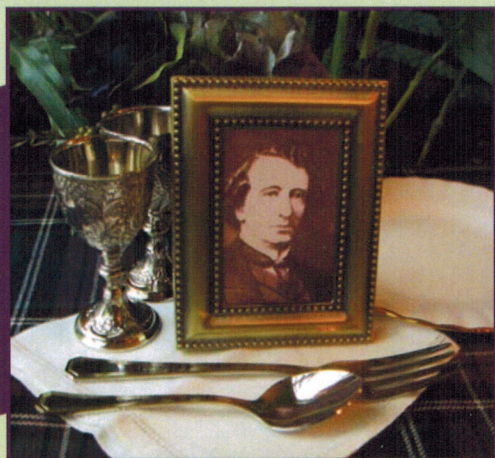
With particular apologies to all members who submitted articles for publication for the November edition of KHS *Limelight*, we regret to announce that a virus-induced computer meltdown has resulted in the need to purchase and create a new computer and design programme configuration. It may take time to have everything retrieved and functional again. The hope is that key KHS announcements have been covered in a timely fashion by this basic all-points bulletin to members, sponsors and associates.

### **KHS Limelight Editor, Eva Barnes**

[eva\\_barnes@sympatico.ca](mailto:eva_barnes@sympatico.ca) and (613) 546-4300

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014





*The Kingston Historical Society  
presents:*

## **THE SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD 200th ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

*Saturday, January 10th, 2015 at 6:00 pm  
at the Royal Military College of Canada  
Senior Staff Mess*

A cordial invitation is extended to you and your guests to attend a special tribute to Canada's first Prime Minister, Father of Confederation, and Kingston's most famous historical citizen. Sir John Alexander Macdonald's 200th birthday will be celebrated by the KHS through a welcoming and hearty winter feast in the elegant surroundings of the Senior Staff Mess at the Royal Military College. Come and enjoy a splendid evening of fine dining, period music, historical pageantry and food for thought.

It is a privilege to announce our guest speaker, the Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas Cromwell of the Supreme Court of Canada, and a former lawyer and resident of Kingston, Canada, as a country, owes much to the legal profession as part of its creation and development. Sir John A. Macdonald was himself a distinguished Kingston lawyer, with a firm reverence for justice, and a dynamic vision for the future. And his debating and negotiating skills were extraordinary, saving Canada as a sovereign nation on more than one occasion.

The pleasure of your company would be enjoyed at 6:00 pm, as we welcome and meet our special guests. Parking assistance and directions to the mess will be provided. Our traditional Scottish piper will play the call to dinner at 6:45 pm. After the banquet repast, our guest speaker will present his address. A concert style interlude of patriotic music from the Macdonald era will conclude the gala occasion. The cost for the evening will be \$80 per person. A cash beverage bar is offered.

Please complete the form below and forward with enclosed payment to:

*Kingston Historical Society,  
c/o Warren Everett, 253 Willingdon Avenue, Kingston, ON K7L 4J2  
Information: (613) 545-9316*

*All requests for dinner reservations must be received before December 19th, 2014,  
and accompanied by payment. Seating will be limited this year, early reservations essential.*

NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE AND E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN MEAL(S) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE INDICATE FOOD SENSITIVITIES: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_ Please list the full names of those attending.