



The Blazon

The newsletter of the British Columbia/Yukon Branch of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada

SPRING 2020

Vol. 15, No. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a difference a month makes. As we approached the end of February our branch heraldry activities went from famine to feast.

We did no public heraldry presentations last year; the various service and family history groups took a year off from having heraldry presentations. The year got off to a good start with a heraldry presentation with the Probus Club in Comox on February 27. A good crowd of some 73 members.

The following week saw us doing the heraldry presentation, twice, in Whitehorse, Yukon as part of our Branch visit to meet our Yukon Patron, the Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y., Commissioner of Yukon. We had 20 Yukoners attend the presentations and we also made a special plaque presentation to the Mayor of the City of Whitehorse.

Another active event was our Branch Annual General Meeting and Dinner in Victoria on March 7. Then we went into isolation as the COVID-19 virus crisis changed everything.

As I write this on the first day of spring with the vernal equinox, the prospect of more public heraldry events is nil like our other personal

and public activities. While our Branch was fortunate in having completed the recent heraldry activities, the big news is our Society's annual general meeting and conference for Montreal in May is cancelled. The national Board of the R.H.S.C. is planning a teleconference to conduct essential business; we may not have a national occasion to get together until the Autumn, perhaps.

Staying in touch via this newsletter is an ideal way to maintain our social connection while we share our common interest in heraldry. I welcome any news, updates, details of new grants of arms and articles you want to submit.

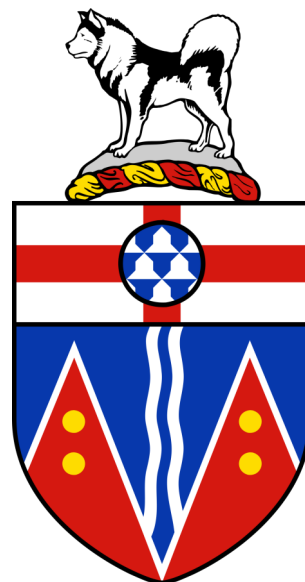
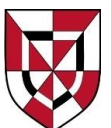
Plans for the 2021 R.H.S.C. conference in Victoria for May 7-8 of next year are still being developed.

And a get-together for later in this year for Branch members and guests might be an ideal opportunity to re-establish personal contacts, notwithstanding the current public health situation.

Do consider trying your hand at our Society education proficiency program to help you stay heraldically active over the next few months.

Best wishes to you and your family and friends during this unique time.

Steve Cowan,
Branch President



Arms of the Territory of Yukon
Approved by Her Majesty the Queen of Canada
on February 24, 1956.



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARMORIALS

Gary Mitchell, Victoria BC



By the time British Columbia and the Yukon were being settled by European peoples, ecclesiastical heraldry was a well-advanced branch of heraldry. Today, all the dioceses of both the Roman Catholic and Anglican communions have diocesan arms as well as having personal arms for their religious hierarchies. Today the use of the diocesan arms, like in the general population, is seen in entrance ways of the diocesan cathedrals, on their letterheads and on the arms of the individual bishops.

The custom of impaling the diocesan arms and bishop's arms is to foster the unity shared between the bishop as a shepherd and the diocese as his/her flock. The diocesan arms are always to the dexter (left) and the bishop's arms to the sinister (right).

As in the general populace, each grant of arms to a diocese or an individual priest is unique; although for many centuries, Roman Catholic diocesan and clergy grants of arms were not allowed to be registered at the College of Arms and were created and registered within the Papacy. In recent times, we have seen the arms of Roman Catholic dioceses and clergy approved by the Governor-General and placed in the Register at the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

Within the guidelines for diocesan armorials, a mitre and, in more formal illustrations, a cross replaces the crest.

Today, the Roman Catholic Church in British Columbia has one archdiocese (Vancouver) and four suffragette dioceses: Kamloops, Nelson, Prince George and Victoria. In addition, the eparchy of New Westminster of the Ukrainian Catholic Church covers territorial British Columbia. The Yukon has one territorial diocese as the Diocese of Whitehorse.

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

For the Archdiocese (refer image in the next column), the main element of the shield is a ship in sail, representing the barque of Peter, but also recalling the coat of arms of the City of New Westminster, where the diocese was founded, and of

Vancouver, where the Archdiocese is seated. A net cast overboard highlights the Petrine symbolism and recalls Matthew 4:18. The full sail denotes the church in its vigour. The waves beneath reflect proximity to the ocean; similar waves appear on both the Vancouver and British Columbia coats of arms.



Ecclesiastical arms of the Archdiocese of Vancouver

The three chevron shapes are a stylized heraldic rendering of mountains, the backdrop to the city of Vancouver. The three represent Hollyburn, Grouse and Seymour mountaintops.

The Chi-Rho represents the Greek monogram for Christ.

The heraldic rose symbolizes the Cathedral's dedication to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, while the dogwood is the floral symbol of the province of British Columbia.

The arms were registered at the Canadian Heraldic Authority. 1 Feb 1995; Vol II, p. 391.

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This is the second armorial grant to the Archdiocese of Vancouver, the original blazon was: Gules, a plate issuant from a chalice Or; on a chief Or, the monogram "PX" between two roses, all Gules.

The diocese was created in 1890; in 1908 it was made the Metropolitan replacing the diocese of Victoria.



Arms of John Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver from 2009.

Current Archbishop: The arms of Archbishop John Michael Miller, C.S.B., were granted by the C.H.A. on March 25, 2009 Volume V, page 432 of the Public Register. They are blazed as: Argent an open book proper bound Gules edged Or, on a chief dancetty Gules a dove regardant Argent between a rose and a Pacific dogwood flower both Argent barbed and seeded proper.

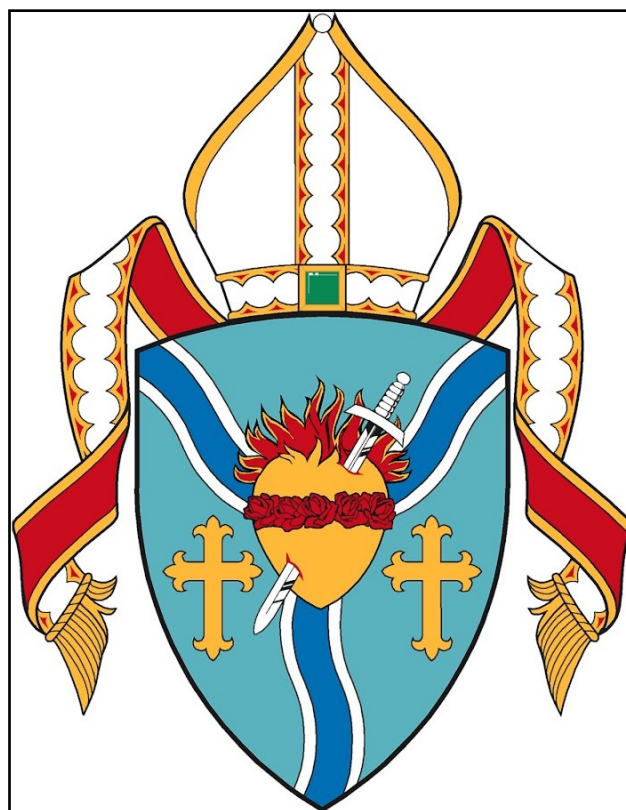
The motto VERITATI SERVIRE, a Latin phrase meaning "To serve the truth", was adopted by Archbishop Miller when he became a bishop in 2003.

THE DIOCESE OF KAMLOOPS

The Diocese of Kamloops was established on December 22, 1945 and there are forty churches on First Nations lands to ensure that serve and minister to the Dekelh (Carrier), Tsilhqot'in (Chilcotin), Secwepemc (Shuswap), T'it'q'et and St'at'imc

(Lillooet & Fountain), Nlaka'pamux (Thompson), and the Okanagan nations. The Diocese stretches as far north as Quesnel and Valemount, east to Sicamous and Lumby, west to Whistler, and south to Merritt and Coldwater. The northeast corner touches the Alberta border and the southwest corner reaches the Jervis Inlet from the Salish Sea.

Blazon: Blue celeste on a pall wavy Azure fimbriated Argent between two Latin crosses fleury Or an Immaculate Heart of Mary also Or inflamed Gules.

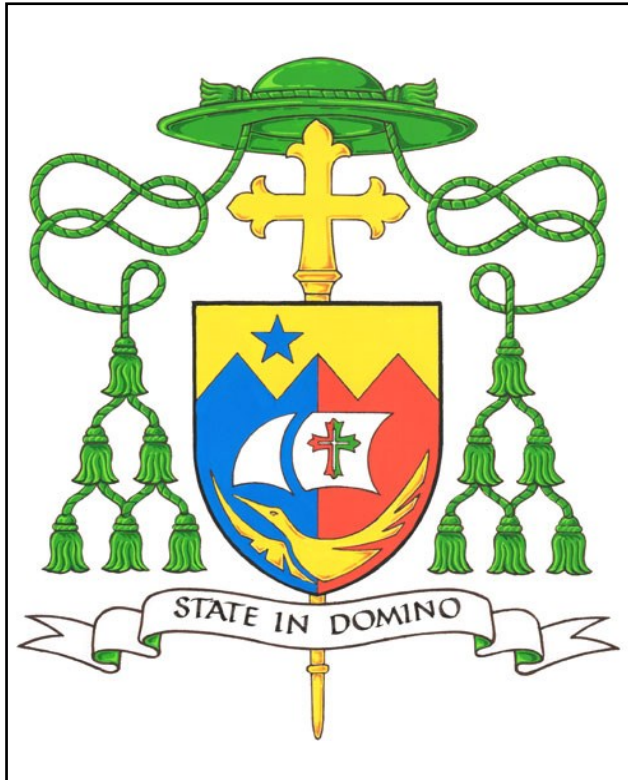


Ecclesiastical arms of the
Diocese of Kamloops

Current Bishop: The arms of Bishop Joseph Phuong Nguyen were granted by the C.H.A. on April 20, 2017 Volume VI, page 719 of the Public Register. They are blazoned as: Per pale Azure and Gules, a *chim lac* volant Or ensigned by a jib and a mainsail Argent charged with a Latin cross patonce per pale Gules and Vert bearing a Latin cross Argent, on a chief dancetty Or in dexter a mullet Azure;

The motto STATE IN DOMINO is the this Latin phrase that means "Stand firm in the Lord".

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Arms of Joseph Phuong Nguyen,
Bishop of Kamloops since 2016.

THE DIOCESE OF NELSON

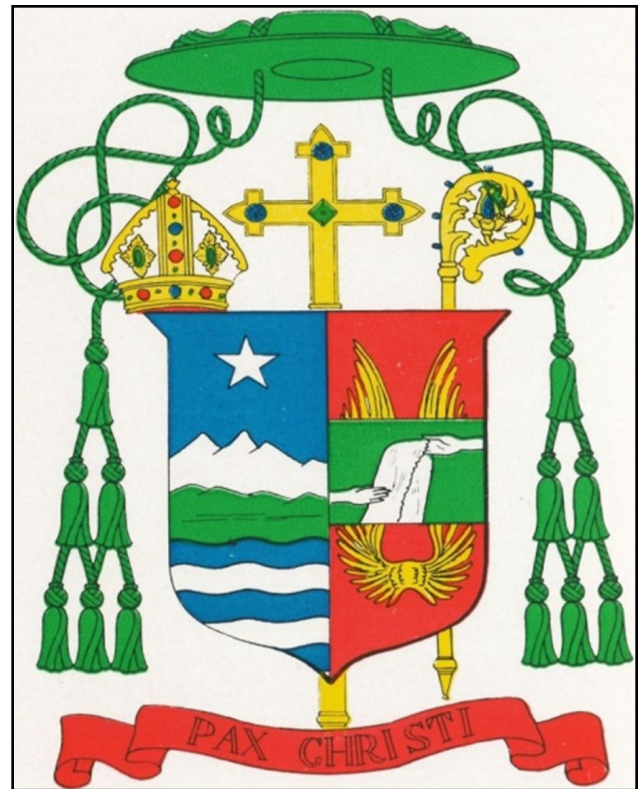
In the late 1830s French Canadians in the Oregon Territory petitioned the Quebec bishops to have missionary priests sent beyond the Rocky Mountains. In response to this plea, Fathers François-Norbert Blanchet and Modeste Demers were sent West to a remote part of the Quebec diocese referred to as New Caledonia by the Hudson’s Bay Company. While at Boat Encampment on the Columbia River (Mica Dam area), Blanchet and Demers celebrated Mass on October 10th 1838 - the first Mass celebrated in what later became the Diocese of Nelson.

On February 22nd 1936, the Diocese of Nelson was erected to cover the Kootenay and Okanagan regions of southeastern British Columbia.

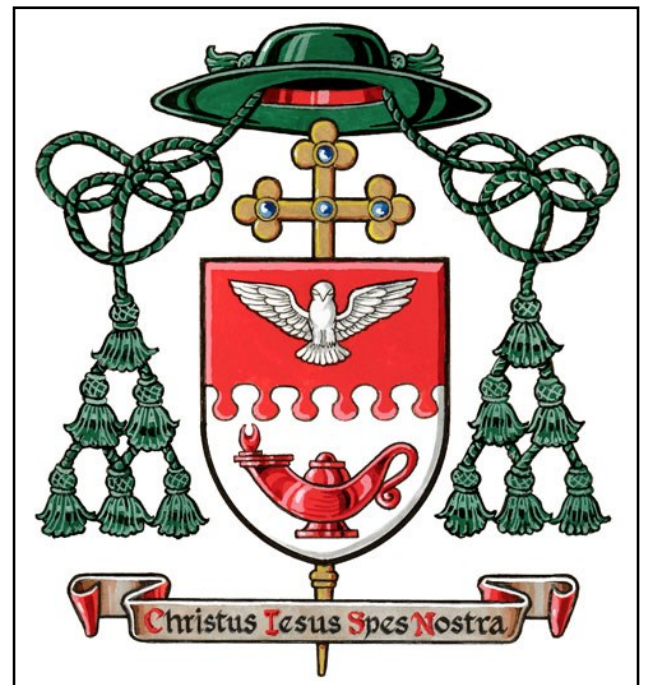
The diocese armorials as seen in the impaled armorials of its first Bishop, Martin Michael Johnson (1936-54) as shown in the next column.

The blazon of the arms of the Diocese of Nelson in the dexter side of the marshalled arms with the first Bishop are:
Azure, from water barry wavy argent and azure, a

range of low hills vert before a range of mountains argent, a mullet argent in the honour point.



The marshalled Arms of the Diocese of Nelson with the arms of Bishop Martin Michael Johnson (1899-1975), first Bishop of Nelson from 1936 to 1954.



Gregory John Bittman
Bishop of Nelson from 2018

Continued page 5



Current Bishop: The arms of Bishop Gregory John Bittman were granted by the C.H.A. August 30, 2012 Volume VI, page 180 of the Public Register. They are blazoned as:

Per fess nebuly Gules and Argent, in chief a dove volant affronty, in base a lamp enflamed counter-changed

The motto of CHRISTUS IESUS SPES NOSTRA is the Latin phrase that means “Christ Jesus our hope” (1 Tim. 1:1).

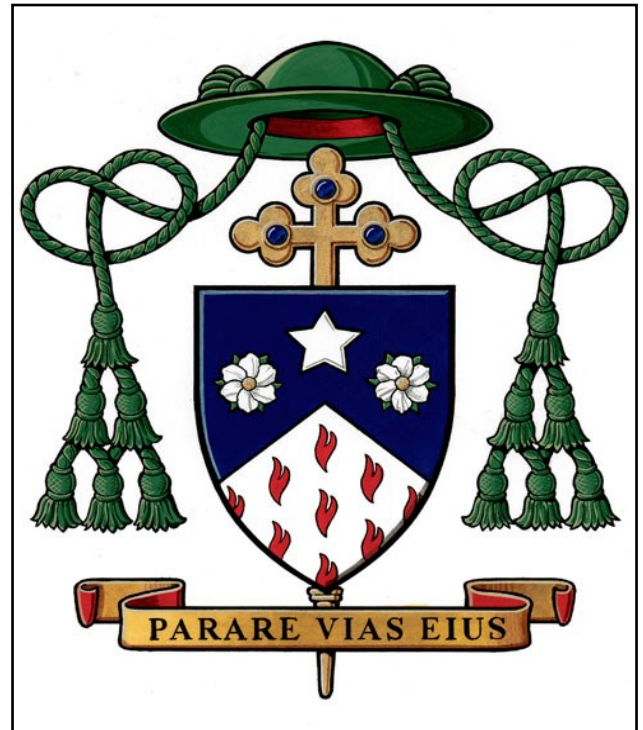
THE DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE



Ecclesiastical arms of the Diocese of Prince George

The arms of the Diocese of Prince George are shown in the C.H.A. Public Register listed as the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Prince Rupert (also known as the Diocese of prince George).

The arms were granted by the C.H.A. on September 15, 2014 Volume VI, page 445 of the Public Register.



Arms of Stephen Arthur Jensen
Bishop of Prince George from 2020

Current Bishop: The arms of Bishop Stephen Arthur Jensen were granted March 30, 2013 Volume VI, page 223 of the C.H.A. Public Register. They are blazoned as:

Per chevron Azure and Argent semé of flames Gules, in chief a mullet Argent between two dog-wood flowers proper.

The motto of PARARE VIAS EIUS is a Latin phrase meaning “To prepare His ways” (Luke 1:76), is a phrase from the song of Zechariah referring to the mission of St. John the Baptist as prophesied by Isaiah.

THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

Created in 1846 and incorporated in 1892, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Vancouver Island comprises the whole of Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and islands off the west coast, ministering to approximately 94,000 Catholics. It was elevated to an archdiocese on 19 June 1903 and the name was changed to Victoria on September 6, 1904. It was then lowered to a diocese in 1908, when the metropolitan see was moved to Vancouver.



Ecclesiastical arms of the
Diocese of Victoria

The arms of the Diocese of Victoria are not registered with the C.H.A. The silver cross of St. Andrew on a field of blue honours the patron saint of the Cathedral church of the Diocese. It is surmounted by a gold antique crown from the Coat of Arms of the Province of British Columbia, where it signifies Victoria, or Victory, the name of the See City of the Diocese. The border of small waves surrounding the blue field indicates the geographical setting of the Diocese

Current Bishop: The arms of Bishop Gary Michael Gordon were granted October 15, 2006 Volume V, page 63 of the C.H.A. Public Register. They are blazoned as:

Gules on a cross nowy Argent between in the first and fourth quarters the monogram AM Argent, a salmon hauriant contourné in the Salish style Sable and Gules;

The motto is COMMUNIO meaning “Communion”, this symbolizes, for Bishop Gordon, the idea that communion lies at the heart of Christianity.



Arms of Gary Michael Gordon
Bishop of Victoria from 2014

THE EPARCHY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster is a Ukrainian Greek Catholic eparchy that governs parishes in the Canadian province of British Columbia. It is part of the Ecclesiastical Province of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg.

The Eparchial Coat of Arms for the Eparchy of New Westminster is registered with the European Heraldic Society. (Refer image on page 7.)

The following details on the symbolism of the arms comes from the official website of the Eparchy of New Westminster: The Eparchial Coat of Arms’ primary colours are blue and yellow which are the symbolic colours of our Ukrainian heritage. The top of the Coat of Arms contains, the Bishop’s Mitre (Crown), the Cross, the Bishop’s crozier (staff) and panagia with the Blessed Mother of God depicted at the bottom. All of these are symbols of the Office of the Bishop.

The Canadian Maple Leaf is displayed honouring our Canadian roots and as a Church that lives and participates in Canadian life. The Dogwood flow-

Continued page 7



er in the centre is the provincial floral emblem of British Columbia. The purple flower is the floral emblem of the Yukon Territories. These flowers are depicted to signify the Eparchy of New Westminster and the territory the Eparchy covers.

In the centre of the Coat of Arms is the Chalice and “Ahnetz” (Host) depicting the Eparchial See of the Bishop located at the Cathedral of the Most Holy Eucharist in New Westminster. The letters on the “Ahnetz” (Host) are in Greek “ICXC NI-KA” and translate as “Jesus Christ Conquers.”



Ecclesiastical Arms of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster

Current Eparch (Bishop): There are no details available on the current Eparch as the position has been vacant since January, 2020. The previous Eparch, Bishop Ken Nowakowasi, was transferred to London UK.

DIOCESE OF WHITEHORSE

While the first Catholic mission in the territory dates from 1861, the Diocese was not created until 1967. The opening of the Alaska Highway in 1942 spurred the development of both the material

and spiritual resources of the region that lead to the eventual status of Diocese in the centennial year of Canadian Confederation.

The Diocese of Whitehorse serves not only the Territory of Yukon but also the northern British Columbia. This is reflected in the ecclesiastical arms of the Diocese with the impaled arms using the flags of B.C., to dexter, and Yukon, to sinister. The arms are not listed in the C.H.A. Public Register and no blazon can be located.



Ecclesiastical Arms of the Diocese of Whitehorse

Current Bishop: The arms of Bishop Hector Felipe Vila were located at Wikipedia Common with an image file created September 5, 2017.

There are no arms for Bishop Vila listed with the C.H.A. Public Register of arms. While no blazon is recorded, the description of the arms is shown as part of Bishop Vila’s biography on the Diocese website. The following are some of the details.

The three crowns refer to the three wise men who journeyed to encounter the infant Jesus in Bethlehem. It is also the sign of his birthplace, Lima,

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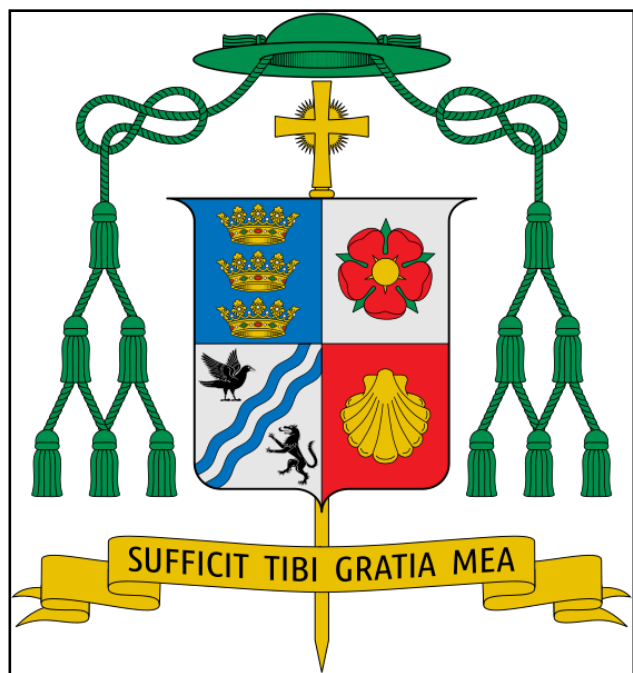
YUKON HERALDRY

David Hjalmarson, Duncan BC



Peru. The rose symbolizes the Virgin of Guadalupe to whom the Diocese of Whitehorse is consecrated. The shell is an instrument that was traditionally used to pour water during the sacrament of baptism. The diagonal lines in blue refer to the rapids of the City of Whitehorse. The wolf and the raven are traditional symbols of the two clans in the Diocese's First Nations communities.

The motto SUFFICIT TIBI GRATIA MEA is Latin for My grace is sufficient for you; biblical reference of 2 Cor 12:9.



Arms of Hector Felipe Vila
Bishop of Whitehorse since 2015

References:

The diocesan arms and bishops' personal arms are from public domains – Canadian Heraldic Authority, the individual diocesan websites and Heraldry of the World – Ecclesiastical Heraldry of Canada website. Also for the blazons for the Diocese of Kamloops and Nelson credit to Michael Francis McCarthy's *Armoria Sedium*. Thanks to Steve Cowan for his expertise with images.

On March 2nd, I travelled to Whitehorse, Yukon for a three day sojourn, with our BC/Yukon president Steve Cowan, to assist in his presentation of Basic Heraldry and Military Genealogy at the local Legion. The Legion President Joe Mewett gave us an enthusiastic welcome and had set up the tables etc., for the presentation, even before our arrival.

Steve and I had met at YVR to continue our flights from Comox and Nanaimo to Yukon's capital city. The flight itself was uneventful and we landed in Whitehorse after a one and a half hour delay that involved two aircraft and three gate changes. We were pleasantly surprised to see the famous Dr. David Suzuki, was also on the same flight. On landing in Whitehorse, the temperature was about -5 C. The residents told us that there had been a fair amount of snow recently which was evident from the packed snow and ice on the roads and sidewalks.

The next morning we walked to the Java Café for a coffee and snack then, on to our 9:00am meeting with His Worship Mayor Dan Curtis, at City Hall. We were very well received and the Mayor and staff were delighted to accept the plaque of the City's arms so beautifully rendered by our own heraldic artist, Laurie Patten. We hadn't noticed the City's Grant of Arms anywhere in evidence



Presentation to Mayor Dan Curtis of special City of Whitehorse plaque by Steve Cowan (dexter) and David Hjalmarson (sinister)
Photo credit: City of Whitehorse

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and so asked if we could see it. This caused a little kerfuffle as the Letters Patent had been locked in the vault almost immediately after they had been received 18 years earlier. It took a few minutes to locate the combination and then the Grant was brought up to the Mayor's office, still in its original plastic protective wrapping. His Worship, upon seeing the document immediately stated that it would be framed and placed in a prominent place in the Building.



Mayor Dan Curtis (dexter) and Steve Cowan (sinister) holding the Grant of Arms of the City of Whitehorse, Yukon.

Photo credit: David Hjalmarson

We were then taken on a tour of City Hall including the beautiful and very spacious council chamber and adjacent offices where more heraldry was displayed, including those of Yukon, the City and the Royal Arms. This turned out to be a common theme wherever we went.



Taylor House, Whitehorse Yukon

Photo credit: David Hjalmarson

Our next stop was Taylor House, where we were greeted by the Commissioner's private secretary, Kerry Scholz. Kerry gave us a very informative tour of the public areas and a lot of information on



Branch Board member David Hjalmarson and Yukon Commissioner Executive Secretary Kerri Scholz viewing the various heraldic documents at Taylor House, Whitehorse YK.

Photo credit: Steve Cowan

the current projects being pursued by the Commissioner's office. In many cases, these are outside the box and forward-thinking which would be worthy of a good look by other Canadian Offices. Taylor House, the residence of the Commissioner of Yukon, also displayed the territorial arms and others as did the Legion where Steve gave two most interesting and lively presentations of both Heraldry and Military Genealogy.



Branch heraldry presentation at the Whitehorse Legion, Whitehorse YK, March 3, 2020

Photo credit: Whitehorse Legion

The President's two presentations at the Legion, one in the morning and another after lunch, were both enthusiastically received by a small but, attentive group which included Madame Bernard. It was great to see Branch member Chris Collin who drove down from Dawson City to participate in the presentations.

We found the people of Whitehorse, to be very friendly and welcoming. This was a very successful and most interesting adventure.



BRANCH DINNER

Our black tie dinner was held on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at the Union Club of British Columbia. We had twenty-six members and guests including our special guest speaker and Patron, The Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y., Commissioner of Yukon. After the dinner, our Branch presented Madame Bernard with her table shield.



Madame Bernard enjoys receiving her new table shield from Branch President Steve Cowan
Photo credit: Lee Van Horne



Special Guest Speaker
The Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y.,
Commissioner of Yukon
Photo credit: Lee Van Horne



Branch President Steve Cowan assembling
Madame Bernard's new table shield.
Photo credit: Lee Van Horne



A bevy of diners



GET (HERALDICALLY) SMART!

The COVID-19 has created the unique modern situation of social isolation and a major effect is school closures. Parents are being encouraged to participate in various on-line education features to keep their children occupied as well as continuing to develop their education; and no one knows how long this will go on.

The same isolation situation applies with adults; how to stay busy and mentally sharp without being able to enjoy our usual social mingling with family, friends and the world. Vacations, both local and abroad are curtailed and that makes exploring heraldry, that usual purpose we seek in our trips, impossible to indulge.

While stuck at home why not try improving your heraldic enjoyment and knowledge by participating in the Society's education proficiency levels?

You can go on-line at www.heraldry.ca to check details and to register. The three levels are:

LEVEL 1 Introductory Heraldry

The Introductory Level is for those individuals who wish to learn more about the art and science of heraldry. References for this level can be reached by our on-line references;

LEVEL 2 Intermediate Heraldry

The Course builds upon the successful completion of the Introductory Heraldry Examination. Individuals who complete this course will have mastered a core knowledge of heraldry and will have demonstrated fluency in blazoning heraldic achievements. References are available on-line.

LEVEL 3 Advanced Heraldry

The Advanced Level is for those who wish to achieve the designation of Licentiate of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada -- L.R.H.S.C. They will be required to undertake further research and study with the submission of two projects: a thesis and a heraldic design.

While there are Level 1 and Level 2 tests to confirm your knowledge, all examinations are open-book.

For each level achieved the Society awards a special certificate.

**KEEP CALM
AND
CARRY
ON
WITH
HERALDRY**

Check out heraldry.ca
to try your hand at the
education proficiency levels

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

Don't forget, the RHSC has adjusted the membership fees for students; it is \$35 for full-time students - with no age restriction!



All you need is to provide a copy of your International Student Identification Card as issued by a Canadian educational institution.



RAVING ABOUT RAVENS

Steve Cowan, Comox BC



You may recall from the BLAZON issue number 2 of volume 14, from the summer of 2019, that the arms of the Commissioner of Yukon were featured. The Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y., was granted arms in May, 2019 and our article featured details of the blazon and symbolism. One interesting feature was Madame Bernard’s crest with a raven standing on a soccer ball.

After seeing two ravens featured on table shields at our recent Branch dinner (refer image in the next column) I became curious on how the raven is featured in Canada arms. From a search in the Public Register of the Canadian Heraldic Authority (www.gg.ca) a total of 33 records were seen as having a raven or a heraldic monster that includes a raven. Of these records some 18 are personal arms, 8 military/naval units, 5 institutions and 2 educational bodies.



Different crests; same raven. Branch Patron Madame Angélique Bernard and fellow diner Donna Little show off their similar crests on their table shields that both feature a raven.

Photo courtesy of Commissioner of Yukon



Crest of Vicken Koundakjian, F.R.H.S.C.
Digital image artwork by Steve Cowan

While ravens are shown in crests, there are interesting depictions of ravens in supporters—all as heraldic monsters such as the arms of the Canadian Heraldic Authority. The arms, granted January 15, 1994 Volume II page 281 of the Public Register, have supporters as blazoned “two raven-bears Gules over Argent wings elevated Gules beaked and armed Or” as shown below.



Arms of the Canadian Heraldic Authority



Personal use of ravens in supporters can be seen in the arms of the late Honourable John Kenneth McKinnon (1936-2019), the Commissioner of Yukon from 1986 to 1995. The blazon of the heraldic monsters as supporters reads “upon a grassy mound growing therefrom fireweed proper two raven-wolves gorged and coloured as in the Arms”.



Arms of the late Honourable John Kenneth McKinnon (1936-2019), Commissioner of the Yukon from 1986 to 1995.



Arms of the City of Dawson Creek BC

An example of the raven in municipal arms is the crest of the City of Dawson Creek BC (as shown in the previous column). Named after George Mercer Dawson (1849-1901) of the Geological Survey of Canada, the Town of Dawson City in Yukon also has the same namesake, although Dawson City YK is not armigerous.

The raven used in Canadian arms is generally the common raven (*Corvus corax*), also known as the northern raven. It is a large black songbird related to crows, jays, magpies and nutcrackers.

The raven is very important to Indigenous Peoples throughout Canada appearing in myths, legends, art and traditions.

In the sinister image, below, the raven in the military badge is blazoned as “Argent a raven in a northwest coast First Nations style affronty proper”.

Being passerine the raven is also highly intelligent and able to problem-solve efficiently using tools if necessary. This is reflected in the design of the ship’s badge of H.M.C.S. YELLOWKNIFE, shown in dexter below. The image is a canting of the ship’s name being the capital of the Northwest Territory.



Ship’s Badge of H.M.C.S. YELLOWKNIFE to dexter and unit badge of 748 Communications Squadron, Nanaimo BC to sinister

Reference: My thanks to the Canadian Heraldic Authority for use of their images and details of the heraldic achievements and military badges accessed from the Public Register at www.gg.ca.



A UNIQUELY CANADIAN HERALDIC AUGMENTATION

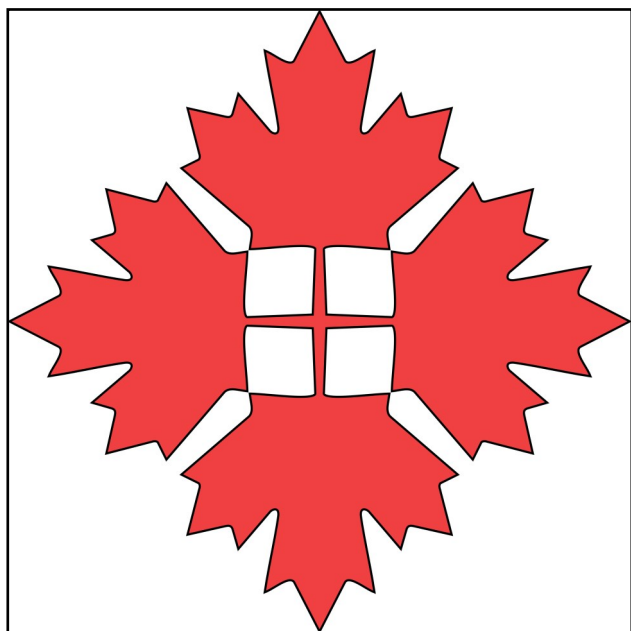
Gary Mitchell, Victoria



If one reviews the honours and perks given to former Commonwealth Prime Ministers, we would find our Queen continues to give out knighthoods in her Caribbean realms, peerages and more recently, life peerages to Her United Kingdom Prime Ministers, the Order of Merit or the Order of the Companions of Honour to her “self governing dominions (Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa).

In Canada, knighthoods and peerages have not been granted since Richard B. Bennett’s time, although Her Majesty has granted the Order of Merit to Jean Chretien and a Companion of Honour to Pierre E. Trudeau. How should a nation, like Canada, formally acknowledge and recognize the service and dedication of a former Prime Minister of Canada?

The Canadian Heraldic Authority in a stroke of genius created the “the mark of the Prime Ministership of Canada” as an augmentation of honour; this heraldic badge will be granted and applied to the personal armorials of any Prime Minister who requests it. To the best of my knowledge, no other heraldic authority has created, or uses such an aug-



Heraldic mark of the prime ministership of Canada.

mentation—a truly Canadian device!

The heraldic badge, often called the Prime Minister’s canton, consists of four red maple leaves joined at the stem on a white background (or as Laurie Patten would say “Argent four maple leaves conjoined in cross at the stem Gules”.

Thus far, former Prime Ministers Clark, Trudeau Senior, Turner, Mulroney, Campbell, Chretien and Martin have had the augmentation granted to their personal armorials. At the current time, The Right Honourable Stephen Harper does not hold an armorial grant.

The uses of the badge have been quite traditional except for the Right Honourable Paul Martin who has given prominence to the badge.

As illustration, here are the armorials for the Right Honourables Turner, Campbell, Martin and Trudeau:

Two interesting questions come to mind when considering future uses of the ‘PM canton’; firstly, what will happen with the arms of Justin Trudeau, as the eldest son he inherited his father’s arms.



Arms of The Right Honourable John Napier Wyndham Turner, P.C., C.C., Q.C. (born 1929).

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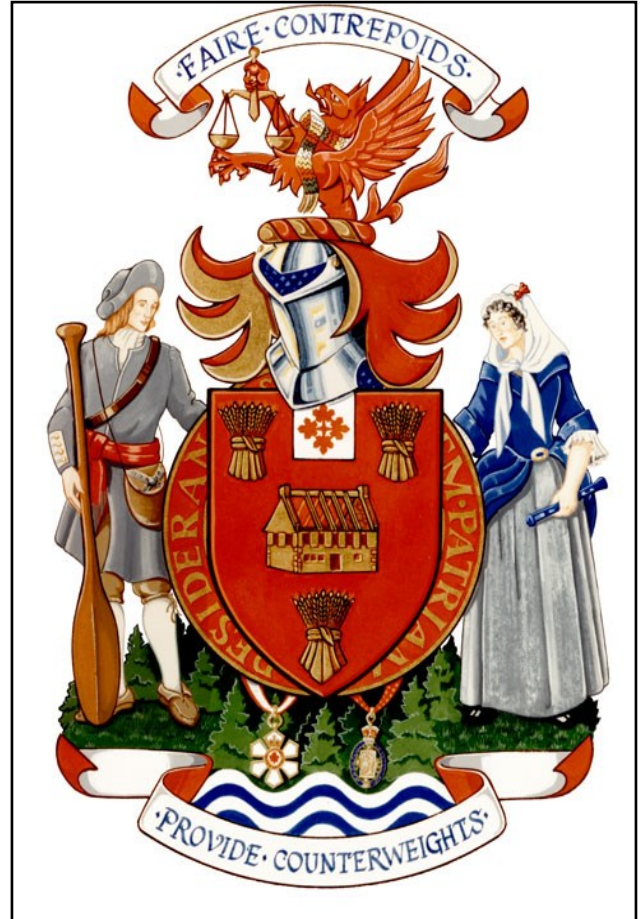


Arms of The Right Honourable Avril Phaedra Douglas "Kim" Campbell, P.C., C.C., O.B.C., Q.C. (born 1947)



Arms of The Right Honourable Paul Edgar Philippe Martin P.C., C.C., Q.C. (born 1938).

How would the CHA acknowledge the two prime ministerships within the Trudeau family? Secondly, what would happen if the current Tupper Baronet applied for the canton to recognize the prime ministership of Sir Charles Tupper, the 1st Baronet of Armdale? Should the canton be granted posthumously? Questions! Questions!



Arms of The Right Honourable Joseph Philippe Pierre Yves Elliott Trudeau, P.C., C.C., C.H., Q.C., F.R.S.C. (1919-2000).

My thanks to the Canadian Heraldic Authority, the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, and to Robb Watt, L.V.O., A.I.H., F.R.H.S.C., Rideau Herald Emeritus.



Don't forget to check our branch website for more items at:

www.bc-yukon.heraldry.ca



A NEW BRANCH TREASURE

At the January 2020 meeting of the Branch Board, our Hon. Secretary, Gary Mitchell, presented a gift of a Highland Quaich. This traditional Scottish “Cup of Welcome” is now part of the Branch President’s regalia; the new Quaich was suitably etched with the Branch badge. It joins the Neck Badge and Gavel to be part of the President’s regalia of office to be passed along to succeeding Branch Presidents. It was first used at our recent Branch dinner after the piping-in.

Slàinte mhath!



THE BLAZON

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Articles are welcome for submission
to the Blazon Editor

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At the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday March 7, 2020, at the Union Club of British Columbia, the following members were acclaimed as the BC/Yukon Board Executive for 2020:

President: Steve Cowan C.D., U.E., L.R.H.S.C., S.H.A.
Comox BC

Vice-President: Tom Mercer
Victoria BC

Past-President: John W. Neill, F.R.H.S.C. (Hon.)
Campbell River BC

Hon. Secretary: Gary Mitchell
Victoria BC

Hon. Treasurer: Don Mayers
Powell River BC

Webmaster/Director: Lee Van Horne
Coombs BC

Blazon Editor/Director: John W. Neill, F.R.H.S.C. (Hon.)
Campbell River BC

Director: Lesley Patten
Victoria BC

Director: David Hjalmarson, C.D.
Duncan BC

Director: Darren George, Ph.D., L.R.H.S.C.
Campbell River BC