



# The Blazon

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

SPRING 2021

Vol. 16, No. 1

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are one month short of it being one year since we last met. It was Saturday March 7, 2020 when we held the branch Annual General Meeting and dinner at the Union Club in Victoria. And March 2 will be one year since fellow Branch Board member David Hjalmarson and I were in Whitehorse for heraldry presentations.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed all social aspects of our lives and how our various organizations have operated.

This time last year very few of us knew what Zoom was; now this has become the normal way for us to gather, albeit online.

From the last national board meeting (online, of course) of the Society, we now have a national Zoom account that all branches have access to arrange meetings or presentations.

I am impressed with our Toronto Branch in developing a series of heraldic presentations for this year. Details are shown in this issue and all members are encouraged to participate.

The Society's annual conference and meeting planned for Victoria for this year is cancelled.

My desire was to have this branch host the national 2021 A.G.M. in Victoria to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of when our Province joined Confederation in July 20, 1871.

The Branch 2020 Annual Report is being compiled and should be out to everyone very soon.

The Branch Annual General Meeting will be a Zoom event for Saturday March 6, 2021. Details will be sent out separately as a meeting notice along with the nomination details. I think you will enjoy our guest speaker; I have more details in this Blazon issue on page 11.

In the last Blazon issue (Vol. 15, No. 2) I mentioned that Doctor Claire Boudreau had stepped down from being our Chief Herald of Canada and became Margaree-Chéticamp Herald Emeritus. I was very saddened to hear in November that Claire had died. I have an item in this issue about Claire on page 3.

Other items in this issue include a summary of important heraldry dates in Canada, Black History Month, Heraldry Education Program and more.

While this is our Spring issue, we are still enjoying the rest of a winter.

Steve Cowan,  
Branch President



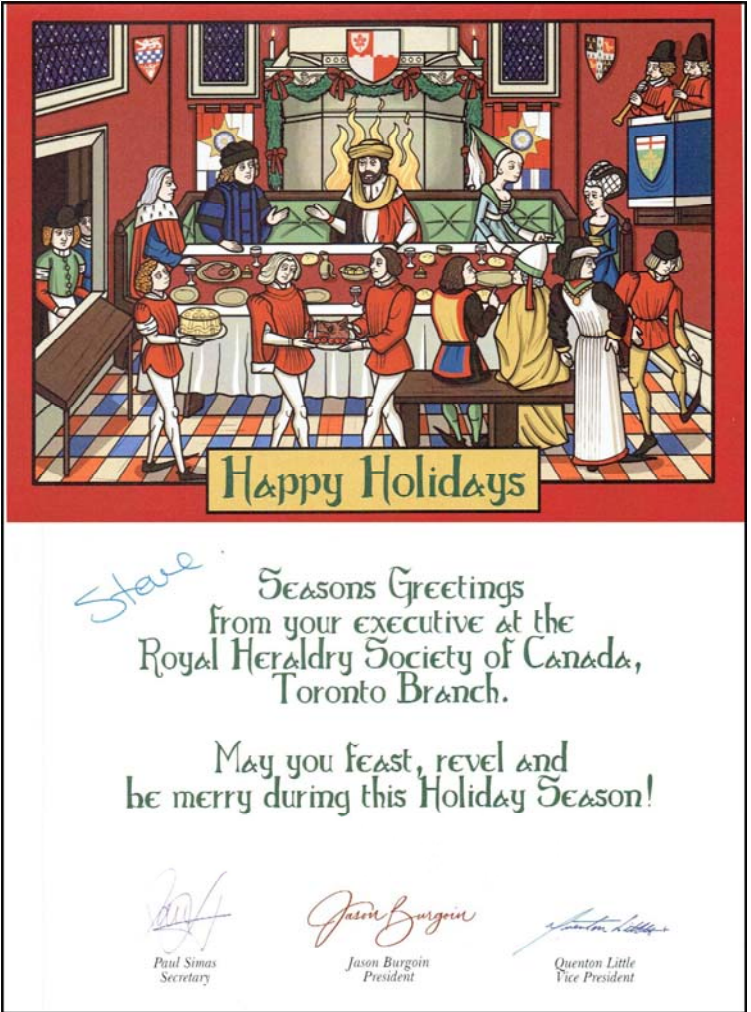
Arms of the Black Loyalist Heritage Society  
See page 7 For details



### HOLIDAY GREETING CARDS

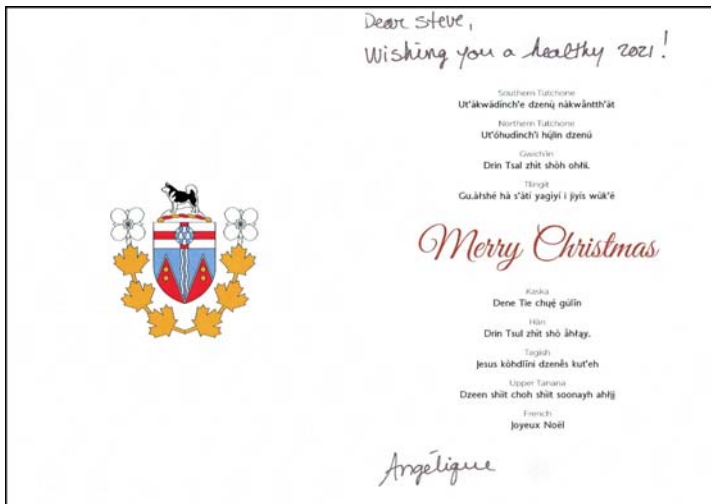
By now you should have received your Branch Christmas card that was sent out to all branch members in early December.

Here are cards I have received on your behalf as your branch president. I thought you might like to see what came in.



shown above  
card from  
The Honourable Janet Austin, O.B.C.  
The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia  
Our British Columbia Patron  
Government House, Victoria B.C.

shown below  
card from  
The Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y.,  
The Commissioner of Yukon  
Our Yukon Patron  
Taylor House, Whitehorse Yukon



shown above  
card from  
The Toronto Branch of  
The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada  
Signed by the Branch Executive



shown above  
The image from our 2020 BC/Yukon Branch  
Christmas card with the members' arms.  
(Ideas welcome for our 2021 card.)



## In Memory

Late last year we lost two important ladies who helped in the development of heraldry in Canada; both held significant positions in the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

**Doctor Claire Boudreau, A.I.H., F.R.H.S.C.  
(August 18, 1965 - November 17, 2020 )  
Former Chief Herald of Canada and  
Margaree-Chéticamp Herald Emeritus.**

Claire was a Canadian historian, genealogist, and officer of arms. She served as a herald in the Canadian Heraldic Authority from March 17, 1997 in the office of Saguenay Herald and later as Saint-Laurent Herald, to which office she succeeded on the retirement of Auguste Vachon, and then Deputy Chief Herald from December 1, 2005 until June 16, 2007, when she was made the second Chief Herald of Canada following the retirement of Robert Watt, L.V.O., A.I.H., F.R.H.S.C.

A specialist of the science of heraldic emblems and blazoning, she completed a PhD under the supervision of Michel Pastoureau, one of the world's preeminent scholars of heraldry, at La Sorbonne, in France, before joining the CHA. She made history in 2007 by becoming the first woman to be appointed Chief Herald of a heraldic authority. One of her most cherished ambitions was to document the meaning of heraldic emblems as a way to preserve the art while also rendering it accessible to the wider public. As a result, the online Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada was created.



Arms of Dr. Claire Boudreau, A.I.H., F.R.H.S.C.

**Madame Sheila-Marie Suzanne Cook, C.V.O.  
(February 5, 1938 - December 10, 2020)  
Former Secretary to the Governor General  
of Canada and Herald Chancellor of Canada**

While born in Ontario and raised in Quebec, Sheila-Marie was a long-time resident of Calgary, Alberta. Sheila-Marie embarked on a long and distinguished career in public service beginning in the office of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and ending as the Secretary to the Governor General and Herald Chancellor. Appointed to the role by Prime Minister Stephen Harper in September 2006, she served at Rideau Hall until January 31, 2011. In February 2007, she received her commission as Deputy of the Governor General of Canada.



Arms of Sheila-Marie Suzanne Cook, C.V.O.



Impaled Arms of Office of  
Sheila-Marie Suzanne Cook,  
C.V.O. as Herald Chancellor  
2007 to 2011.



Impaled Arms of Office of  
Claire Boudreau, PhD,  
A.I.H., F.R.H.S.C. as  
Chief Herald of Canada  
2007 to 2020.

My appreciation to the Canadian Heraldic Authority for these images from the Public Registry.



## LET'S MAKE A DATE

The blur of daily routine in splendid isolation during the COVID-19 crisis can make the days blend into a "Groundhog Day" sequence. And the seasonal weather can block the sun from keeping us aware of the time going by.

This year is important in the history of our Province. To keep everyone aware of significant events and occurrences the following summary is shown to mark important dates in our national and branch heritage and associated heraldry.

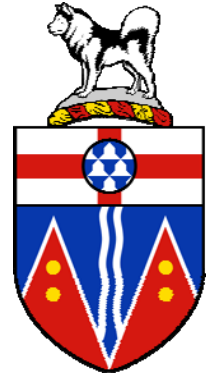
I am indebted to Mr. Gary Mitchell, our branch secretary who checked my list and added several dates:

**February 6, 1952** Our Sovereign's Ascension



Royal arms of Queen Elizabeth II

**February 15, 1965** National Flag of Canada Day



**February 17, 1956** Royal Arms of Yukon approved by Queen Elizabeth II.

**February 20, 1982** Founding of the B.C. Yukon Branch of the R.H.S.C. The branch badge was granted on September 15, 2004, Volume IV, page 400 of the Public Registry.



**March 8, 2021** Commonwealth Day



**March 31, 1906** The grant of arms to the Province of British Columbia. The crest and supporters were later recorded in the records of the College of Arms, London, England, 15 October 1987.



Arms of the Province of British Columbia

Continued page 5



**April 21, 1926** Queen's birthday.



**13 June, 1898** Creation of the Yukon Territory. Her Majesty Queen Victoria, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada enacts The Yukon Territory Act.

**July 1, 1967** Canada Day.



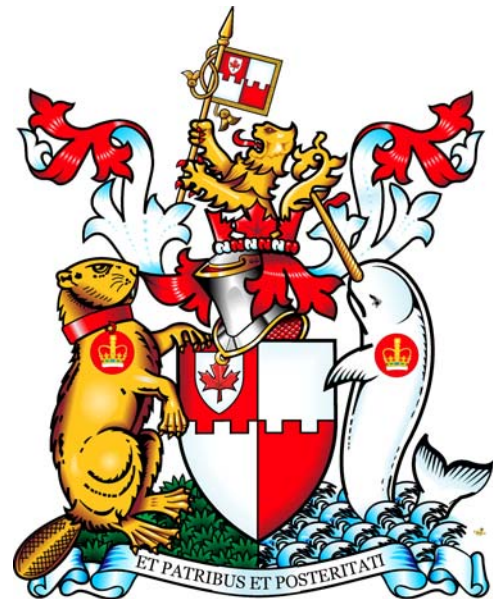
**June 2, 1953** Queen's Coronation Day.



**July 20, 1871** The colony of British Columbia joins the Canadian Confederation.

**October 25, 1966** The Heraldry Society of Canada is founded in Ottawa ON. By Royal Prerogative the Society was granted its Royal designation on March 20, 2002 and proclaimed at its annual general meeting held in Victoria B.C. on October 26, 2002.

**June 4, 1988** Founding day of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, Ottawa ON.



Grant of armorial bearings on September 15, 1988, Volume I, page 7. Grant of arms (shown above) batons and badges of office January 15, 1994 Volume II, page 281.

Arms of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada. The original grant was March 6, 1972 by the College of Arms, London and a grant of new supporters and branch badges by the Canadian Heraldic Authority dated September 15, 2004.

Continued page 6



**November 19, 1921** The Royal Arms of Canada are proclaimed by King George V.



**November 19, 1858** Founding of the Crown Colony of British Columbia with the proclamation at Fort Langley by James Douglas, C.B., (later Sir James Douglas, K.C.B.) the first Governor of the colony. This is the first time “British Columbia” is used as the name of the former territory.



**December 11, 1931** Statute of Westminster. Significant in our history as a nation as we became a sovereign nation in our own right; it made our parliament responsible as our national authority; the Great Seal of Canada is the symbol of this authority.

The same proclamation also established white (Argent) and red (Gules) as the national colours of Canada. These colours had been seen earlier in Canada history as used in the ribbon for the Canada General Service Medal (1866-1870) (below to dexter). They were carried forward to our modern Honours System with the Order of Canada, from 1967 (below to sinister).



Canada General Service Medal 1866-1870



Order of Canada (Officer insignia) from 1967



The seal shown above is that of King George V and was used from 1912 to 1940 when a new Great Seal was made for King George VI. This was subsequently replaced in 1955 for Queen Elizabeth II, The Queen of Canada.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The development of Canada as a nation has been the direct result of the United Empire Loyalists who left the United States of America following the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783). Included in this history, but known to a much lesser degree, is the story of the Black Loyalists who came as well.

In 2008 the Parliament of Canada passed a motion to recognize contributions of Black Canadians and the month of February was designated Black History Month.

Our contribution is to promote Black heraldry in Canada. Here are the arms of **The Black Loyalist Heritage Society**, located in Birchtown, Nova Scotia. The society, originally incorporated in 1991, also operates the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre in Shelburne, Nova Scotia.

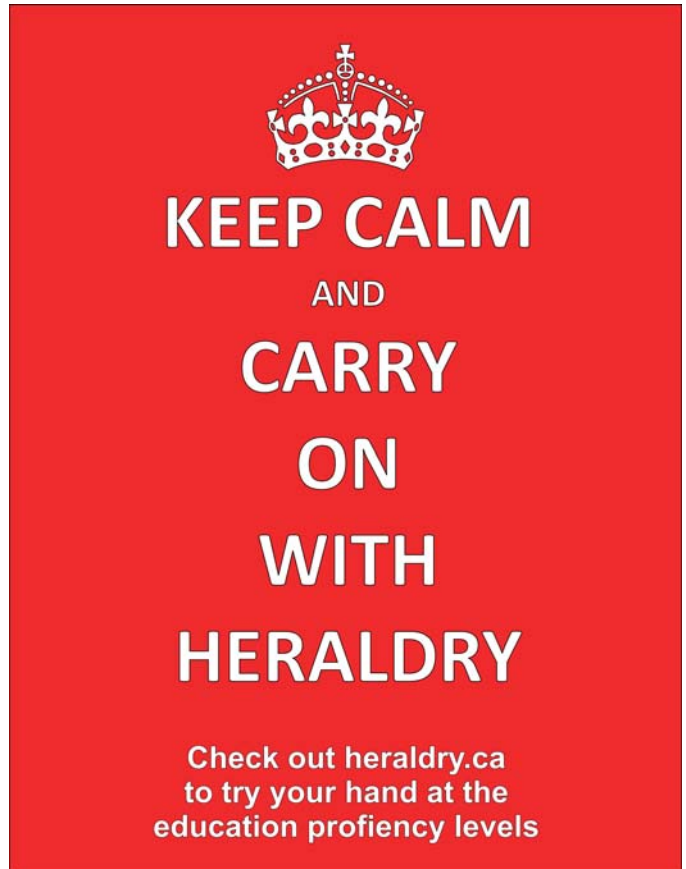


The arms, supporters as well as the flag and badge were granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority on March 15, 2006. And can be found in Volume V on page 17. For details on the blazon and symbolism of these arms check the Public Registry.

For more information visit:

[www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/about.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/about.html) and

[www.blackloyalist.com](http://www.blackloyalist.com).



## Heraldry Proficiency Program

As we approach a full year of the COVID-19 pandemic and a variety of continuing social relationship restrictions, you might have occasion during your isolation to ponder - what to do next?

You might be surprised at how your knowledge of heraldry can let you achieve the Level One of the Society's education program. And you get a great letter-size certificate, on hand-made paper. Then you can try Level Two as well.

Check out the Level One Syllabus online at [heraldry.ca](http://heraldry.ca) and the heraldry proficiency program under the about heraldry tab.

It's an open book review for both Levels. Study in your own time.





## TORONTO BRANCH PRESENTATIONS

The silver lining of the dark COVID-19 cloud is the expanded use of online facilities for everyone to stay in touch. While nothing beats a face-to-face gathering where we enjoy an interesting heraldic talk while being able to socialize at the same time, online presentations are keeping us in touch.

All **BC/Yukon branch members** are invited to participate in the heraldry presentations developed by the Society's Toronto Branch. I am grateful to Toronto Branch President Jason Burgoin for extending an invitation to us.



To see the schedule and the **FREE** registration for the various presentations visit the link:

**[www.toronto.heraldry.ca/news-events.html](http://www.toronto.heraldry.ca/news-events.html)**

Here are some scheduled events for our participation:

**February 17, 2021** - Call to Arms Lecture Series, Lecture 1 - Dr. Samy Khalid (Virtual) - see below

**April 10, 2021** - International Heraldic Artisan, Fireside Chat (Virtual)


**May 29, 2021** - Call to Arms Lecture Series, Lecture 2 - Rev'd Canon David Bowyer, F.R.H.S.C. (Virtual)

**July 2, 2021** - Heraldry Moments Trivia Night: Toronto Branch Edition (Virtual)

**August 24, 2021** - Call to Arms Lecture Series, Lecture 3 - Prof. D'Arcy Boulton, U.E., F.R.H.S.C., A.I.H. (Virtual)


**November 20, 2021** - 7th Annual Heraldic Studies Day

Not all are currently live and listed on Toronto Branch Eventbrite page so its good to check back every now and then to see what is newly posted so you can easily register.




DOMINION OF CANADA

**Call to Arms Lecture Series**  
**February 17, 2021 @7:00pm**



**Dr. Samy Khalid, Chief Herald of Canada**  
"Reflections on the use (and abuse) of maple leaves in Canadian heraldry"



HOSTED BY  
RHSC  
TORONTO BRANCH  
<https://toronto.heraldry.ca>

## 2021 SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FEE WAIVER

For paid-up members of 2020, your 2021 membership fee for both the Society and Branch are waived! The national board passed a motion late last year to allow this due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the transfer of your membership to 2021 is automatic, please contact the Socie-

ty Secretary, Mr. Steve Murray, F.R.H.S.C. (Hon) with any changes to your contact details.

This includes updates for your e-mail address for distribution of news and notices as well as your mailing address for publications and journals.

Please send any updates to:

**[secretary@heraldry.ca](mailto:secretary@heraldry.ca)**





## ARMIGEROUS APPOINTEES OF 2020 HONOURS

As the year 2020 closed there were various announcements of Canadians who were appointed to different Orders in our Canadian Honours System. Shown here are appointees of two Orders that reside in our branch area of British Columbia and Yukon and who are armigerous. Shown with their name are their arms and relevant details.

### Order of Canada

**Daniel Heath Justice O.C., Ph.D., F.R.S.C.**  
Professor | Arts | First Nations and Indigenous Studies/English at the University of B.C.



Arms of Daniel Heath Justice

Blazon:

Arms - Per chevron its apex a spear head, in chief per pale Gules and Argent, two mullets of seven points counterchanged, in base per pale Argent and Vert a red cedar tree counterchanged;

Crest - Issuant from a circlet of birchbark, a demi-badger (*Taxidea taxus*) holding between its paws a miner's lamp and wearing a silver gorget proper;  
Motto - IMAGINE OTHERWISE

The arms were granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority on June 15, 2012, Volume VI, page 146 of the Public Registry.

Dr. Justice was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada on 1 December 2020.



Insignia of an Officer of the Order of Canada

### Order of British Columbia

While none of the thirteen appointees to the Order of British Columbia in 2020 are armigerous, their details can be seen at:

<https://orderofbc.gov.bc.ca/>



Insignia of the Order of British Columbia. The Lieutenant Governor of B.C. is the Chancellor of the Order of B.C. and is also our B.C. Patron.



## Order of Yukon

There were ten appointees to the Order of Yukon in 2020; the following two appointees are armigerous.

### Douglas Goerge Phillips, O.Y.

36th Commissioner of Yukon from December 17, 2010 to January 31, 2018.



Arms of Douglas George Phillips

#### Blazon

Arms - Per chevron in chief barry-sapiné Vert and Argent, in base Or a double-queued beaver tergiant Azure;

Crest- A log cabin Or flying therefrom a flag Azure;

Supporters- Dexter a mountain goat sinister a Dall sheep both standing on a rocky mount set with fireweed plants proper above barry-wavy Argent and Azure;

Motto- 'S E CALADH AN TEAGHLACH

The arms were granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority on May 15, 2012, Volume VI, page 141 of the Public Registry.

Mr. Phillips was appointed to the Order of Yukon on December 2, 2020.

### Frances Woolsey, O.Y.

A respected Ta'an Kwäch'än elder and a leader in promoting Indigenous culture.



#### Blazon

Arms- Gules on a chevron Or between in chief two wolves heads erased and in base a fleece Or four wild roses Gules seeded Or and three annulets Gules alternately;

Crest- A demi wolf Or gorged with a wreath of Wild Roses Gules seeded Or leaved Vert holding between the forepaws a rock Sable veined Or;

Motto- GHAKUTS'UJÌ SHÌ. This Southern Tutchone phrase means "We shall survive".

The arms were granted on June 30, 1989, Volume I page 38.

Madame Woolsey was appointed to the Order of Yukon on December 2, 2020.



Insignia of the Order of Yukon Society members Vicken Koundajian, F.R.H.S.C. and Christopher McCreery, M.V.O., F.R.H.S.C. were advisors for the design of this insignia.



# The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada

British Columbia / Yukon Branch

Under the Distinguished Patronage of

Her Honour

The Honourable Janet Austin, O.B.C.  
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia



Her Honour

The Honourable Angélique Bernard, O.Y.  
Commissioner of Yukon

## BC/Yukon Branch Annual General Meeting

Saturday March 6, 2021

Online Zoom Meeting

At 1:00pm Pacific Standard Time

Following the General Meeting all members and online guests are welcome to enjoy our Special Guest Speaker

**Mr. Gregor Macaulay, F.H.S.N.Z.**

(and long-time member of the R.H.S.C.)

On a presentation on

**A Survey of Heraldry and  
Heraldic Authority in New Zealand**

This presentation begins at

1:45pm Pacific Standard Time



Gregor Macaulay, of Dunedin, New Zealand, retired in early 2019 after a 40-year career in academic administration at the University of Otago, New Zealand's oldest university. He is a Fellow of the Heraldry Society of New Zealand (and a member of four other national heraldry societies, including the R.H.S.C.) and has been editor of the H.S.N.Z.'s quarterly journal, *The New Zealand Armorer*, since 2000.



A meeting notice with nomination details and Zoom link will be sent to you by separate e-mail.



Since I could not see you at any gatherings I thought I would display my branch president's regalia in a Christmas setting. This includes a neck badge of office, a gavel for crowd control and a Quaich for a wee dram at dinners. Slàinte mhath!

## THE BLAZON

**President** - Steve Cowan C.D., U.E., L.R.H.S.C.,

Tel: 250 890 0225 [bc\\_yukon@heraldry.ca](mailto:bc_yukon@heraldry.ca)

**Editor** - John W. Neill F.R.H.S.C. (Hon.)

© 2021, The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, British Columbia/Yukon Branch, unless otherwise indicated.

<http://bc-yukon.heraldry.ca>



Articles are welcome for submission  
to the Blazon Editor

[bc\\_yukon@heraldry.ca](mailto:bc_yukon@heraldry.ca)

### 2020 BOARD MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA / YUKON BRANCH

**President:** - Steve Cowan, C.D., U.E., L.R.H.S.C.

**Vice-President:** - Tom Mercer

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

**Hon. Secretary:** - Gary Mitchell

**Hon. Treasurer:** - Don Mayers

**Webmaster/Director:** - Lee Van Horne

**Blazon Editor/Director:** – John W. Neill, F.R.H.S.C. (Hon.)

**Director:** – Lesley Patten

**Director:** - David Hjalmarson, C.D.

**Director:** - Darren George, Ph.D., L.R.H.S.C.