



the CHURCHILLIAN

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Published by The Rt. Hon. Sir Winston Spencer Churchill Society, established 1964.

The Sir Winston Churchill Society isn't all about the things Winston Churchill did in the past (however profound they may be.) It's about his convictions, his wit, his power to inspire and how those qualities are necessary in the world today. We want to incorporate his values and spread his ways. We want to share what we have learnt and discovered from him, with you.

2021-2022 SPEECH AND DEBATE AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS

The Churchill High School Debate and Speech competitions were held virtually on December 4, 2021, via "Discord" digital medium. Approximately thirty teams and individuals participated.

The topic for speech was: "Was the decision to withdraw from Afghanistan by Western nations an abandonment of their obligations?"

The same topic was framed for debate: "This house believes the decision to withdraw from Afghanistan by Western nations is an abandonment of their obligations."

This year's essay topic was: "How can the study of the European appeasement of Adolf Hitler in the 1930s help world leaders deal with Russia's recent invasion into Ukraine? Justify your response (750 words)."

Our Director of Competitions, Lucas Robertson, worked with the University of Alberta Debate and Speech Society to stage the event. The UADS provided expertise and judges for the debate tournament, while our Society provided volunteer judges for speech.

The results for speech were Christopher Situ in first place and Saim Humayun in second place. Both are students at Old Scona Academic.

The debate winners, all from Old Scona Academic were Mira Zheng and Sunny Li in first place, and Ali Ahmed and Fogil Zheng in second place.



Kitchen Debate

The results of the essay contest were George Xie (Lillian Osborne) in first place, Tristan Kwan (Old Scona) in second place, and Jeff Ma (Old Scona) in third place.

There is no competition without competitors. Thanks are due to the motivated and capable students who rose to these challenges, and to the teacher coaches who collaborated with them. Our thanks also go to the University of Alberta Debate and Speech Society, for their consultation on topics and vital technical expertise in judging debate. We look forward to continuing our productive collaboration with them for the benefit of students.

The competition winners will be honoured in an awards ceremony at the University Club immediately prior to this year's annual memorial banquet.

OUR VISION

The leaders we inspire today will rise to meet tomorrow's challenges.

OUR MISSION

The Sir Winston Churchill Society promotes leadership, citizenship, and strengthened communities through civil discourse, connecting to history, and encouraging critical thinking.

CHURCHILL ANNUAL MEMORIAL BANQUET SET FOR JUNE 21ST

By David Reed

After a two-year hiatus, the board of the Winston Churchill Society is pleased to announce that the annual banquet will take place on June 21st at the University of Alberta University Club (formerly Faculty Club).

We are pleased to reveal our speaker for the banquet this year: General Paul Wynnyk, CMM, MSM, CD (Retired). General Wynnyk, currently Deputy Minister of Health for Alberta, had a long and distinguished career in the Canadian military. A proud Albertan, Paul is a descendant of homesteaders who settled in this province prior to 1905. Raised in rural Alberta, he studied at both Royal Roads Military College and the Royal Military College of Canada. He was commissioned in 1986 and subsequently undertook a variety of regimental duties, both in Europe and in Canada. Over the course of his military career, Paul commanded troops on multiple occasions including 1 Combat Engineer Regiment from 1997 to 1999, 1 Area Support Group from 2004 to 2006, 3rd Canadian Division from 2010 to 2012, Canadian Forces Intelligence Command from 2014 to 2016, and the Canadian Army from 2016 to 2018.

Paul is a Commander of the Order of Military Merit, a graduate of the French Commando Course, and has been decorated by the Governments of Afghanistan, Brazil, Columbia, and the United States for his leadership in promoting international security and cooperation. He served in Europe and Afghanistan and was appointed Commander of the Canadian Army in 2016.

General Wynnyk's various postings, especially from 2014 until 2018, saw him



Paul Wynnyk



University Club

involved in Canada's mission in Ukraine in the wake of Russia's annexation of the Crimea in 2014. The current crisis in Ukraine is at the forefront of everyone's thoughts. The banquet promises to be a stimulating evening that will offer, through General Wynnyk, a unique perspective on the present conflict.

We hope you, our members and friends, will be able to attend the evening. It will be wonderful to have an in-person gathering. Ticket prices are \$150 for members, \$185 for non-members and \$75 for students. It is our pleasure to announce that Her Honour the Honourable Salma Lakhani, AOE, BSc, LLD (Hon), Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and Honourary Patron of our society, has graciously agreed to attend the evening.

Tickets and \$30 Memberships are available on our website:

[Membership & Objectives | Sir Winston Churchill Society of Edmonton](#)

Set aside June 21st on your calendars and please attend what will be an evening of fellowship with fine dinner and a thought-provoking speaker in the beautiful setting of the University Club. The night will also feature live music in the form of The Loyal Edmonton Regiment Ensemble. We look forward to seeing you!

MUSEUM SUPPORTS THE CHURCHILL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON

By Rick Dumas, Museum Director

On 30 November 2021, The Churchill Society of Edmonton's AGM was conducted at the iconic Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre in the Jefferson Room, compliments of The Loyal Edmonton Regiment Military Museum's sponsorship. The historic atmosphere provided a most unique ambiance setting the tone for a great evening.



The door prize was donated by The Loyal Edmonton Regiment – a unique bottle of prized Regimental scotch (commissioned by the late and exceptional philanthropist, Sandy Mactaggart, OC, AOE). It was dedicated

to the memory of the late Walter (Wally) Ross, a passionate and prominent member of the Churchill Society, a former Commanding Officer of The Loyal Edmonton Regiment and member of the University of Alberta Senate. Donna Robison was the lucky winner.

A tour of the museum capped off the memorable evening with visits to the two galleries and the collections facility. Board Member Rick Dumas and Kathleen Haggarty, the Museum Collections Manager, were respective hosts. Our Churchillian Dedication Display Case in the Griesbach Gallery was pointed out. It reflects a relationship between



the Society and The Loyal Edmonton Regiment who had invited them to return to City Hall's Remembrance Day Service, adjacent to Churchill Square.

Kathleen had complimented their Meet and Greet with the provision of an excellent and eclectic Churchill display. The arrangement was the focal point of the Board Group photo (see below) and backdrop to the AGM. Photographed from left to right is Navya Baradi, behind her is David Reed, next are Jill Wright, David Checkel, Sir Winston Churchill, Lucas Robertson, Elisebeth Checkel, Will Randall, Diane Sweet, Bob Chaffee and Rick Dumas. Superb assistance was rendered by Kathryn Ivany, City Archivist, Supervisor Heritage Collection and Heritage Facilities.

This article is from "Remember", the newsletter of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment Military Museum. It is reproduced here with permission.



CHURCHILL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON ACKNOWLEDGES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

By Rick Dumas

Every International Women's Day, there is so much to be thankful for and that needs further deliberation and acknowledgment. The liberal democracies have advanced significantly since the Suffragette Movement and have benefitted accordingly. The Junior Achievement (JA) – Leading Ladies Luncheon, hosted at the World Trade

Centre was a tremendous venue and showcase by way of exemplifying that sentiment while indicating where there is room for improvement. Across humankind many more cultures and societies still need to rethink women's legal status, political rights, and economic opportunities.

At the podium, expressing a warm welcome is JA President and CEO – Jennifer Martin. Seated at the head table is our Honourary Patron, The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, The Honourable Salma Lakhani (in between screen and poster) and JA Northern Alberta Hall of Fame Laureate – Ashif Mawji (in the purple jacket). Also in attendance were several impressive graduates of the JA program, having started their own companies. JA has strong ties with the Alberta curriculum, providing students (Grades 8 to 12) with financial literacy, work readiness skills and entrepreneurship training. Representing the Churchill Society of Edmonton was President – Will Randall II, Vice-President – Jill Wright, Secretary and Treasurer – Elisebeth Checkel and Protocol Officer – Rick Dumas.



Leading Ladies Luncheon, courtesy of Rick Dumas

LINKS

For updates from The Hon Salma Lakhani, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta:

<https://lieutenantgovernor.ab.ca/news/>



For 'Remember', the Newsletter of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment Museum:

<https://www.lermuseum.org/items-of-interest/27-remember-newsletters>



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Mythologized versions of history have long stood tall among the tired lies used to justify immoral acts, persecution, and aggressive war against neighbor states and internal minorities. All peoples should expect better from their leaders and princes. In business as in statecraft, the ability to organize, communicate, debate, and educate are important to success. Combined with grievances fed by a distorted view of history, these same skills can open the doors to Tyranny.

In the Sir Winston Churchill Society, we work to help students gain and cultivate the historical knowledge and communication skills which are vital to Democracy. We look to Winston Churchill's long career in public service, the military, in writing, and in art for inspiration and sometimes topics for our high school speech, debate and essay writing competitions. Our society is now a new donor to Junior Achievement Edmonton, the Nina Haggerty School for the Arts, and the Alberta

Aviation Museum education program. Our collaboration with the University of Alberta Debate and Speech Society continues. We remain focused on our Vision; that the leaders we inspire today will rise to meet tomorrow's challenges, and on our Mission; to promote leadership, citizenship, and strengthened communities through civil discourse, connecting to history, and encouraging critical thinking.

Why not join us? Enjoy our next annual banquet at a reduced price, vote at our Annual General Meeting, and help us scotch some historical myths and encourage leadership skills among our young citizens and tomorrow's leaders.

Memberships can be purchased at our website:

<https://www.churchillsocietyofedmonton.com/>

or by postal mail with the form below. Memberships are valid for one year from date of purchase.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

We offer three tiers of membership. You can purchase your membership by visiting our website and following the instructions there:

<https://www.churchillsocietyofedmonton.com/shop>

Or send the form below, with payment, to our Executive Secretary. Memberships are valid for one year from date of purchase.

Regular membership: Annual fee \$30

Confers voting privileges at members' meetings and reduced ticket prices for Churchill Society events

Student membership: Annual fee \$10

Regular members' privileges for registered students

Global membership: Annual fee \$90

Regular members' privileges plus 1 year's membership in the International Churchill Society with 4 issues of their excellent magazine "Finest Hour"

2022 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Salutation: _____ Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Email: _____

Mobile: _____

Home Phone: _____

Address: _____

Street City Prov Postal Code

Type of Membership: ☐ Regular \$30 ☐ Student \$10 ☐ Global \$90

Privacy and Consent: By including your E-mail address, you agree to receive future notifications regarding Society activities. Please note, all E-mail messages sent to the membership are sent under the use of the Blind carbon copy (Bcc) tool which means that individual recipients do not see the entire list of addressees. There is no fear of being added to additional mailing lists, etc.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES: REPLICA MAUSER C96

In 1898 Winston Churchill carried his new Mauser pistol in the last large battlefield cavalry charge in British history, at Omdurman in the Sudan. The text on the plate is part of what he later wrote: "I was under fire all day and rode through the charge. You know my luck in these things. I was about the only officer whose clothes, saddlery, or horse were uninjured. I fired ten shots with my pistol – all necessary – and just got to the end of it as we cleared the crush. I never felt the slightest nervousness and felt as cool as I do now. I pulled up and reloaded within 30 yards of their mass and then trotted after my troop who were about 100 yards away. I am sorry to say that I shot five men for certain and two doubtful. The pistol was the best thing in the world."

His weapon was a Mauser C96, an early type of self-loading pistol. He had difficulty wielding his sabre, thanks to an earlier shoulder injury, and had to rely on his sidearm. It was probably a good decision to purchase a more powerful pistol than the army-issue Webley revolver.

PAUL ROBISON

Long-time Churchill Society member and former director Paul Robison passed away suddenly in January 2022. He was Archivist for several years, ending in 2009. Paul was a veteran, a colleague, and regular attendee of Memorial Banquets and AGMs. Our sincere condolences are extended to his spouse Donna and their family. His support and fellowship will be missed.



We have in a display case in our archive a replica of this weapon. It was donated from the former Churchill's Pub in downtown Edmonton, under the Cambridge Building at Jasper Avenue and Rice Howard Way.



Replica Mauser C96 on display

HISTORICAL EVENTS

- 1899** Following the Sudan campaign and some time in London, Winston Churchill returns to India in February to rejoin his regiment.
- 1924** Churchill stands unsuccessfully as an Independent in a March by-election in Westminster.
- 1932** Churchill makes his first radio broadcast in the United States on May 8.
- 1937** Neville Chamberlain succeeds Stanley Baldwin as Prime Minister of Britain on May 26.
- 1942** The 85,000 survivors of the Commonwealth forces in Singapore surrender to a Japanese force of 30,000 on February 15. That evening in a broadcast to the nation, Churchill refers to it as "...a heavy and far-reaching defeat." Eight



years later, in *The Second World War – The Hinge of Fate*, he calls it "...the worst disaster and largest capitulation of British history."

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

If you would like to help our society carry out our mission in pursuit of our vision, please contact us. **Directors are appointed to terms of three years. We are seeking a volunteer director with bookkeeping experience, to serve as treasurer. Our treasurer is responsible for keeping our books and accounts in accordance and compliance with our charitable status and its regulations.**

See the contact information for our Executive Secretary elsewhere in this newsletter.



Churchill Society Board and Executives

Will Randall II	<i>President</i>
Jill Wright	<i>Vice President</i>
Elisebeth Checkel	<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> <i>Membership</i>
Lucas Robertson	<i>Competitions</i>
David Reed	<i>Director</i>
Norman Leach	<i>Director</i>
Richard Dumas	<i>Director</i> <i>Protocol Officer</i>
Hugo Young	<i>Director</i>
Robert Chaffee	<i>Archives,</i> <i>the Churchillian</i>

CONTACT US

If you would like to comment on anything in our newsletter, or if you have submissions or suggestions for future articles, we would like to hear from you! Contact our editor, Robert Chaffee at 780.929.6766 or email to edmontonchurchillsociety@gmail.com. If you are interested in serving as a Director or Treasurer, or helping out with events, please contact our Executive Secretary.

Alternatively, we invite you to make your purchases on-line at
www.churchillsocietyofedmonton.com/shop

For membership application, enclose a cheque payable to "The Sir Winston Churchill Society" and send to:

Elisebeth Checkel, Executive Secretary
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 [/churchillsocietyofedmonton](https://www.facebook.com/churchillsocietyofedmonton)

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