

# HRH DUKE OF YORK VISITS THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE

MEETS STUDENT MEMBERS, OPENS ROSE GARDEN & ADDRESSES QUEEN'S PARK THRONG BACK TO BACK CANADIAN HOMECOMINGS IN MAY AND JUNE • CANADA'S PRINCE VISITS HIS REGIMENT

frequent visitor and arguably the most visibly "Canadian" member of the Royal Family is The Queen's second son, Andrew, HRH the Duke of York. With a wide circle of Canadian friends stemming from his school days at Lakefield College in Ontario, his Patronage of Outward Bound and his Colonelcies of the former Airborne Regiment and now the Queen's York Rangers (First Americans), it is no wonder His Royal Highness returns often to Canada on the private working visits that are now the norm for all members of the Royal Family with the exception of The Queen and the Prince of Wales.

If fresh proof of Andrew's commitment to Canada were needed, it was made patent by his twin visits in the



The Dominion Chairman welcomes His Royal Highness

Spring of 2003 – his May departure just a me month prior to his June arrival. Toronto, nar Lakefield and Peterborough, Vancouver, to ° Victoria and Montreal featured on eng HRH's busy itineraries which twice Clu brought him to both coasts; and his engagements ranged from clearly personal commitments to Outward Bound, Regi-

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Care, coupled with visits to Yacht Clubs reflecting his successful career in the Royal Navy.

#### ANDREW'S HOUR WITH THE MONARCHIST LEAGUE

The Duke of York's visit to the Monarchist League of Canada was a most memorable one. HRH arrived at Queen's Park on a drizzly morning, where he was received by John Aimers, Dominion Chairman; Kent Jackson, Toronto Chairman; and Nanda Casucci-Byrne, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.

In planning the visit, a principal objective for the League was to expose the Duke of York to articulate young Mon-



Christopher Mahon presented a League tie to the Prince on behalf of the Monarchist Youth



John Aimers escorts the Duke to the Lieutenant Governor's Suite



HRH greets Keith Roy, last summer's League vice-regal intern. Halifax Chairman Scott Burke (r), Chris Smith & Laura Kaufer (l) look on...



Guests are requested to arrive by 10:00 am

Business dress National dress

HRH engages Rowan D'Eath while (l-r) Sean Forsyth, Evan & Elisha Elford and Jane Cox listen



... and then converse with Prince Andrew, joined by Zach Schwartz (l)



"And why are you a member of this organization?"



Parts of Ou Privy Council

Windsor member Cyril Bagin watches as Tanya Granic meets the Duke of York

Teddy Williams was introduced to Prince Andrew as the notorious League flag-waver on the National News All photos: Michael Hudson

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HRH meets the Hamilton delegation, led by Bob & Amanda Finch, while Nate Tidridge (l) observes



The Duke pokes fun at the Dominion Chairman



Toronto Branch Chairman Kent Jackson leads HRH to the Rose Garden



League Flag covers temporary plaque...



A joke on the Grand Staircase of the Ontario Legislative Assembly



HRH addresses Monarchists...



...and works the crowd



...wording then inspected by HRH and Kent Jackson



John Aimers explains the volunteer hours from the Monarchist Youth to the Prince and Duke of York Regent Park School Principal John McCaughey



His Royal Highness speaks with Aaron Campbell, Mike Leibrock and guest ...



...and meets the Band...



...and has a word with former Hamilton Mayor Robert Morrow

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archists, and them in turn to HRH. Accordingly, the Prince first met for over 20 minutes with about 40 youth members from Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario, who ranged in age from 15 to 25, in the Suite of The Lieutenant Governor; His Honour, who had entertained the Duke to Luncheon during his May visit, was out of town, but kindly made the facilities and assistance of the Suite available to the League.

Assembled in small groups of four to six, the young Monarchists enjoyed their conversations with the Duke, who engaged them in both lively repartee and penetrating questioning. The atmosphere was very casual, a tone reciprocated by the young Monarchists who for the most part felt relaxed, and were able to enjoy the rare opportunity for them to converse with a senior member of the Royal Family. At the end of the meeting, Christopher Mahon thanked HRH on behalf of the group, informed him of their gift of 235 hours of community service to the inner city Toronto school named in his honour (a first for HRH, he said) and presented him with a League tie.

HRH then greeted his old friend Florence McEachern, with whom he enjoyed a relaxed conversation in His



Nanda Casucci-Byrne, LG's Private Secretary, and Speaker's representative David Christopherson, MPP, take leave

Honour's Salon. She and the late Col Frank McEachern had acted as HRH's Guardians during his student days in Canada. At this point, too, the Prince had the opportunity to meet MPP's David Christopherson, representing the Speaker, and Marilyn Mushinski, representing the Government of Ontario.

Accompanied by Kent Jackson, Toronto Chairman, the Prince next proceed outside, light drizzle continuing, to inaugurate the Branch's Golden Jubilee Rose Garden immediately adjacent to the Legislative Assembly. Here HRH unveiled a temporary plaque to mark the occasion, and spoke briefly to the assembled crowd.



A final word...



A young monarchist meets her Prince

The Dominion Chairman then escorted Prince Andrew into the Legislative rotunda where a dais had been erected on the Grand Staircase, and some 450 League members had gathered, thanks to the permission of Mr Speaker Carr. Mr Aimers' words of welcome were followed by remarks from the Duke, who promised to convey our the loyal good wishes of the League to The Queen, going on to speak of his frequent returns to Canada and his affection for the country. Kent Jackson closed the formal proceedings with a speech of thanks, after which the



A Royal farewell for MPP Marilyn Mushinski

members present sang the Royal Anthem to the accompaniment of the Cardinal Carter School Jazz Band which had entertained guests as the gathering assembled.

His Royal Highness then enjoyed a walkabout down the central aisle of the Legislative foyer, where he stopped and conversed with many members and their guests, as well as with the band drawn up outside on the steps. Official guests then bade farewell, after which John Aimers took leave outside the Royal automobile. The time His Royal Highness – smiling, trim and focused intently on everyone whom he met – spent with the League was a most happy and memorable one, an occasion that will live long in the recollection of all who were present.



...and farewell



Then and now. Dedication of Toronto Branch's Silver Jubilee Rose Garden, 1977, by then Lt-Gov Pauline McGibbon, accompanied by Branch Chairman Carl Shain (r)

## **Royal Sparkle to a Drizzly Day**

by Captain Stephen Roberts

Under threatening skies, Prince Andrew, The Duke of York took time while in Canada to visit his Canadian soldiers conducting field training. Dressed in a Canadian combat uniform, he was driven to several locations in CFB Borden to see soldiers of The Queen's York Rangers. The May 11th visit was Prince Andrew's second to the Rangers since he became their Colonel-in-Chief in 1997.

The Queen's York Rangers are one Canada's oldest units, and were originally formed in 1755 by Robert Rogers as Roger's Rangers. Based in both Toronto and Aurora, today this Army Reserve unit is an armoured reconnaissance regiment. That means on the ground, they are the eyes and ears of the army. In today's exercise they were conducting rear area security. The first location that The Duke was taken was a water pumping station in a river valley. There he was met and briefed by 2nd Lieutenant Gord Scharf of Newmarket who had 25 soldiers securing the area. Using a model made of gravel, sticks and small pine tree branches, 2Lt. Scharf showed the platoon's area of responsibility. In an animated discussion, Prince Andrew showed that he understood the tactical situation. Afterwards 2Lt. Scharf said, "You have butterflies before he arrives, but once you get going, and you start talking to him, he has the remarkable ability to put you at ease".

Next The Duke was taken to see Queen's York soldiers in a tactical hide. Another task of the reconnaissance unit is to see without being seen. Soldiers are placed in a geographic location were they



The Duke of York addresses his troops on manoeuvres.



Soggy day doesn't dampen spirits for the Rangers and their Royal Colonel. Sgt Peter Hartwig (A Tor Scot