Dear Fellow Canadian Churchillians:

New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to:


Annual Dinner

On May 9th, 2013 Chairman Randy Barber welcomed over one hundred members and guests, and mentioned highlights of the Society in the past year, including the most successful Conference in October 2012.

Former Society Treasurer Chuck Anderson, in giving the toast to Sir Winston, spoke of his attributes as a master politician, outstanding parliamentarian and visionary, with the latter including his warnings of the dangers of Nazism and Communism, long before any other politician. Joe Martin, of the Rotman School of Management, introduced the Guest Speaker, ICSC Vice Chairman, Terry Reardon, who talked of the almost fifty year relationship of Winston Churchill and Mackenzie King, which he had explored in depth in his recent book Winston Churchill and Mackenzie King, So Similar, So Different. The relationship had many hiccups in its early years, but became firm and fruitful in World War II. Terry outlined King’s wartime role, including his being the linchpin between Churchill and Roosevelt, in the provision of 40 destroyers to Britain, in exchange for bases on British possessions.

Terry’s address detailed Canada’s significant contribution in the war – out of a population of eleven million, more than one million voluntarily enlisted, with 47,000 killed and 58,000 wounded. He also quoted from In the Footsteps of Churchill by respected British historian Richard Holmes: “Britain would not have survived as an independent nation had it not been for the agricultural, industrial and financial aid received from Canada” - by the end of the war Britain had received almost $3.5 billion in gifts and loans from Canada.

Chairman Randy Barber echoed the reaction of the audience in giving the expression of thanks to Terry, and he also thanked the sponsors (listed below) and encouraged the audience to give them their support.

- Norman Hardie Wines [www.normanhardie.com]
- Artisanal Wine Imports [http://www.artisanalwiorts.com]
- Smokin Cigar Inc [www.smokincigar.com]
- Select Wines and Spirits [http://www.selectwines.ca]
Next Event

An “Evening With Sir Winston” is being arranged and members will be advised by flyer, in due course.

Churchill Society for the Advancement of Parliamentary Democracy

Our sister society in Toronto is holding its annual dinner on Thursday November 12, 2013. The recipient of the annual award will be the Hon. Jean Charest PC, and the Speaker will be David O’Keefe, the author of the soon to be published “One Day in August: The remarkable true story behind the greatest raid of W.W. II.” Full details of the event can be found on the Society’s web site – www.churchillsociety.org


After the most successful Conference at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto last October, the 2013 Conference will no doubt be up to the same high standard. The Theme is “Winston Churchill, Perspectives of Leadership,” and details are in the flyer enclosed with this newsletter

Winston Churchill & Mackenzie King: So Similar, So Different

Society Vice Chairman Terry Reardon was interviewed by Steve Paikin, of TV Ontario’s The Agenda on his book. This was broadcast on the station in two, thirty minute segments on August 7 & 8 and has been downloaded to our web site – www.winstonchurchillcanada.ca.

The Sir Winston Churchill Statue in Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto

The project for the revitalization of the Square has proceeded slower than originally envisaged. We now have been given a completion date of December 31, 2014. This will include the Statue, the four descriptive plaques, and the plaque recognizing the major donors, being moved to the northwest quadrant of the Square, appropriately abutting the Peace Garden.

From the Bookshelf

A Daughter’s Tale by Mary Soames

“We made landfall on 9 August 1943 and I watched Canada appear. We saw two whales. It was lovely & most impressive steaming into Halifax harbour...Although elaborate precautions had been made, the true identity of ‘Colonel Warden’ had become known, and there was a large and enthusiastic crowd at the railway station...At journey’s end our party was met at Charmy (a little station nestled below the Heights of Abraham, famously stormed by General Wolfe in 1759) ...and whisked up to the Citadelle, which stands so imposingly on the cliffs above the St Lawrence River and dramatically dominates the old city of Quebec...Despite its stern exterior the Citadelle is a charmingly arranged house, from which one can emerge on to the long, wooden-planked terraces which command wonderful views over the city and river. It was after dark when we arrived, and I remember my mother and I stood for quite a long time looking out over the twinkling city lights below us – after four years of blackout at home it seemed a wonderful sight.”