



St. George's News



Annual Publication of St. George's Church Foundation Inc.



Another year ends and now is the time to take stock of our progress. You will discover reading different articles that the Foundation is still very active. The end of a year also means the arrival of new and exciting projects.

For more than twenty years, the Foundation's volunteers were focused on the restoration of the site and to ensure its preservation. Much work has been done to this end and we need today, without forgetting our past, to look to the future.

Certainly the religious vocation will remain a priority in the short term but only a new vocation will allow us to ensure the sustainability of the site in the long term. The reflections launched a decade ago and discussions initiated with the City of Drummondville will reach some conclusions, I hope, in 2015.

As in the past, the members of the Board of the Foundation and its volunteers will work hard to preserve St. George's site and buildings by respecting a balance between maintenance, restoration and the promotion of the site in the community.

As usual, we had our Feast of St. George which allows us to renew acquaintances and see familiar faces. It is always a joy

to meet people with whom we had lost contact.

Thanks to the support of a community organization, Commerce Drummond, that took over the handling of the rentals of our buildings two years ago, we were able to increase revenues which has allowed us to pay a portion of the operating expenses (electricity, heating, security system, maintenance, etc). In addition, an agreement with the City of Drummondville, whereby we will provide 15 parking spaces, will allow us in the coming years to cover the entire cost of these expenses.

President's Message Guy Drouin

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our many donors who generously support us in our mission, which is to preserve and enhance our cultural and religious heritage. Your support over the years has been essential to the continuation of our effort to preserve the site.

I would also like to thank the members of the Board of the Foundation. They all live very active lives but still take the time to meet once per month and participate in multiple projects. Many of the projects we undertake prove to be less costly because of the volunteer efforts of these people.

Royal 22nd Regiment lays wreath on General Heriot's tomb

On December 14th, 2013, members of the Royal 22nd Regiment mounted a special parade to mark the 170th anniversary of the death of Drummondville's founder Major-General Frederick George Heriot.

The ceremonies commenced with the presentation of a War of 1812 commemorative banner to Drummondville's newly elected mayor, Alexandre Cusson by LCol Mercier, commanding officer of the R22R's 6th battalion. The banner, authorized by Governor-General David Johnston, honours those who defended British North America during the War of 1812: the Royal Navy and Provincial Marine, the British Army, colonial militias and their First Nations allies. Following the presentation, Mayor Cusson and honorary Colonel Jacques Desbiens of the 6th Battalion braved the bitter cold to inspect the guard and lay a wreath on MGen Heriot's tomb. Prior to the laying of the wreath, Mayor Cusson read a eulogy citing the important contribution of forces under Heriot's command in the defeat of the American forces at the Battle of Chrysler's Farm and his role in the founding and early days of Drummondville. LCol Desbiens followed with an account of the Battle of Chrysler's Farm .



from left to right : Lieutenant-colonel Mercier Regimental Sergeant-Major (RSM) Proulx of 6th Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment Mayor Alexandre Cusson Honorary Colonel Desbiens of 6th Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment

(Author's note: Company B of the 6th Battalion R22R is located in Drummondville's St. Louis St. Armoury formerly occupied by the 46th Field Artillery regiment)

The Mayor's speech

What follows is not a sequel to the Oscar winning movie 'The King's Speech'. Rather, it is the text of the speech made by Drummondville's mayor, Alexandre Cusson during the recent ceremonies marking the 170th anniversary of the death of Major General Heriot.

Major General Heriot was born on January 11th 1786 on the Isle of Jersey near the coast of Normandy. In the summer of 1801, at the age of 15, he joined the British army with the rank of ensign in the 49th Regiment of Foot which left London in 1802 to set up in the Quebec Citadel. He spent 10 years there advancing rapidly in his regiment.

Following the American declaration of war in 1812, he was promoted to the rank of Major and transferred to the Voltigeurs canadiens. During the war of 1812-1814, he was awarded several decorations including a mention in dispatches and a gold medal at the Battle of Crysler Farm. By the end of the war, he attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and assumed command of the Voltigeurs canadiens.

In 1815 he was assigned the task of countering all American invasion along the St. Francis River. In June of the same year he founded Drummondville and named it in honour of Lieutenant-General Sir Gordon Drummond, commander of the British troops during the War of 1812 and Governor General of Lower Canada in 1815 and 1816.

Always willing to help his fellow citizens, he held several public offices such as member of parliament for Drummond county, justice of the peace and commissioner (for the building of roads)

He was promoted to the rank of Major General November 23, 1841 and was responsible for the military organization of the Eastern Townships.

He died celibate December 30, 1843 at the age of 57.

Following Mayor Cusson's speech, LCol Desbiens provided the following account of the Battle of Crysler's Farm and explained the link between the Canadian Voltigeurs, of which Heriot was second in command, and today's Royal 22nd Regiment.

November 10th 1813, 8000 American soldiers under the command of Major General James Wilkinson arrived in the town of Williamsburg, Ontario



At the same time, 800 British soldiers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Morrison were taking up position behind two large ravines on John Crysler's farm. The British had had followed the Americans along the St. Lawrence river under orders to slow down the American advance and prevent a surprise attack.

November 11th, the Americans launched an attack with only half of their soldiers. MGen Wilkinson believed the British troops were less experienced and underestimated their numbers because half of the British troops were wearing grey winter coats over their traditional red uniforms. Lacking a tactical plan, the Americans suffered heavy losses and were forced to retreat to Cornwall.

These heavy losses and rapid retreat of the soldiers during the battle of Crysler farm put an end to the American campaign to take Montreal.

The Royal 22nd Regiment's 6th Battalion traces its origins to the volunteers

That joined the Canadian militia from its beginnings. Of mention are divisions of St-Hyacinthe, Beloeil, St-Ours and others

Today, thanks to these links to the past, we are proud to be able to include in our battle honours the Battle of Crysler Farm where Major General Heriot distinguished himself through his actions...



The missing medals...

Friend : *"Nice looking uniform General, but what happened to your medals?"*

General : *"They didn't come with the uniform... I was hoping you might be able to find some."*

Friend : *"The Order of the Bath and the British Army Gold medal don't exactly grow on trees, but I will see what I can do."*

The friend in question is me and the General is Mr. Fernand Raymond who portrays Major-General Frederick George Heriot in the numerous events planned for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of Drummondville by Heriot in 1815. His uniform is an accurate reproduction of the one in Heriot's portraits....except for the missing medals!

A quick search on the Internet and bingo! A militaria dealer in Australia offers replicas of a wide range of medals and decorations. Ha! An e-mail to Australia around 8:00 PM asking if they can provide the pair of medals. 10:00 PM (thanks to the time change) an answer to the affirmative.

The price seems reasonable so the order is placed.

Friend : *"I see you got your medals. They look great."*

General : *"Yes indeed! I feel more like a real General with these on my uniform."*

Friend : *"I don't doubt it, but where's your white horse?"*

To be continued.....

Len Desfosses



80 years ago...in the Spokesman

A production of "Out of the night" at the St. George's Club April 4th & 5th. There will be a number of reserved seats at 75 cents available from R. Haworth and E. Sweet. Ordinary tickets are 50 cents. A large attendance is expected both nights.

Dancing classes. Mrs. Adams will resume her dancing classes on Wednesday the 23rd. Juniors in the afternoon, ages 3 & 4 at 2 PM. School age at 4 PM. Senior class and beginners at 7:30. All classes will be held in St. George's Hall for a series of 10 lessons.



Drummondville to celebrate its 200th anniversary of its founding in 2015

Drummondville will celebrate its 200th anniversary in 2015. Inevitably, this event will highlight the contribution of its Founder, Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick George Heriot (1786-1843). Assigned to the regiment of Voltigeurs in 1812, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles-Michel d'Irumberry de Salaberry, Heriot was responsible for recruiting soldiers. A year later, he occupies a prominent place in the battle of Châteauguay. In 1814, he succeeded de Salaberry as Commander and attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

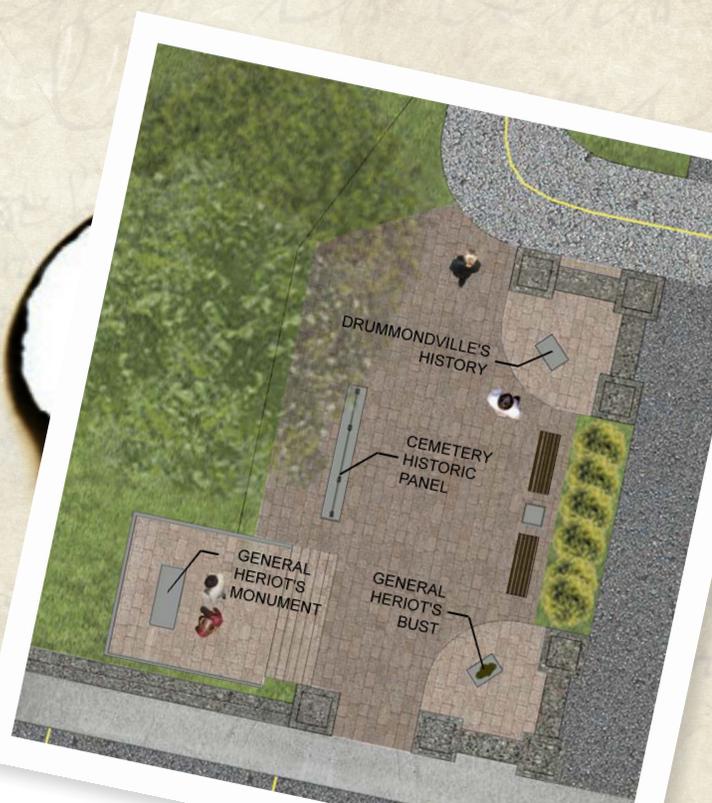
In 1815, the House of Assembly of Lower Canada assigns him the task of colonizing the St. Francis River Valley. On June 8, 1815, he seeks a grant of 1,200 acres in the Township of Grantham and Wickham to establish Drummondville, name chosen in honour of the acting Governor General of Canada, Sir Gordon Drummond.

At various times, he was justice of the peace, civil servant and politician. As the Founder, Frederick George Heriot exercised important functions, among others as Member of Parliament for the riding of Drummond (1829-1833). More importantly, his military, social and administrative involvement marked the beginnings of the history of Drummondville.

For this reason, during the 200th anniversary festivities, the

community of Drummondville will celebrate its Founder by creating a public square in his honour. We will benefit from this opportunity to restore his tomb, install his bust, and create a work of art that will mark the 200th anniversary of the City.

June 29, 2015 is the date selected for the inauguration of the new public space and works of art in the presence of a delegation from the Isle of Jersey, Heriot's birthplace. An exhibition will be held in the Church to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of this man who, despite the difficulties encountered, knew how to keep the small community united so that it becomes the prosperous and welcoming City that it is today.



Treasurer's Report – 2013

The 2013 financial reports will show that expenditures exceeded income by \$1,665 compared to a surplus of \$1,978 reported last year. Donations continue to be the Foundation's major source of income reaching a record \$15,503, up significantly from \$12,625 in 2012. Major contributors were Virginia Burt – In memory of Dorothy Lockwood, Alan N. Rhodes, Robert Taylor, David Jones, Kaatza Foundation and H. Gordon Meyer.

Income from rentals were \$8,620 in 2013 down from \$9,831 in 2012 while income from activities was \$2,960 compared to \$1,913 last year, and interest income from term deposits and bank interest was \$214 compared to \$208 in 2012.

The Foundation undertook only minor maintenance/improvement projects in 2013 totalling \$1,724 compared to \$8,033 last year. The cost of our fundraising activities was \$2,250 which was down from \$2,737 disbursed in 2012. Rentals costs were \$1,304 up from \$1,080 last year. These expenses represent the costs to clean-up the Hall and Church following rentals. Cost of utilities, which are hydro and gas, reached \$11,134 compared \$10,273 in 2012. The Foundation provided financial support to the Parish of St. George's Church in the amount of \$11,701 to reduce the debt owed to the Diocese of Quebec for property insurance. And finally, directors' insurance, bank fees and miscellaneous charges totalled \$849 compared to \$946 in 2012.

In summary, total income was \$27,297 in 2013 up from \$25,077 in 2012, while expenditures were \$28,962 up from \$23,099 in the previous year. Finally, the surplus as of December 31, 2013 stands at \$36,112 versus \$37,777 at the beginning of the year.

Hugh E. Bieber, Treasurer

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2013

		2013-12-31	2012-12-31
ASSETS	Cash on Hand	10 861	10 406
	Guaranteed Income Investments	24 028	25 895
	Accrued Interest	112	51
	GST/QST Refund Receivable	1 111	1 424
TOTAL ASSETS		36 112	37 777

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	Accounts Payable	-	-
	SURPLUS	36 112	37 777

Statement of Income and Expenses for the Year Ending December 31, 2013

		2013	2012
INCOME	Donations and Memberships	15 503	12 625
	Interest Income	214	208
	Income from Activities	2 960	1 913
	Rental Income	8 620	9 831
	Miscellaneous	-	500
TOTAL INCOME		27 297	25 077

EXPENSES	Repairs to Church Property	1 724	8 033
	Fundraising Activities	2 250	2 737
	Cemetery Project Costs	-	32
	Directors' Insurance	699	699
	Rental Costs	1 304	1 080
	Utility Costs	11 134	10 273
	Property Insurance	11 701	-
	Bank Charges	22	-
	Miscellaneous	128	245
TOTAL EXPENSES		28 962	23 099

Net Income or (Loss) for the Period	1 665	1 978
Surplus at Beginning of Period	37 777	35 799
Surplus at End of Period	36 112	37 777



Donations



Send us your tax deductible donation, you will help the Foundation achieve its mission to restore and preserve our heritage for future generations.



Rentals



The Hall and the Church can be rented for private events.

For details, go to :

www.st-george-foundation.org/location



Membership



The Foundation continues to need your support. Become a member today!



How to reach us



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Church Services



United Church Services on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 3 PM with Rev. Reg. Jennings.

Anglican Church Services on the 4th Saturday of each month at 3 PM with Rev. Yves Samson.



Foundation Directors



Executive :

Guy Drouin, president

Katherine Archer, vice-president

Barbara Grant, secretary

Hugh Bieber, treasurer

Directors :

Barry Husk

Cathy Millar

Denis Cartwright

Doris Mace

Kim Peacock

Leonard W. Desfosses

Robert Haggerty

Robert Pelletier

Robert Taylor

Tony Morrison



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