



THE
SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL
SOCIETY OF CALGARY



Founded 1966

Patron: Randolph Churchill III

December 2022

President: Dr. Mark Milke; Editors: Tamara Rosenblum and David Holmes

From the President

The past year has been a marvelous re-start and renewal for the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary. With the end of the pandemic and resumption of in-person gatherings, we were able to again hold our annual memorial dinner, in mid-June, with historian and author Dr. Waller Newell from Carleton University. It was a full house in mid-June as Prof. Newell spoke on the reality of how autocracies and tyrannies are, regrettably, a constant in human affairs, a reality that Sir Winston Churchill himself understood.

The student programs sponsored by the Society also resumed in-person activities: Sir Winston Churchill high school debates and Moot Court just last month. Also continuing has been the newer student sponsorship: Art scholarships at the Alberta University of the Arts. It is your support of the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary that makes such student programs possible. Each of those programs will be described in greater detail in this newsletter.

Our major project started several years ago is nearing completion as we head towards its installation at unveiling at McDougall Centre in downtown Calgary: The Winston Churchill statue, which was completed in plasticine form in Edmonton this time last year and is now being bronzed in Montana, will make the journey back to Alberta for storage in Calgary until its placement and unveiling

in late spring 2023. This project has had deep and wide support with donations from \$5.00 to multiple thousands of dollars from Calgary, from Alberta, from across Canada and even from the United Kingdom and the United States. The courage and legacy of Churchill along with his love of the arts and his visit to Alberta in the summer of 1929 will be publicly commemorated 94 years later, in 2023. This is all to the good as farsighted leaders deserve remembrance and Churchill's legacy and leadership shall be recalled daily by Calgary citizens starting mid-year when they view a magnificent work of art—the Churchill statue—by sculptor Danek Mozdzenski at McDougall Centre.

This past year was a reminder in various ways that service and sacrifice matter. The invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February was a reminder that leadership to preserve and promote free societies does matter. The death of Queen Elizabeth II in late summer was a poignant reminder of her lifelong sacrifice and of how Canada still has a connection to the United Kingdom, and to the preference for societal and political evolution (as compared with *revolution*). That preference is a distinctive feature of the United Kingdom and also of Canada.

The Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary is an all-volunteer charitable organization founded in 1966, in the wake of Churchill's death in 1965. It has always been supported by those who offer "sweat

equity” and financial contributions to ensure the principles and practices of a free society endure and are passed on to subsequent generations. On behalf of the board of directors of the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary, I would like to thank you as members and supporters for such contributions.

In addition, I would personally like to thank each of the board members and other volunteers for their service over this past year. Whether high school debates, moot court, art scholarships for students, events such as socials and dinners, editing and proofing a newsletter, fundraising, upkeep of the website, communication, processing and accounting of finances, or taking minutes and much more, all such activities are carried on by volunteers. Please accept my sincere thank you to all of you, for carrying on with such service in testament to the leadership and legacy of Winston Churchill.

Kind regards

– Mark Milke, President

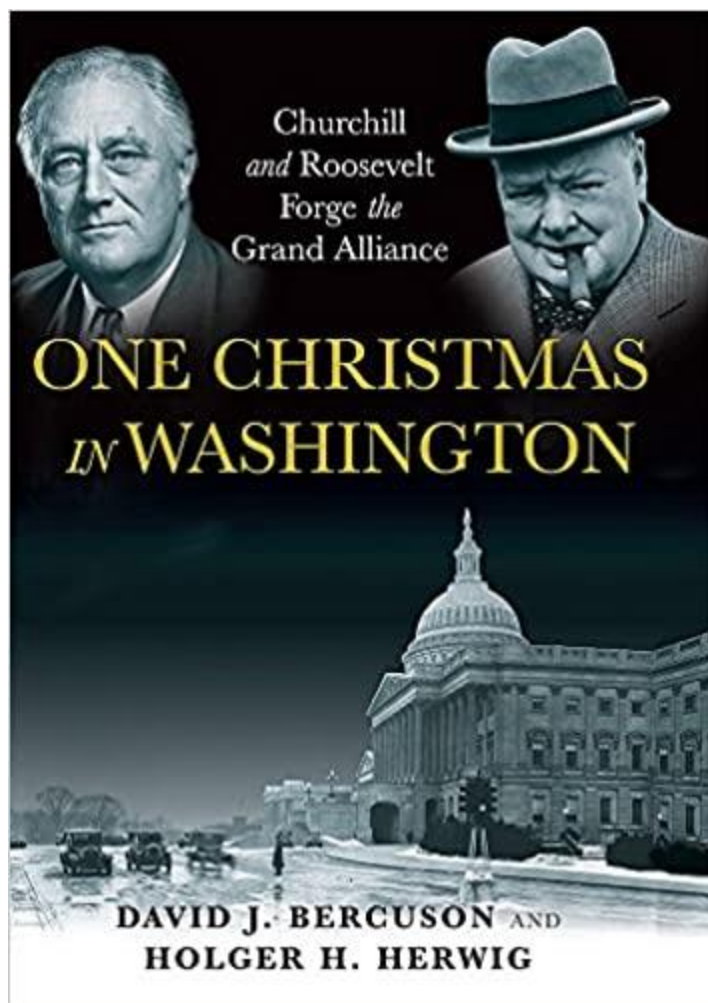
Christmas Social on December 20, 2022

It's that time of year, and we are excited to host a Christmas Social. The Christmas Social reception will be on Tuesday, December 20th from 5pm – 9pm at the Ranchmen's Club.

Professor David Bercuson from the University of Calgary will be our keynote speaker. Professor Bercuson is an expert historian, especially in Canadian military history as well as a prolific writer of Canadian history with many published books. Dr. Bercuson will speak on the book he co-authored with historian Dr. Holder Herwig, *One Christmas in Washington: Churchill and Roosevelt Forge the Grand Alliance*

We will also be awarding the Queen's Jubilee medals during the evening.

Tickets are \$45 for Churchill Society members and \$55 for all guests. Please register [here](#). Appetizers and one drink are included. To join as a member for \$30.00, please click on our Membership page [here](#).



Prof. David Bercuson will speak about his co-authored book on December 20th as our Christmas social.

High school debate report: Ms. Elisa Frank

The annual High School debate tournament hosted by Sir Winston Churchill High School and sponsored by the society was held again this year on November 19th, 2022. It was the first time in three years that we were able to have the tournament in person and it was great to have everyone in the same space.

The tournament hosted 16 teams in beginner and open categories. The prepared topic was "This house believes that it is wrong to promote Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as a hero". All of the students argued both sides of the prepared topic. The impromptu topic was "This House Would strip education workers of their right to strike". Both topics drew lively engagement from the students.

The winners of this year's tournament were:

| Open | Beginner |
|--|---|
| Speakers | |
| 1 st Sam Ross (Rundle Academy) | 1 st Benjamin Goud (Henry Wise Wood High School) |
| 2 nd Avar Heer (Ernest Manning High School) | 2 nd Rose Ghazar (Crescent Heights High School) |
| 3 rd Emma Djukic (Renert School) | 3 rd Chinwe Nwosu (Master's College) |
| Teams | |
| 1 st Khaled Rajan & Emma Djukic (Renert School) | 1 st Isabelle Forsythe-Rhyno & Sofia Hughes (Central Memorial High School) |
| 2 nd Sam Ross & Stephen Mitchell (Rundle Academy) | 2 nd Benjamin Goud & Bhuvni Goyal (Henry Wise Wood High School) |
| 3 rd Avar Heer & Kanak Mane (Ernest Manning High School) | 3 rd Kamran Shukoor & Rain Liao (Strathcona-Tweedsmuir High School) |

We had a great turnout of volunteer judges on behalf of the society. Thank you to Bill Bewick, Liz Gibbs, Susan Wright, Don Greenfield, Patrick Windle, Taylor Amonson, Riley Wolever, and Elisa Frank for taking the time to judge these debates. And special thanks to Bill Bewick who offered congratulations to the students on behalf of the society.

We will look forward to celebrating the winners at the annual dinner this spring!

Moot court report: Ms. Kim Davies

The Mount Royal University's Moot Court Exercise focuses on the intersection of law, politics, and the judicial process through the examination of historical Supreme Court of Canada decisions. The Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary sponsors the Moot Court with awards to three students (in most years) and who are judged as the winners from that competition and essays.

This year, the Moot Court was held on November 24th in the ceremonial courtroom at Calgary Courts Centre.

The case debated was *R v Stairs* 2022 SCC 11. It centered around whether a search incident to arrest in the accused's home violated his s.8 right against unreasonable search and seizure, and if so whether the evidence obtained was admitted or excluded under s.24(2) of the Charter. The Supreme Court of Canada changed the standard for justifying such searches in future, and our students were to consider what the appropriate standard should be. Results of this debate will be announced later in December and winners will be announced in the spring newsletter.

University of the Arts Scholarships: Mr. Bill Bewick Sr.

In the summer of 2021 the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary approved the establishment of a Scholarship program for deserving students entering the Second and Third year Painting programs at the Alberta University of the Arts. This scholarship awards \$1,000 to each of two deserving students at the beginning of the Fall Semester. Students are selected based upon their academic excellence as well as on their studio work in the painting program and other required elective courses at the University.

In addition to the financial award, the winning students are gifted the Book *Churchill – The Statesman As Artist –* (David Cannadine), accompanied by a congratulating note from the Calgary Society President and are invited to the Society annual June formal dinner.

We are pleased to announce that our Scholarship winners for this year are **Lauren Brown** and **Emily Stenger**.

The Churchill Statue Project: Ms. Heather Coleman

Progress on the statue continues on all fronts:

- The agreement with the province for the McDougall Centre location is being finalized.
- The final casting for the Churchill statue – by Alberta sculptor Danek Mozdzenski – has been completed at the foundry in Kalispell, Montana. Final touch up work will be completed before Danek Mozdzenski delivers the completed statue to Calgary around the end of the year. One of our generous donors

has arranged to store the statue until installation.

- The statue plinth is being quarried from a beautiful Bethel White granite in Quebec. The stone is a light blue-grey with flecks of black and dark brown throughout. “Churchill” will be engraved into the plinth.

At the recommendation of the committee, the board has agreed to continue to offer a series of Churchill busts at the donation levels previously established. We will share more information on this offering and on plans for ongoing statue maintenance and upkeep early in the new year.

To keep up to date on this project, please refer to the [Churchill Leadership Initiative and Statue Project page](https://www.churchillcalgary.ca) at www.churchillcalgary.ca.

The wit and wisdom of WSC

On fitness and health:

“I get my exercise serving as pall-bearer to my many friends who exercised all their lives”.



The Churchill statue being bronzed in Montana before returning to Alberta, November 2022

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| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
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The Society's Mission Statement

The Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary exists to promote students' facility in the use of the spoken and written word emphasizing oratorical and communication skills as exemplified by the debates, speeches and writings of Sir Winston Spencer Churchill.

The Society also exists to preserve and promote the legacy of Sir Winston Spencer Churchill, including his achievements in the face of tyranny and the preservation of freedom, and in so doing commemorate his leadership and achievements.

Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary

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