



THE
SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL
SOCIETY OF CALGARY



Founded 1966 Patron: Randolph Churchill III May 2022 President: Dr. Mark Milke; Editor, David Holmes

From the President

In recent months we have all, finally, moved beyond the pandemic and quite fittingly, with most restrictions lifted this spring, can now begin to think of new activities. However, as regular readers of this newsletter and Society emails will know, the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary has been anything but dormant over the past two years.

We have held virtual interviews with various authors, continued the process of fundraising for the statue and leadership initiative project as well as having commissioned the statue, continued to fund student debates at Sir Winston High School and Mount Royal University moot court sessions, and initiated a new scholarship for budding student artists at the Alberta University of the Arts.

All of this required multiple volunteers and I would like to thank everyone on the board and volunteers for helping us through this time. Most of all, thank you to you our members and supporters for renewing your memberships, donating, and keeping the legacy and leadership of Sir Winston Churchill alive. It is regrettable that Russia's invasion of Ukraine has occurred; it does remind everyone that autocrats and tyrants exist and that no vacation from history is on such realities is permanent.

As Churchill remarked about Nazi Germany in Second World War and countries that attempted to take refuge in neutrality, "Each one hopes that if he feeds the crocodile enough, the crocodile will eat him last."

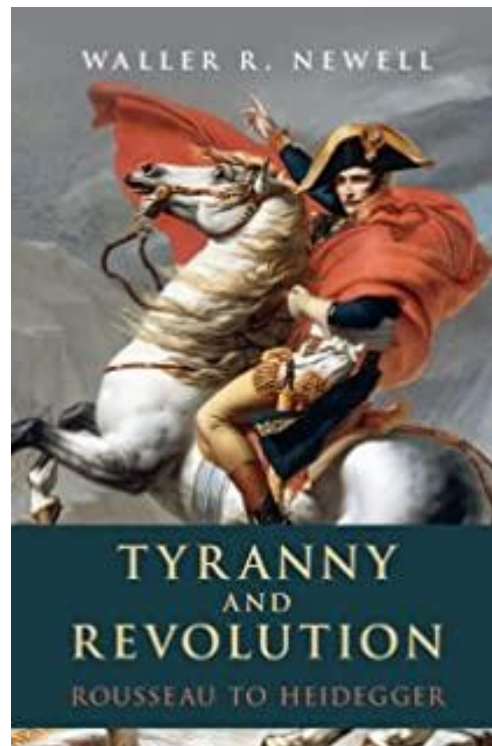
That noted, let us now turn to rather more positive news and updates

The Annual Memorial dinner June 16, 2022

Our annual memorial dinner resumes—our last one was in May 2019—and you are cordially invited to the 56th annual

fundraising banquet, and an address entitled Tyranny and Revolution by Carleton University historian, author and professor of Political Science Waller Newell. Prof. Newell will be our keynote dinner speaker June 16th 2022 at the Ranchmen's Club. Prof. Newell is author of the 2016 book, [*Tyrants: A History of Power, Injustice and Terror*](#). He also has a new book just released entitled [*Tyranny and Revolution: Rousseau to Heidegger*](#).

Please register for this dinner online at www.churchillcalgary.ca/events. Tickets may be purchased until midnight Monday June 6th for our June 16th, 2022 banquet. Note that copies of both books by Professor Newell will be available for purchase on June 16th.



High school debate report: Ms. Elisa Frank

This year's High School debate hosted by Sir Winston Churchill High School and sponsored by the society (we give \$2,000) took place on November 20, 2021. Once again, this year's event took place online. The topic was "This house would support the immediate recognition of an independent Taiwan". We rely heavily on technology for these online events to take place.

Despite several technological issues out of their control, the team of volunteers at Sir Winston Churchill School led by teacher and debate coach Darren Kiziak made herculean efforts to ensure all of the debaters were able to engage in rounds. Those who volunteered on behalf of the society were impressed with the students and enjoyed the debates.

The winners were:

Beginner Speakers
1. Jason Li – Churchill
2. Georgia Zhang – Wise Wood
3. Mackenzie Huang - Western
Beginner Team
1. Western 1 – Abhinav Jain & Mackenzie Huang
2. Churchill 1 – Jennifer Chen & Jason Li
3. Western 2 – Daniyal Sait & Ethan Ignatius

Open Speakers
1. Eve Pigat – Western
2. Pahul Singh - Westmount
3. Raneet Kahlon - Diefenbaker
Open Team
1. Western 1 – Eve Pigat & Rishi Kalaga
2. Churchill 1 – Gilbert Yang & Sayan Saha
3. Central 1 – Josh Hart & George Peterson

We look forward to the future of this annual exercise in developing young leaders as thinkers, orators, and debaters. – Ms. Elisa Frank

High school debate 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 Churchill Society 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 past year, on November 25, 2021, MRU students returned to the Calgary Courts Centre to appeal the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling (**R. v. Saeed**). The winners this past fall were two students, Naina Balasundaram and Katelyne Steele. We offer our sincere congratulations to them. – Kim Davies.

The Churchill Leadership Initiative and Statue Project

The Churchill Statue Project: Fully funded (!)

Thank you to all who have donated to the Churchill Statue and Leadership Initiative Project. We have raised approximately \$307,000 of the planned \$300,000 for the statue, its base, plinth, and ongoing maintenance. We will thus cease fundraising efforts.

On a side note, had we proceeded with a new public speakers' series, we had planned to raise a further \$200,000 for that initiative. However, for various reasons including the nature of an all-volunteer board and membership, the board has decided to cease at the \$307,000 level. We will apply some of the additional funds beyond what is necessary for the statue to leadership initiatives for students. We will provide more details in the coming months.

On the statue itself, it was transported to Montana from Edmonton earlier this year where it is currently being bronzed. . It will be ready by mid-summer for transport back to Calgary. As I write, the board of the Churchill Society will soon meet to consider possible locations and next steps. Do stay tuned. We are all very excited about this tremendous work of art and commemoration. Our view as a board is that Sir Winston Churchill's leadership and legacy is more relevant than ever before in recent years, given events in Ukraine and beyond.



Sculptor Danek Mozdzenski with the plasticine version of the Churchill statue, in his Edmonton studio, November 2021.

Recall that because of your donations, the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary was able to commission Danek Mozdzenski—a world-class sculptor with statues of Prime Minister Lester Pearson, jazz artist Horatio Miller, and suffragist Nellie McClung among other sculptures to his credit.

Our view is that this is a work of art and a masterpiece, and of an historically consequential figure. We believe that the eventual recipient will be share the same view and thus we are seeking just such a recipient and a location that is suitable for such world-class art. If we need to delay erecting the statue this summer in order to secure the ideal partner and location, we think it wise to do just that.

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



Another view of the statue, Edmonton, November 2021

Thank you from the president

Lastly, I would like to thank a few volunteers: Angela Kolia is organizing the June 16th Memorial Dinner and has been key to organizing our recent socials. Kim Moody and his staff at Moodys Tax Law have been terrifically helpful in organizing our books—more complicated than you might think. Thank you to Kim Davies shepherding the moot court program as our board liaison. One of David Hood’s staff, Melissa McCarty, has been very helpful in organizing our membership lists and a new member, Jaclynne Dahlberg, has stepped up to take on that task—and it is a bit of a task combining online and mail-in memberships and keeping email and postal addresses up to date!

Lastly, Heather Coleman who is the vice-president and chair of the statue project has been key to advancing this remarkable project to where it is today as has Bill Bewick Sr. who shepherded it through the bidding process and has been in constant contact with the sculptor throughout and continues to do so. My sincere thank-you to all.

Kind regards,

Mark Milke, President
Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary



Winston Churchill, 1874–1965, by Douglas Chandor (1897–1953), Oil on canvas, 1946, Gift of Bernard Mannes Baruch, National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC.

Board of Directors, 2021-22

President	Mark Milke
Vice President and Leadership Initiative Chair	Heather Coleman
Past President	Steven T. Robertson
Executive Treasurer	Kim Moody
Secretary	Natashia Halikowski
Events-Socials	Angela Kalias
Newsletter editor	David Holmes
Communications	Devin Iversen
Mount Royal University Liaison	Kim Davies
High School Debate Liaison	Elisa Frank
Fundraising chair	Gerald Chipeur
Directors at Large:	
	John Baycroft
	Bill Bewick Sr.
	David Hood
	Sheri MacMillan
	James Maxim
	Greg Stebbe

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

www.churchillcalgary.ca

WinstonChurchillAB@gmail.com



THE
SIR WINSTON
CHURCHILL
SOCIETY OF CALGARY

— Founded 1966 —

Patron: Randolph Churchill III