



Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary

Patron: The Lady Soames, L.G., D.B.E

May 2014

President: Steven T. Robertson

Dr. David J. Bercuson

To Address Calgary Churchillians



The 48th Annual Banquet of the Sir Winston Churchill Society of Calgary

**Thursday, May 29th, 2014 at 6:00 pm
The Ranchmen's Club at 710 – 13th Ave SW**

Topic: "Churchill and King: Mars meets Venus during the Second World War".

Dr. David J. Bercuson

David Bercuson was born in Montreal in August 1945. He attended Sir George Williams University, graduating in June 1966 with Honours in History and winning the Lieutenant-Governor's Silver Medal for the highest standing in history. After graduation he pursued graduate studies at the University of Toronto, earning an MA in history in 1967 and a Ph.D. in 1971.

Dr. Bercuson has published in academic and popular publications on a wide range of topics specializing in modern Canadian politics, Canadian defence and foreign policy, and Canadian military history. He has written, coauthored, or edited over 30 popular and academic books and does regular commentary for television and radio. He has written for the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star, the Calgary Herald, the National Post and other newspapers.

In 1988, Bercuson was elected to the Royal Society of Canada and in May 1989, he was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies at The University of Calgary. In 1997 he was appointed Special Advisor to the Minister of National Defence on the Future of the Canadian Forces. He was a member of the Minister of National Defence's Monitoring Committee from 1997 to 2003. He served on the Advisory Council on National Security from 2005 to 2008. Since January 1997 he has been the Director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies at the University of Calgary. Currently he is also the Director of Programs of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute, which is based in Calgary and the Director International Policy for the University's School of Public Policy.

Dr. Bercuson served as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of 41 Combat Engineer Regiment, a Land Force Reserve military engineer unit of the Canadian Forces until November 2010. He was a member of Board of Governors of the Royal Military College of Canada from 2007 to 2013.

In 2002 Dr. Bercuson was awarded the J. B. Tyrrell Historical Medal from the Royal Society of Canada. In 2003, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. Dr. Bercuson's newest book *Long Night of the Tankers: Hitler's war Against Caribbean Oil* will be published in June, 2014

From the President's Desk:

Steven T. Robertson

This is my first report as President of your Calgary Sir Winston Churchill Society. I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to serve the Society in that capacity.

Dinners

Our keynote speaker for the 47th Annual Memorial Banquet was Professor Lynn Olson, who addressed the Society on a "Racing against time: Roosevelt, Churchill, Lindbergh and America's fight over World War II". Professor Olson's address on June 8, 2013 was well received by the members.

We followed that up with our fall meeting on November 19, 2013 at which Colonel John D. Conrad MSN, CD, addressed us on his experiences in Afghanistan in 2006.

This year's Memorial Banquet will be held on May 29th, 2014, at the Ranchman's Club and will feature Professor David Burcuson, O.C., of the University of Calgary Centre for Military and Strategic Studies. Dr. Burcuson's address is entitled "Churchill and King: Mars meets Venus during the Second World War". We anticipate this will be a sold out event and recommend you purchase your tickets early. The usual ticket order forms were posted April 18, 2014.

Board of Directors

A new board was elected at the Annual General Meeting October 30, 2013 and at the November 25, 2013 Directors Meeting a month following, a new executive was elected. The 2013-2014 officers and board of directors consist as follows:

President	Steven T. Robertson
Past President	Robert W. Thompson, QC
Vice President	Vacant
Executive Treasurer	Herb Snowdon
Non-Executive Treasurer	Greg Stebbe
Executive Secretary	Megan Stoker
Secretariat	Randall Iversen
Directors at Large:	Lori Williams
	Devin Iversen
	The Hon. Blair Mason, QC
	The Hon. J.D. Bruce McDonald, QC JA
	Chris Tesarski
	Ted Morton
	Trevor Lynn
	Peter Boyle
	Sam Armstrong
	John Baycroft (appointed March 2014)

Contact: Randall Iversen (Secretariat)
(403) 286-4371
Email: randy.iversen@shaw.ca
www.WinstonChurchillAB.org

On behalf of the Board, I would like acknowledge and thank our retiring director John C. Armstrong for his years of exemplary service on behalf of the Society. Many of you will know that John was instrumental in acquiring charitable organization status for the Society.

We also thank retiring board members W. Gordon Brown, Q.C., and Codie Chisholm, who served as Executive Secretary from 2011 to 2013. Thanks also to Robert W. Thompson, Q.C., who after two terms as President will continue to be active as a Past President of the Society.

Churchill Bust

Since our last annual memorial dinner on June 8th, much progress has been made in commissioning a bronze bust of Sir Winston Churchill under the guidance of Bob Thompson.

On September 23, 2013, the Directors of The Sir Winston Churchill Society approved a commission contract with Loch Gallery and Peter Sawatzky for the sculpting of a bronze bust of Sir Winston Churchill. The bronze bust is, as previously reported to the members, intended to be located in the foyer of the Sir Winston Churchill High School here in Calgary.

Unfortunately, because of an injury sustained by Mr. Sawatzky he was not able to commence work on the bust until February of this year. However, since that time he has actively been engaged in preparing the mould for the bust. On April 25, we received photographs of the plasticine model of the bust, the most recent appears in this newsletter and I think we should be very pleased. The model will be approved by the Matthews family and the Board of Directors. Once that approval is given, a bronze cast will be finalized by Mr. Sawatzky. It is hoped that all of this will be completed if not by the fall of this year then by early 2015.



Donations

2013 saw a number of significant donations made to the Society. Donations received have increased the Society's endowment at the Calgary Foundation. The interest earned on these funds is used to support the Society's speech and debate programs. We continue to seek additional support by way of donation, testament or gifts and life insurance planning. All contributions are entitled to a general receipt.

Annual Churchill Society High School Debate Results

By: Trevor Lynn

The Sir Winston Churchill debates are held annually in November at Sir Winston Churchill High School. Due to the support of your society, the Calgary Herald and the enthusiasm of the debaters from Calgary and surrounding areas, this debate is a highlight of the year and widely regarded as the premiere event of the season. 2013 was no exception.

Every room of the school was put to its full use due to unprecedented attendance. This debate could not occur without the volunteers including parent judges, The Alberta Debate and Speech Association who ran the statistics centre and tabulated the results, the coaches and particularly the staff of Sir Winston Churchill High School. Sir Winston Churchill high school also recruited over 100 student volunteers who are not members of the debate program to act as timekeepers for each room.

The Society would particularly like to thank Nancy Rehder who is the coach of the Sir Winston Churchill team for organizing the event as well as Arvin Rajan Principal of Sir Winston Churchill high school. Members of the board met with Mr. Rajan in order to facilitate the installation of a bust of Sir Winston which will occur later this year. This was the last year that Randall Iversen acted as debate coordinator for the society. Mr. Iversen is the former debate coach and event organizer at the high school and has served for many years as the debate coordinator for your society. He has made an immeasurably positive contribution to the memory of Sir Winston through his leadership in ensuring the success of this event and our debate program. Mr. Iversen remains in charge of the society's secretariat and has passed the debate responsibilities on to Trevor Lynn, a former winner of the tournament. Past President Robert W. Thompson, QC attended the event as well and spoke on behalf of the society.

The results of the tournament are as follows:

Beginner Speakers

1. Bryan Ma - Western
2. Candace Cho - Western
3. Brad Hauck - Dr EP Scarlett

Beginner Teams

1. Bryan Ma and Candace Cho - Western
2. Noah Pinno and Navin Kariyawasam - Churchill
3. Brad Hauk and William MacDonald – E.P. Scarlett

Open Speakers

1. Serigo Montanez - Dr EP Scarlett
2. Ian Chang – Webber Academy
3. Ainsley MacDougall - Strathcona Tweedsmuir

Open Teams

1. Serigo Montanez and Jeremy Foxcroft - Dr. EP Scarlett
2. Aron Lai and Alif Karmali - Western
3. Christina McGirr and Shamaila Anjum – Westmount

Please join us in congratulating the winners. Members who attend the dinner will have the opportunity to meet some of these students and their coaches.



Winning Beginner Teams



Senior Open Winning Team



Our Past President Robert Thompson

Mount Royal University Moot Court Report

By: Lori Williams

Mount Royal University's Moot Court exercise involves an appeal of a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision dealing with Charter rights. The moot exercise is part of a political science course taken by students in policy studies, justice studies, journalism and a variety of other majors. MRU students act as justices, lawyers, researchers and journalists, presenting arguments and asking questions during the moot hearing, and deciding whether or not to allow the appeal from the Supreme Court of Canada. Each year we hold three moot court exercises, two in the fall semester, and one in the winter semester. Last year the Churchill Society awarded three Moot Court Scholarships to the top student in each moot exercise at our annual banquet. The winners were William Schultz, Kyle Benna and David Wahler. The Moot Court Scholarship winners for 2013-14 are Rachel Schreurs, Jeremy Harvey and Cheice Sorbie.

FALL 2013 and WINTER 2014: Exclusion of evidence obtained in violation of Charter rights

***R. v. Sinclair* Access to Counsel during police questioning**

On November 28, 2013 we conducted an appeal of the Supreme Court Decision in *R. v. Sinclair*, which raised the question of whether an accused is constitutionally entitled to continuous or repeated access to their lawyer during police interrogations [s. 10(b) of the Charter]. The Supreme Court majority ruled that an accused is entitled to only one consultation with counsel, allowing for reconsultation only when circumstances materially change. The dissenting justices profoundly disagreed with the majority position, arguing that it could preclude an accused from getting meaningful, informed legal advice. They were also concerned that such limited access could threaten other Charter rights, including the right to silence, to be presumed innocent, and against self-incrimination. With 'Chief Justices' Patrick Sullivan and Blair Mason presiding over two moot hearings, one of our moot groups allowed the appeal in part, adopting a new standard for access to counsel and finding that there had been a breach of Mr. Sinclair's right to counsel. Despite finding a Charter violation, they decided to admit the evidence in this case.

***R. v. MacKenzie* Legality of a roadside detention and search**

Our March 27, 2014 moot heard an appeal of the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *R. v. MacKenzie*. This case asks whether a sniffer dog search following a traffic stop met the constitutional requirement of reasonable suspicion, or violated his s. 8 right against unreasonable search and seizure and his s. 9 right against arbitrary detention. If a Charter breach did occur, the Court had to decide whether the evidence obtained should be excluded or admitted under s. 24(2). The Supreme Court was split 5:4 over the s. 8 and 9 violations, and on whether the evidence should be excluded, but the majority found no breach. Under the leadership of 'Chief Justice' Brian O'Ferrall, a majority of MRU student justices concluded that there was a Charter violation, raising concerns that to do otherwise could justify random sniffer dog searches. However since the breach was relatively minor, and the evidence [31.5 pounds of marijuana] was essential to convict Mr. MacKenzie of a serious offense, the evidence should be admitted.

These exercises are collaborative efforts, and would not be possible without the support of Alberta Court justices, Bennett

Jones LLP, Walsh LLP and the Crown Prosecutor's office. We extend thanks to Blair Mason from the Human Rights Commission and former QB justice, Justices Patrick Sullivan from the Court of Queen's Bench and Brian O'Ferrall from the Court of Appeal for serving as Chief Justices in our moot court exercises. We are also grateful for the guidance and support of Bennett Jones counsel Michael Mysak, Jason Roth, Allison Sears, Codie Chisholm, Chelsea Hermanson, Adam Hassan, David Wahl, Tatum Woywitka, Aaron Rankin, Amy Cooper and Dominic Puglia, Brendan Miller and Josh Sutherland from Walsh LLP and Mike Ewanson from the Crown Prosecutor's office.

Winter Dinner

By: Peter Boyle

On the 19th of November, the society held its annual Winter dinner at the Ranchmen's Club. The guest speaker for the evening was Colonel John Conrad, MSM, CD who is the current Commander of 41 Canadian Brigade Group, The Army Reserve formation in Alberta. Colonel Conrad spoke of his time as the Commander of Canada's National Support Element in Afghanistan during the summer of 2006. The National Support Element was responsible for all of the Combat Service Support (Logistics and Maintenance) to the Canadian Task Force throughout the Area of Operations which centred on Kandahar Province in Southern Afghanistan.



The summer of 2006 would be the first deployment of Canadian Soldiers to Kandahar Province and the beginning of combat operations not seen by the Canadian Army since Korea. Colonel Conrad opened by talking about Sir Winston's experience in the River War and views on logistics in general. Sir Winston has been quoted as saying that if "Victory is the bright coloured flower. Transport is the stem without which it could never have blossomed."

Colonel Conrad spoke about the very challenging environment of Kandahar Province with temperatures reaching well into the 50 degree Celsius range and the ubiquitous dust that would find its way into everything. This was extremely challenging from a Maintenance perspective and keeping the Battle Group's fleet of armoured vehicles on the road was always a priority. Other challenges that came from providing Combat Service Support in Kandahar Province was the vast area involved. Supply lines stretched over 300 KM's and re-supply was by Combat Logistics Patrols which were large convoys which navigated the difficult terrain. These convoys were also responsible for their own force protection which meant that they were heavily armed and routinely engaged with insurgents when they encountered ambushes and Improvised Explosive Devices. Colonel Conrad brought a unique perspective on the Canadian involvement in Afghanistan.

Photo: Prime Minister Harper and Colonel Conrad (right), Afghanistan