

A royal welcome in Canada for Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth's recent 14-day visit to Canada marked the two-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists who fled to Canada in the wake of the American War of Independence. It was also a time for celebrating the bicentennials of New Brunswick and Ontario as well as the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Toronto.

The Queen was warmly welcomed and she rekindled the loyalties of many Canadians as she helped mark these auspicious occasions. The September 24 to October 7 tour, with two days in New Brunswick, nine days in Ontario and three days in Manitoba, was her fourteenth visit to Canada since she and Prince Philip first toured the country in 1951, and her thirteenth as reigning monarch.

New Brunswick celebration

Greeted by brilliant sunshine and an enthusiastic crowd, the Queen and Prince Philip started their Canadian tour in Moncton, New Brunswick. They were welcomed by Governor General Jeanne Sauvé, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governor George Stanley and Premier Richard Hatfield.

At a gala dinner in the city, the Queen praised New Brunswick as an international model for having "proven that intolerance can be overcome". She referred to the province's settlement centuries ago by the Malecite and Micmac Indians, the Acadians, the United Empire Loyalists, Irish, Scots and other Europeans. And she added that "the French and the British at first fought over this land but their descendants learned to live here in harmony and to have

a common purpose".

The Queen's speech came after a day in Fredericton, the provincial capital, where the royal couple was greeted by more than 20 000 people at Wilmot Park. They also attended a church service at Christ Church Cathedral, where the Queen and the Duke signed a bible first presented to the city by Edward, Prince of Wales, in 1860.

From Moncton, the Queen and Prince Philip flew to Ottawa, the nation's capital, for a three-hour visit at the start of their Ontario tour. Mr. Mulroney welcomed them to Ottawa, referring to the monarchy's importance to the Commonwealth and Canada.

"Canadians look to your visit as a symbol of renewed unity, of the values and bonds we share in common, of the unique links we have developed as a people across this great land," he said.

The prime minister added that, 1984 being "the year of the Loyalists", it is fitting the royal couple help celebrate the bicentennial of the Loyalists' arrival in Canada.

Tour along Loyalist settlements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh then travelled to Morrisburg where she had toured several seaway towns to mark the opening of the just-completed St. Lawrence Seaway 25 years ago. On this occasion, she visited Morrisburg, Cornwall, Prescott, Kingston and Amherstview. They are all in Eastern Ontario where large numbers of Loyalists settled in the years after the American Revolution.

The Royal couple also visited Fort Wellington which was built by the British in the War of 1812 to protect the St. Lawrence



Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney arrive on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

River, then the lifeline between Upper and Lower Canada. Representing the original United Empire Loyalists, soldiers in green and white uniforms, in red coats and Black Watch tartan kilts, as well as a ragtag assortment of infantry in linen breeches, paraded for the royal couple.

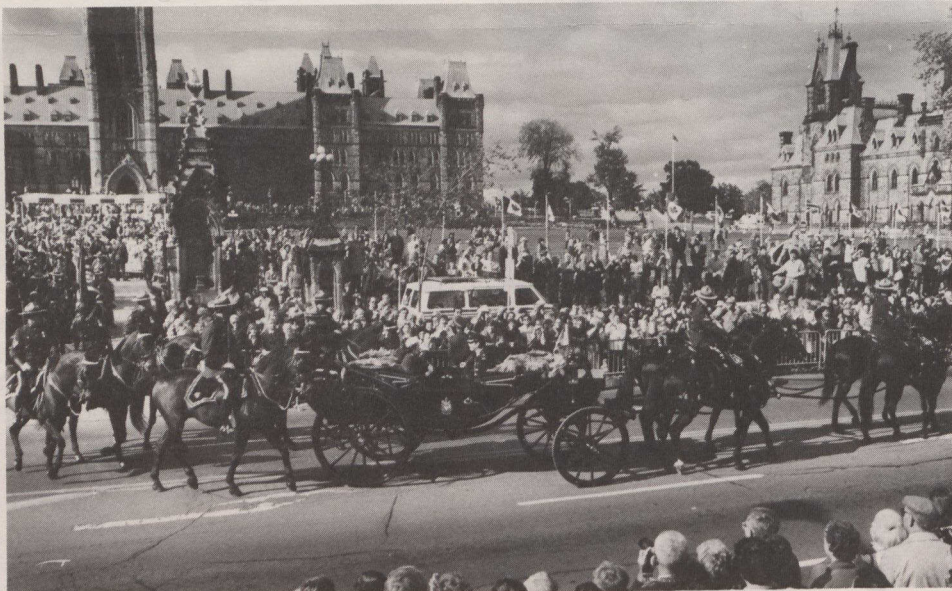
In Amherstview, the Queen and Prince Philip viewed a re-enactment of the Mohawks' landing in 1784 and met with members of the Mohawk native community. The Mohawks were one of the six Indian nations who allied with the British, smuggling silver and a Queen Anne's Bible across the border from New York State after the American Revolution. The items were given to the Mohawks in 1710 for their loyalty to Britain.

During the meeting with members of the native community, the Queen designated the 200-year-old Chapel of the Mohawks, an historic site. Erected in 1785, the chapel was the first Protestant church built in Ontario.

Special celebrations in Toronto

In their first visit to Toronto in 11 years, the royal couple toured in the city's central area, visited an ethnic community, watched a glittering show of regimental pageantry, took part in an ecumenical service and planted two trees near the legislative building. Prince Philip presented the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Certificates of Achievement to 110 young people.

At the ceremony at Queen's Park officially welcoming her to the city, Queen Elizabeth said that the province of Ontario's commit-



The Queen and Prince Philip ride to Rideau Hall in an open landau.