

The Institute for the Study of the Crown in Canada at Massey College
L'Institut d'études sur la Couronne au Canada à Massey College

Newsletter

April 2017

This is our first communication since the highly successful conference on the Crown held at Government House, Victoria, in January 2016. The past year has been a time for re-orienting the Institute for the Study of the Crown in Canada. We are fortunate that our founding president, **John Fraser**, is able to continue in that position. **Paul Benoit** and **Richard Berthelsen** have stepped down from the executive; we thank them for their service and hope to still benefit from their advice.

We welcome to the executive **Carolyn Harris** of Toronto, noted young scholar of the Crown; **Christopher McCreery** of Halifax, prolific author, particularly in the field of honours; and **Nathan Tidridge**, prominent secondary school teacher and writer, of Waterdown, ON. **Philippe Lagassé** of Ottawa continues as our director of research and myself as vice-president and secretary, in Regina.

We see the vocation of the Institute as continuing to...

- Enhance understanding of Canada's federal and provincial constitutional arrangements and, in particular, the role of the Crown.
- Broaden knowledge of the constitutional role of the Crown ; the impartial head-of-state functions performed by the sovereign, the governor general, and the lieutenant governors; and Canada's honours and symbols of authority.

This we endeavour to achieve by...

- Holding periodic policy conferences, as in Ottawa (2010), Regina (2012) and Victoria (2016).
- Publishing books and articles, in print and online.
- Providing resources for media comment and for general and scholarly study of the Crown.

The Institute is currently working on the second of its series with Dundurn Press, following Nathan Tidridge's *The Queen at the Council Fire* (2015). This book will reflect on the Crown at the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

We thank Hugh Segal, Master of Massey College in the University of Toronto, for permitting the Institute to retain its connection with the College, notably the handling of our modest finances!

Michael Jackson

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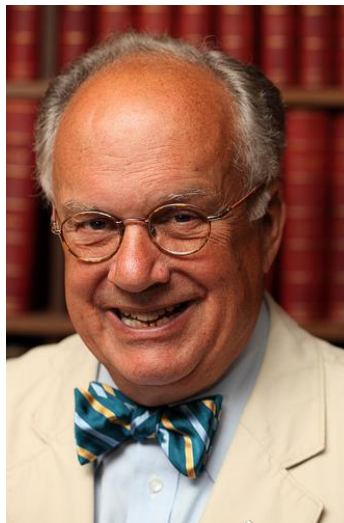
Message from the President

Greetings to all our friends across the country. The Institute chugs along at its own gracious speed and we have some successes and initiatives to be proud of. Our vice-president, Michael Jackson, has written above of the conference in Victoria, which was a wonderful success, and our plans to hold regular such conferences over the coming years.

Our official headquarters remains Massey College, University of Toronto, which will soon have the honour of being the home of the first-ever interdenominational Chapel Royal, the third in the country. The first two have been honoured by the Crown, thanks to the association between the Sovereign and the Mohawk Nation. This one at Massey, which hopes to symbolize reconciliation, is allied to the Mississauga at New Credit First Nation. Although this is not a project of the Institute for the Study of the Crown, they have a symbiotic relationship thanks to the Massey College shared links and a proposed book on the history of the chapels royal in Canada to be published by Dundurn Press, the Institute's official publisher.

For my part, I can express considerable gratitude that our guiding ethos – to make sure Canadians better understand the historic and continuing role the Crown plays in our country – continues to resonate. We don't proselytize for the Crown, nor do we attack alternative solutions to constitutional government such as republicanism. Instead, we try to ensure that what we do have, what has evolved over 150 years of nationhood and even far longer, is not allowed to wither for lack of attention, and by attention I mean solid research, astute reasoning and eloquent analysis. It is the academic, historical and governmental perspectives that have largely been absent from any discussions of the Crown and we aim to remedy that situation.

John Fraser



News Items

In 2016, **Philippe Lagassé**, director of research for the Institute, was appointed Chair, William and Jeanie Barton Chair in International Affairs, and Associate Professor of International Affairs at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University.



His research focuses on defence policy and military procurement, as well as civil-military relations and the role of institutions in international policy-making in the Westminster tradition. He teaches courses on defence policy and strategic studies.

Congratulations to **the Honourable Hugh Segal, OC**, Master of Massey College and former Senator, on being promoted to Officer of the Order of Canada “for his commitment to public service and to effective public policy as a scholar and senator”.



Christopher McCreery has published *Fifty Years Honouring Canadians: The Order of Canada, 1967-2017* (Toronto: Dundurn Press), which provides a pictorial history of the Order, its development over the past fifty years and the Canadians key to its establishment. Foreword by Jean Vanier, CC, GOQ.



Soon to appear is another book by the indefatigable Dr. McCreery, *The Order of Canada: Genesis of an Honours System* (University of Toronto Press), a detailed and scholarly history of the Order and the development of the Canadian honours system from pre-Confederation times to the present. Prefatory message from The Queen, and foreword by the Governor General. This work will be released in May.



Carolyn Harris, another of our prolific authors on Crown topics, has just published *Raising Royalty: 1000 Years of Royal Parenting* (Toronto: Dundurn Press). “William and Kate, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, are setting trends for millions of parents around the world. The upbringing of their two children, Prince George and Princess Charlotte, is the focus of intense popular scrutiny. Royalty have always raised their children in the public eye and attracted praise or criticism according to parenting standards of their day.”

Nathan Tidridge published an article in *Maclean's* on March 28, to mark the 150th anniversary of Queen Victoria giving Royal Assent to the *British North America Act*: “It’s Time to Embrace the Mother of Confederation’.” <http://www.macleans.ca/news/canada/its-time-to-embrace-the-mother-of-confederation/>



Other Publications of Interest

Dundurn Press (Toronto)

Carolyn Harris. *Magna Carta and Its Gifts to Canada* (2015)

D. Michael Jackson. *The Crown and Canadian Federalism* (2013)

Christopher McCreery. *The Canadian Honours System*, Second Edition (2015)

Nathan Tidridge. *The Queen at the Council Fire: The Treaty of Niagara, Reconciliation, and the Dignified Crown in Canada* (2015) (first in the collection of the Institute for the Study of the Crown in Canada)

Nathan Tidridge. *Prince Edward, Duke of Kent: Father of the Canadian Crown* (2013)

Éditions Yvon Blais (Montréal)

Michel Bédard & Philippe Lagassé, editors. *La Couronne et le Parlement /The Crown and Parliament* (2015) (outcome of the conference “The Crown and Parliament,” held in Ottawa by the Canadian Study of Parliament Group, 2014)

House of Anansi Press (Toronto)

John Fraser. *The Secret of the Crown: Canada’s Affair with Royalty* (2012)

McGill-Queen’s University Press (Montréal & Kingston)

Publications of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, Queen’s University

D. Michael Jackson & Philippe Lagassé, editors. *Canada and the Crown: Essays on Constitutional Monarchy* (2013) (outcome of the Institute’s second conference, “The Crown in Canada: A Diamond Jubilee Assessment,” held at Government House, Regina, 2012)

Jennifer Smith & D. Michael Jackson, editors. *The Evolving Canadian Crown* (2012) (outcome of the Institute’s first conference, “The Crown in Canada: Present Realities and Future Options,” held at The Senate, Ottawa, 2010)

Oxford University Press Canada

Andrew Heard. *Canadian Constitutional Conventions*, Second Edition (2014)

Oxford University Press UK

Philip Murphy. *Monarchy and the End of Empire* (2013)

University of Toronto Press

Michael Asch. *On Being Here to Stay: Treaties and Aboriginal Rights in Canada* (2014)

***The Crown in the 21st Century: Deference or Drift?***

This was the title of the conference held at Government House in Victoria in January 2016, co-sponsored by the Government House Foundation of British Columbia and the Institute for the Study of the Crown in Canada. 130 people, from seven provinces and three territories, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, registered for the conference, among them the Lieutenant Governors of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador and the Commissioners of the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut. **The Honourable Judith Guichon**, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, was host and honorary chair, and **John Fraser**, president of the Institute, was conference chair.

Topics were royal succession, the monarchy and the Commonwealth, government formation in Canada, Crown and constitution in the UK, politics and the Crown, the Crown and the Courts, the role of the Crown's representatives, and Indigenous peoples and the Crown.

Keynote addresses were given by **Anne Twomey** (University of Sydney, Australia), **Philip Murphy** (Institute for Commonwealth Studies, University of London) (via video), and **Robert Hazell** (University College of London).

Panelists included **Hugo Cyr** (Université du Québec à Montréal), **Barbara Messamore** (University of the Fraser Valley), **Peter Boyce** (University of Tasmania, Australia), **Kady O'Malley** (CBC journalist), **Sean Palmer** (Parliamentary Services of New Zealand), **Philippe Lagassé** (University of Ottawa), **Warren Newman** and **Jonathan Shanks** (Department of Justice of Canada), **Richard Berthelsen** (Institute for the Study of the Crown), **Christopher McCreery** (Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia), **Michael Asch** (University of Victoria), **Celeste Haldane** (Acting Treaty Commissioner for British Columbia), and **Nathan Tidridge** (Ontario Heritage Trust).

In addition to the above participants, **Andrew Heard** (Simon Fraser University), **Michael Jackson** (Institute for the Study of the Crown), and **the Honourable Steven Point** (former Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia) chaired conference sessions.



Hon. Judith Guichon



Professor Anne Twomey



Le Doyen Hugo Cyr

Some of conference papers, together with other contributions, are being published on behalf of the Institute by the University of Alberta's Centre for Constitutional Studies in a special issue of its *Review of Constitutional Studies*. This issue will be available both online and in print form. As soon as it is available, we'll send you the details.

