

THE HERITAGE YORK REPORTER

Winter 2017

Heritage York at Lambton House, 4066 Old Dundas Street, York, ON M6S 2R6

T: 416-767-5472 admin@lambtonhouse.org www.lambtonhouse.org

Lieutenant Governor to speak at Heritage York's Annual Dinner



Ontario's Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell will be the guest of honour at our twenty-third Annual Dinner on February 18, 2017.

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell was invested as Ontario's 29th Lieutenant Governor on September 23, 2014. Her eclectic public service career has spanned provincial, federal, and international borders, and has transcended disciplinary and sectoral lines.

Ms. Dowdeswell began her professional career as a teacher and university lecturer. After serving as the Deputy Minister of Culture and Youth for the Government of Saskatchewan, she held increasingly senior positions in the Canadian public service, most notably as head of the Atmospheric Environment Service. Throughout this period, she managed several public inquiries and royal commissions.

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The Heritage York Reporter is published by Heritage York, 4066 Old Dundas Street, York, Ontario M6S 2R6.

President: Michael Freeman

Vice President: Mary Louise Ashbourne

Secretary-Treasurer: Margo Duncan

Membership Secretary: Madeleine McDowell

Membership

The annual membership fees in Heritage York:

Family	\$25
Adult	\$15
Senior (60+)	\$10
Junior (14 and under)	\$10

Membership is open to all interested individuals and societies. Membership includes this publication, notice of our annual general meeting, advance notices of all events, a special members and friends' reception and discount rates on rentals.

Submissions and Advertising

Inquiries concerning submissions and advertising rates should be directed to Heritage York.

Tel (416) 767-5472

email: admin@lambtonhouse.org

Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Donations

Heritage York's registered charity number is 893266379. All donations should be made out to Heritage York and mailed to the address above. Donations may also be made online through canadahelps.org. All donations of \$10 or more will receive an official tax receipt.

President's Message

The 25th anniversary year of Heritage York has come to an end. As we look back at the contributions that have been made by so many to the work of our heritage society I want to recognize the very special contributions made by our many supporters to the success of our first 22 annual fundraising dinners. The money we raise at this event is crucial to keeping Lambton House open to all.

This year we are thrilled to have as our guest and speaker the Ontario Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, OC, OOnt. Whether this will be your first or 23rd Dinner, please join us on February 18th for our annual Heritage York fundraiser.

Your contributions to the success of our community fundraisers have made a real difference, as have the many volunteers who work behind the scenes. For all but one year, our members hustled as they prepared the dinner, which was brought to Lambton House ready to be consumed on tables loaded with flowers and treats. Potables flowed; ours is an old-style community dinner.

This year we follow our custom of involving the local community and extend our genuine appreciation to the members and associates of the Royal Canadian Legion who will not only open their doors to us but also provide our traditional meal.

I would be seriously remiss if I did not thank the many contributors to our silent auction – the local businesses and our families – and the many other Heritage York supporters who also come together with us for an evening of fun, good food and great conversation.

We look forward to reacquainting with you and meeting new supporters at the Legion. Tickets are available through the Lambton House office and our Board members.

Join us too throughout the year for our many other events during Canada and Ontario's celebration of the 150th Anniversary at Lambton House.

*Michael Freeman, President
Heritage York*

Sir William Pearce Howland: A plaque, a person and his biographer

Our stories of remarkable Canadians contribute to what we know about ourselves 150 years after Confederation. Heritage York is launching its year of celebration with one such account and one storyteller.

Lambton House, once owned by the Howlands, is the site of an Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque commemorating Sir William Pearce Howland as a figure of national significance.

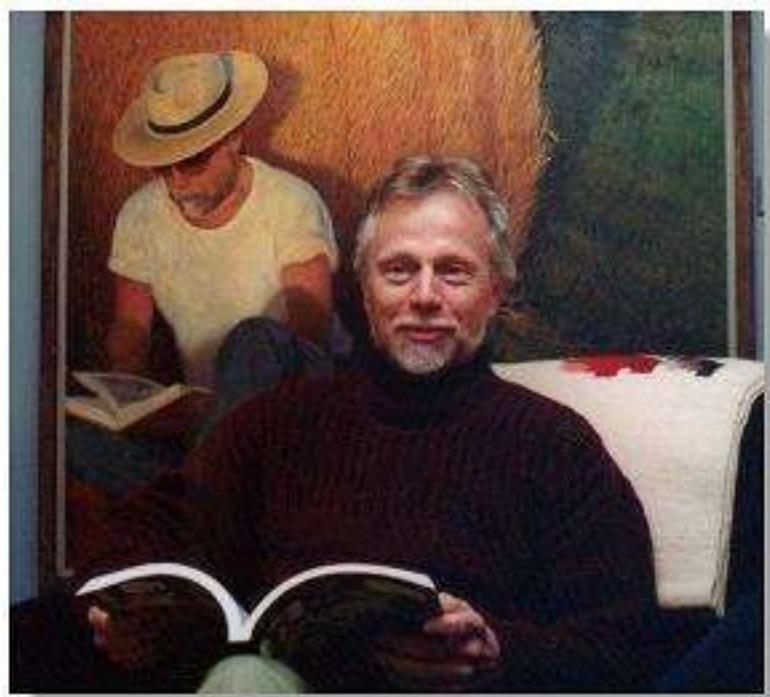
Sir William Pearce Howland (1811 –1907), after whom the annual lecture is named, is distinguished as the only Father of Canadian Confederation born in the United States. W. P. Howland served as the second, but Ontario's first full-time, Lieutenant Governor from 1868 to 1873. He is recognized for his prominence as a Toronto business leader and for his philanthropy.

R.B (Rae) Fleming, our 2017 Howland Lecturer, is the author of the profile of Sir William Pearce Howland, KCMG CB PC, appearing in the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*.

On January 12, we bring together the three – the plaque, the person and his biographer – at one of the Howland's businesses, Lambton House, to learn more about nation building and the life and pursuits of Sir William Pearce Howland.

R.B. Fleming (MA, PhD) is a prolific biographer and historian whose published works include two local histories, *Eldon Connections* (1975) and *Argyle, A Pioneer Village* (1976); a biography of a Sir William Mackenzie (*The Railway King of Canada*, 1991); a picture book about Canadians who came out to see King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1939 (*The Royal Tour of Canada*, 2002); and a well illustrated book about Canadian general stores called *General Stores of Canada: Merchants and Memories*.

He has edited several books, including *Boswell's Children, The Art of the Biography* (1994), which includes his own essay on Mackenzie; and *The Wartime Letters of Leslie & Cecil Frost*, for which Fleming wrote an extensive introduction.



Photograph by Toni Wrake

His latest book is *Peter Gzowski, A Biography*, an acclaimed portrait of one of Canada's greatest broadcast journalists.

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The Creation of Canada

1791-2017

1791 – The Constitutional Act of the British Parliament created the areas of Upper and Lower Canada, the first step towards Canadian confederation.

1839 – The Report on the Affairs of British North America, commonly known as the Durham Report, recommended the union of the Canadas.

1841 – Upper and Lower Canada are joined to form the Province of Canada with Canada East and Canada West.

1867 – July 1 The Dominion of Canada is formed and the British North American Act (BNA) ratified by the Parliaments of Canada and Britain. Four provinces are included: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

1869 – The Dominion of Canada purchased the Northwest Territories from the Hudson's Bay Company.

1870 – Manitoba becomes the fifth province to join Canada.

1871 – British Columbia becomes the sixth province to join Canada.

1873 – Prince Edward Island becomes the seventh province to join Canada.

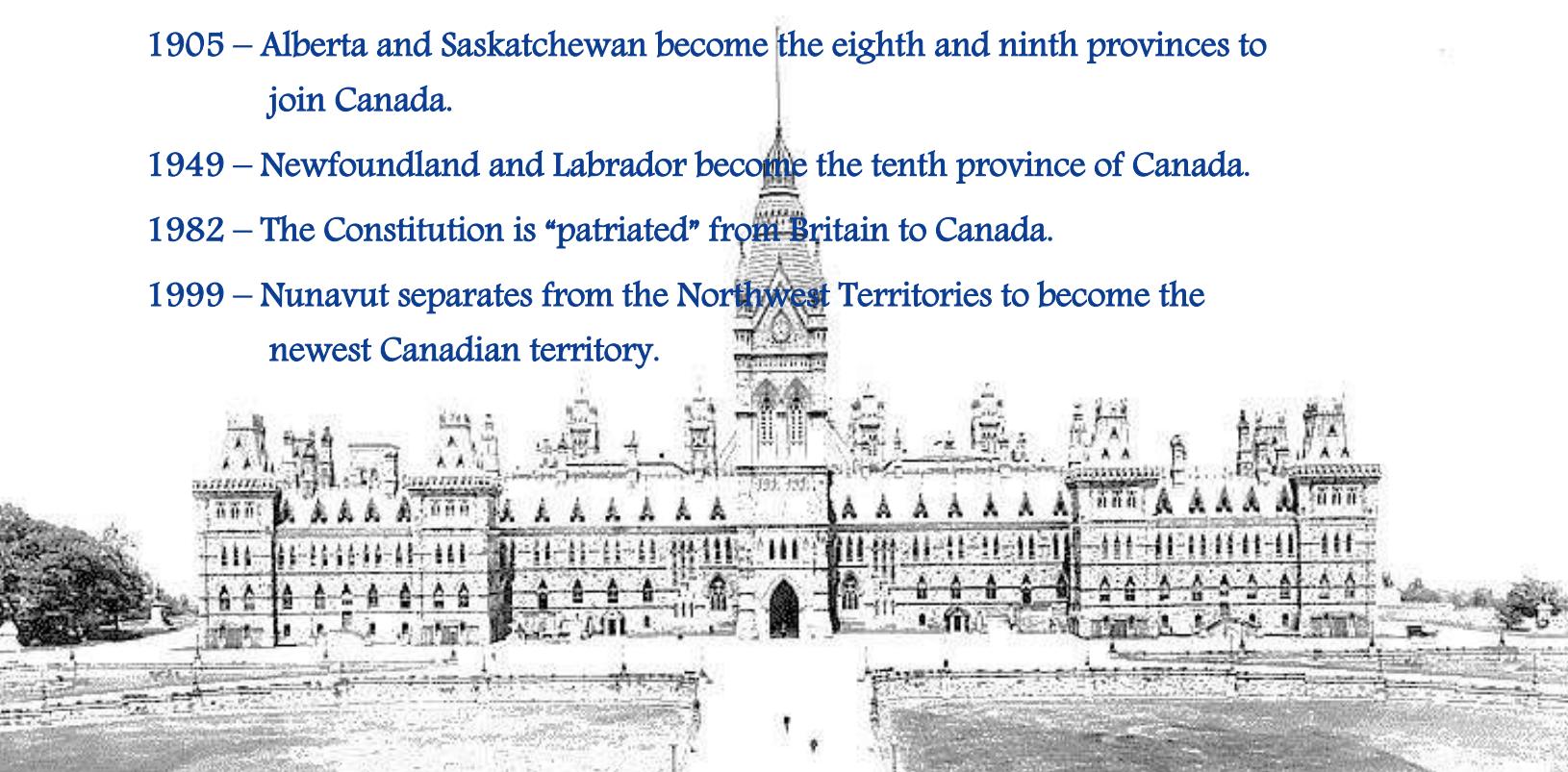
1898 – Yukon becomes the second territory to join Canada.

1905 – Alberta and Saskatchewan become the eighth and ninth provinces to join Canada.

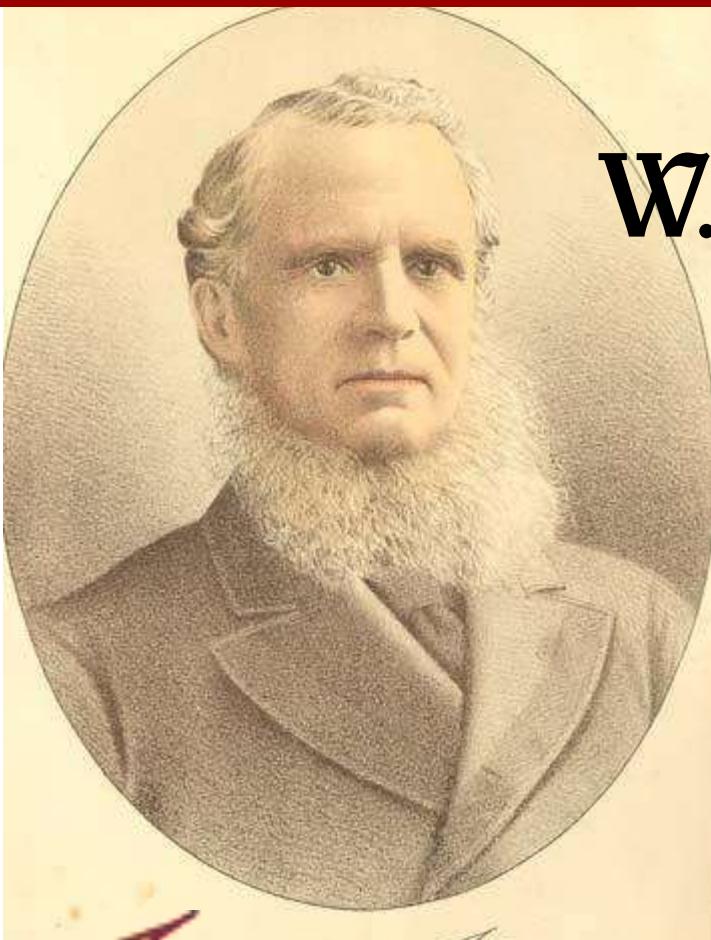
1949 – Newfoundland and Labrador become the tenth province of Canada.

1982 – The Constitution is “patriated” from Britain to Canada.

1999 – Nunavut separates from the Northwest Territories to become the newest Canadian territory.



The Fourth Annual Howland Lecture



W.P. Howland

An important voice in
the making of Canada

with
R.B. (Rae) Fleming

A historian and writer, Fleming is also
recipient of Lieutenant Governor's
Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2010.

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Doors open 6:30pm * Talk at 7:30pm

Free admission * Refreshments

Sponsored by



Lambton House

4066 Old Dundas Street, York M6S 2R6

TTC bus 55 stops at the door

www.lambtonhouse.org





The intriguing history of the Canadian flag

Before the Maple Leaf

Few realize that until 1965 and the formal adoption of the maple-leaf based flag there was no official Canadian flag. The Royal Union Flag or “Union Jack” (1801-1965) was Canada’s representative flag but it was never officially adopted as a national flag. Even so the flag that was considered as “Canadian” was the Red Ensign. In 1891 Governor General Lord Stanley described it as “the Flag which has come to be considered as the recognized Flag of the Dominion both afloat and ashore.”

The Red Ensign originally flew on the parliament buildings until the Royal Union flag took its place in the early 20th century. Again the Royal Union Flag lost its place to the Red Ensign within the federal government and the military.

For nearly a century, the Royal Union Flag vied with the Red Ensign (with the Coat of Arms of Canada). Following Confederation, several versions of the Red Ensign were used unofficially between 1871 and 1921 with an amalgamation of the provincial coats of arms in the fly.

Early Manitoba Confederation flag discovered in Ontario

Howard Ashbourne’s find of a Manitoba Confederation flag in a box of

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Before the Maple Leaf

Continued from previous page

royalty memorabilia last year was unexpected. The flag had a bison or buffalo-like creature at the bottom right under a St George's cross that seemed to have an additional badge superimposed on it (most likely the Royal Crown.)

The Library of Parliament was consulted about the flag the Ashournes found. They said that it was likely made after 1870 (when Manitoba joined Confederation) and before 1895 (when British Columbia's coat of arms was created. The Manitoba coat of arms on this flag seems to be inspired by the Great Seal of this province adopted on August 2, 1870, by an Order in Council. The Manitoba coat of arms wasn't officially granted to the province until 1905 so it certainly appears that this flag was made after 1870 but no later than 1905.

Historic Royal Union flags, one dating to World War I, are available for viewing at Lambton House. A contemporary imitation of the Red Ensign - commissioned to include a fly bearing the quartered arms of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1871 - is also on view at Lambton House.

Lieutenant Governor to speak at Heritage York's Annual Dinner

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Her international negotiating experiences prefaced her election in 1992 as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. Upon returning to Canada in 1998, she established an international consulting practice and became the founding President and CEO of the Nuclear Waste Management Organization.

Immediately prior to her appointment as Lieutenant Governor, Ms. Dowdeswell was the President and CEO of the Council of Canadian Academies. She has also served on numerous boards of corporate and non-profit organizations.

Ms. Dowdeswell was born in Northern Ireland and immigrated to rural Saskatchewan with her parents in 1947. She earned a Bachelor of Science in home economics and teaching certificate from the University of Saskatchewan (1966) and a Master of Science in behavioural sciences from Utah State University (1972). An Officer of the Order of Canada, Ms. Dowdeswell holds 11 honorary degrees.

Source: <http://www.lgontario.ca/en/biographies/pages/her-honour.aspx>

Our tradition of remarkable dinner presenters continues

Over the past 22 Annual Dinners our presenters have featured Bob Rae, Hagood Hardy and Dr. Larry Edwards; David Crombie; Mike Filey; Edwin Rowse; Michael Freeman; Alan Tonks; David Lewis Stein; Terry Russell; Howard Moscoe; Heather Broadbent; Peter Carruthers; Lisette Mallette; Randall Reid; Carolyn Smartz-Frost; Ed Freeman; John Sewell; Peggy and Brian Mooney; Roger Dorton; Denise Harris; Speakers' Round Table; Brent Chamberlain; and Elaine Waisglass.



Twenty-third Annual Dinner

Saturday, February 18th, 2017

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 266/046
3591 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6S 2T1

Guest speaker:
**The Honourable
Elizabeth Dowdeswell, OC, OOnt**
29th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Cocktails 6:00pm * Dinner 7:15pm * Silent auction * Cash bar

Ticket \$60 Business attire

For more information please call:

Margo Duncan (416) 761-1819
Michael Freeman (416) 766-6642
Madeleine McDowell (416) 767-7633

HERITAGE YORK 416-767-5472 admin@lambtonhouse.org

**ONTARIO
150**



Partnering with a forum theatre company to create social change

Heritage York has partnered with Mixed Company Theatre in their InterGEN Project, an initiative that worked over a three-year period to bridge the gap between older adults and youth. Designed to increase understanding between older Torontonians and teenagers, the project broke down intergenerational barriers by sensitizing both groups to the issues, realities, and concerns they had in common as well as those which potentially caused conflict.



"I forgot what it was like in my youth, and doing this project has taken me back there to help me understand the youth here."

– Senior Participant

"Through discussion with the seniors I am filling in the gaps of my knowledge."

– Teen participant

I love the fact that we're active and not just absorbing!"

– Senior participant

Mixed Company Theatre (MCT) specializes in Forum Theatre. Forum Theatre encourages social inclusion, volunteerism and community engagement as the audience is moved to offer alternative, positive options to the negative situations presented.

MCT held several workshops with the seniors of our community at Lambton House and the teens from UrbanArts Toronto, allowing 30 of our community members to explore their voices, share their stories, and find the value in their stories – especially when seeing their words being incorporated into a script. It provided them with a safe space to shed their inhibitions, using theatre to foster deeper relationships with each other, and with teenagers outside of their immediate families. Participants also discovered new ways of expressing themselves through theatre and the performing arts.

Using the inspiration from the workshops MCT created a show entitled Shelf Life, which ran for a week at the Tarragon Theatre Extraspace in December. The play depicted a snippet of time in the life of the Muncie family who, while fictionalized, embodied many of aspects that posed cause for concern to the participants in these workshops. Both the family's youth and senior members found themselves put on the shelf; and during the forum, audiences intervened and brainstormed alternative solutions.

For more information about MCT, see www.mixedcompanytheatre.com. E-mail, Facebook, twitter, or call 416-515-8080 and become involved in creating social change through theatre as well.

From martial arts hub to the Lambton House pub

Shaolin Temple Pilots



The members of Shaolin Temple Pilots met at the High Park Martial Arts dojo on Dundas Street West at Clendenan, where they train together karate and/or tai chi under sensei O'Connell.

With 25 years behind HPMA, one of the traditions is the Christmas party where members share their talents with one another: reading poems, performing skits and playing music. Earlier incarnations of the "Pilots" have performed in years past, but this group really clicked, so they are stepping out of the dojo for their first truly public performance.

The name "Shaolin Temple Pilots" is a mix up of the 90's rock band Stone Temple Pilots and the Shaolin Temple, which is a Chinese Buddhist Monastery that is considered one of the birthplaces of modern martial arts; among the seven members of the Shaolin Temple Pilots are four black belts. The music performed will be a fun, not-too-serious mix of cover songs from The Beatles to REM, Gordon Lightfoot to Weezer. Come experience their musical mojo at the Lambton House Pub Night on Friday, January 13, 2017!

High Park Martial Arts www.highparkmartialarts.ca

FOR RENT A historic venue for your celebrations

Lambton House is the perfect place for birthdays, anniversaries, bridal or baby showers, wedding receptions, retirement parties, you name it. On the main floor, the Humber and Howland Rooms can be rented individually, jointly, with or without the Servery (the kitchen area). Buffet and dining tables are available at no extra cost, with comfortable chairs for over 60 people. The Servery's two fridges, a toaster and a microwave oven, a coffeemaker and a large coffee urn, and a commercial dishwasher help food parties run smoothly. Tableware and linens as well as chafing dishes can also be rented with the total rental package.

The Blue Room on the second floor is fully equipped for meetings or small gatherings.

Our rates are very reasonable; becoming a HY member gives you an immediate 15% discount. For room capacity and more details please see the rental information on our website lambtonhouse.org, or email us at admin@lambtonhouse.org. Create your own party theme in this historic tavern or join us at a Pub Night to mark your special moment!

How to Make a Classic Montréal Tourtière

Prime Minister John A. Macdonald's bachelor life in Montréal familiarized him with the traditional Québec pork pie similar to British meat pies. This old family recipe, included in *Sir John's Table*, is courtesy of David More of Kingston, Ontario.



Pastry for a 9-inch double crust pie

1 Pound lean ground pork
½ pound regular ground beef
1 onion, finely diced
1 clove garlic, minced
½ cup water
1 ½ teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons fresh thyme, chopped or
1 tsp dried thyme, crushed
½ teaspoon ground sage
freshly ground black pepper
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 C).

Roll out pastry and place bottom crust in pie plate.

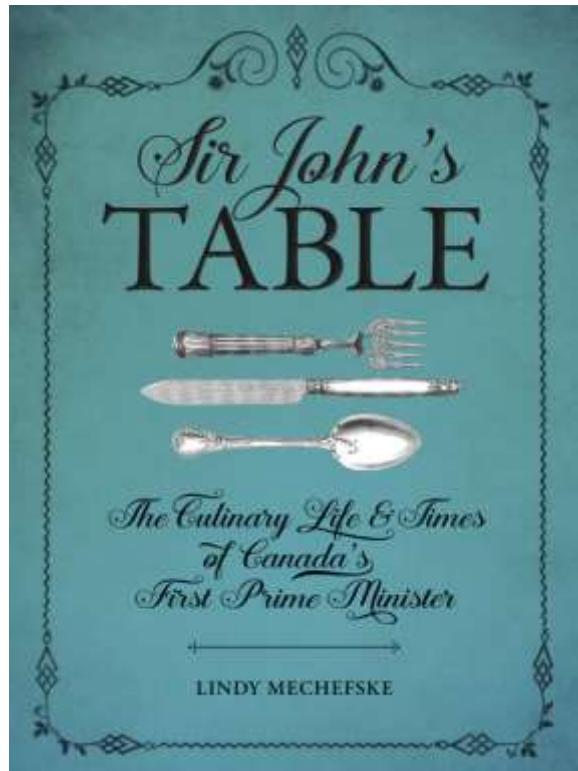
In fry pan sauté the pork, beef, onion, and garlic. When the meat is lightly browned, add water, salt, thyme, sage, black pepper and nutmeg. Cook over medium heat until mixture boils; stirring occasionally. Reduce heat to low and simmer until meat is cooked, about 5 minutes. Spoon the meat mixture into the piecrust and top with the remaining prepared pastry. Pinch pastry edges to seal.

Cut several vents in top crust so steam can escape. Cover edges of pie with strips of aluminum foil to prevent over-cooking.

Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes, remove foil and return to oven. Bake for an additional 15 to 20 minutes or until pie is golden brown. Let cool 10 minutes before serving.

Mechefske, Lindy: *Sir John's Table, The Culinary Life & Times of Canada's First Prime Minister*. Fredericton, New Brunswick: Goose Lane Publications, 2015 p.77

Editor's note: A must read for Canada 150! *Sir John's Table, The Culinary Life & Times of Canada's First Prime Minister* is a delightful book tracing culinary practices during the lifetime of Sir John A. Macdonald.



Celebrating Nationhood in the neighbourhood

The celebration of the founding of Canada and Ontario's "birthday" in 2017 is an exciting year for Heritage York.

On January 12, historian and writer R.B. (Rae) Fleming is the featured speaker at our Annual Howland Lecture: "W.P. Howland, An important voice in the making of Canada." The event is free.



In February, on the 18th, we bridge the past with the present. Heritage York is pleased to announce that our special guest and speaker at our annual fundraising dinner is the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's 29th Lieutenant Governor. Tickets are available through Heritage York.

For March we return to our past with the installation of the image of John George Lambton, First Earl of Durham, and author of The Durham Report. Lambton House is Lord Durham's namesake, so-called - or so it is said - in recognition of his role leading to the confederation of Canada.

March also brings us "Unraveling the Story of Chinese Market Gardens" with Arlene Chan, author of *The Chinese in Toronto from 1878: From Outside to Inside the Circle*.

Market gardens played an important role in supplying the food needs of the growing settlements of Canada. By the end of the 19th century, these European and Asian, labour-intensive farms were part of the everyday life of many towns and cities and had almost become synonymous with the Chinese. In Toronto, the historic Eglinton flats, Lambton Mills and Etobicoke featured the tiny market gardens. Free admission.

April takes us to World War I and the 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge where the Allies' main combatants were the Canadian Corps, of four divisions, against three divisions of the German Sixth Army. Free admission.



A plaque, a person and his biographer

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From 1996 to 2002, Fleming has had five articles on Canadian history published in *The Beaver*, (now called *Canada's History*), as well as articles and reviews in academic journals. Fleming has contributed to *The Canadian Encyclopaedia* and to the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*.

On a personal note: we all have our vocations and avocations. For Rae Fleming (when he isn't researching and writing history), it is swimming. He may be found in the water – especially crossing Lake Couchiching to raise money for Soldiers' Memorial Hospital in Orillia. He is a regular prizewinner, one for raising the most money and a second for being the oldest swimmer. He makes the village of Argyle, Ontario, his home. Fleming hopes to complete several more writing projects, including some fiction, before he ends up with "teeth in a jar and mind down the hall".



Membership Form 2017

Your membership is vital to our organization. Please fill in the section below in full and return it with your membership fee so we can update our records. This information is only for our records and will not be given or sold to any other group, individuals or organizations.

Our annual membership fees are: Individual \$15; Family \$25; Student/Senior \$10.

A membership card, if requested, will be issued to you upon payment of your annual membership fee. For any donation of \$10.00 or more towards the general operational expenses of Lambton House and Heritage York, a receipt for Canadian income tax purposes will be provided.

Heritage York thanks you for your membership and for your interest in our work.

.....
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

My/our Heritage York membership is the following level:

Individual	\$15.00	\$ _____
Family	\$25.00	\$ _____
Student/Senior	\$10.00	\$ _____

Donation towards the general operational expenses	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Please make cheque or money order payable to Heritage York and forward it to:
4066 Old Dundas Street, York, ON M6S 2R6

Heritage York Calendar Highlights

Winter Hours @ Lambton House

Lambton House will be closed from December 14th, 2016, to January 11th, 2017. From January 12th to April 30th, Lambton House is open Sundays 12:30-4:00pm or by appointment. To book Lambton House tours, please phone (416) 767-5472 or e-mail admin@lambtonhouse.org.

January:

Thursday, January 12, The Fourth Annual Howland Lecture @ Lambton House with R.B. Fleming. "W.P. Howland, An important voice in the making of Canada". Doors open 7:00pm, talk 7:30pm. Refreshments. A free will offering is appreciated.

Friday, January 13, Pub Night @ Lambton House with Shaolin Temple Pilots. Doors open 6:00pm; music 8:00pm. Roast beef sandwiches, snacks, beer & wine and non-alcoholic beverages. No cover.

February:

No Pub Night.

Saturday, February 18, Heritage York's Annual Dinner at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 266/046, 3591 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6S 2T1. Guest speaker the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, OC, OOnt., Lieutenant Governor. Traditional roast beef dinner, vegetarian fare, dessert table; cash bar. Silent auction. Dinner tickets for sale at \$60 each.

March:

Friday, March 3, Pub Night @ Lambton House with The Hawks' Nest. Doors open 6:00pm; music 8:00pm. No cover.

Thursday, March 9, Heritage Talk @ Lambton House. Arlene Chan: "Unravelling the story of Chinese Market Gardens". Doors open 7:00pm; talk 7:30pm. A free will offering is appreciated.

April:

Friday, April 7, Pub Night @ Lambton House with Memorial Park. Doors open 6:00pm; music 8:00pm. No cover.

Thursday, April 13, Heritage Talk @ Lambton House: The Vimy Oaks. Doors open 7:00pm; talk 7:30pm. A free will offering is appreciated.

Exhibition in Howland Room:

The Howlands: New York to York. Sponsored by Heritage York.

Displays in Humber Room:

Early Confederation Flags, sponsored by Heritage York.

From Victoria to Elizabeth memorabilia: Howard Ashbourne collection. Sponsored by Heritage York.

For information on new events, exhibitions and displays visit www.lambtonhouse.org