



Communiqué

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Filling the gaps in Canadian history

Several years ago, a friend from Chilliwack, BC — Michael Clark — published *Portraits of Faith*, a book that documented the many contributions Christians have made to the growth of a free society in Canada. The list was long and impressive, and the book filled a void created by the failure of government monopoly schools to teach Canada's children about their heritage — and the important contributions to our history made by people because of their faith in the God of the Bible.

Now another young man from BC has picked up that cause, and moved it into the Internet Age: Stephen Plamondon has created a website to make Canada's Christian heritage more accessible to all. It will be a valuable resource for home-schoolers — as well as for other students who want to learn what's been excised from their education to make it "politically correct".

Such independent ventures in education are important; for since the Bible was excluded from Canadian classrooms in the '60s and '70s, Canadian students have been cut off from information essential to understanding their own culture and heritage. Efforts like Michael Clark's and Stephen Plamondon's are like health-food stores for the mind and soul, offering supplements to the intellectually deprived.

Who will you meet at CCHeritage.ca? People like the Fathers of Confederation — their portrait on the wall of Confederation Hall in Charlottetown reads: "Providence being their guide, they builded better than

they knew." You'll also meet Sir Leonard Tilley, whose proposal to name the ascent nation "The Dominion of Canada", based on Psalm 72, verse 8, was unanimously accepted by all 33 Fathers of Confederation; Marie Guyart de l'Incarnation (1599-1672), "the mother of New France", who established Canada's first school; missionaries Jean de Brébeuf (1593-1649) and William Case (1780-1855), who, motivated by Christian love, brought the Gospel to the Native Peoples of Canada.

You'll meet educators like John Strachan (1778-1867) and Egerton Ryerson (1803-1882), who both affirmed the crucial role of the Bible in public education. (Ryerson wrote the very first textbook for Canadian public schools. It was entitled *A Primer in Christian Morality*.)

Merchant Timothy Eaton (1834-1907) was a strong Christian, as was Governor-General (and renowned author) John Buchan (1875-1940).

You'll meet early leaders of the feminist movement, like Nellie McClung (1873-1951) — who campaigned strongly *against* abortion — and Canada's first woman MP, Agnes McPhail (1890-1954), who are also in the ranks of Canada's Christian leaders, along with radio evangelist and Alberta Premier Ernest C. Manning (1908-1996).

It's a website well worth visiting:
www.CCHeritage.ca