Report to the Board of Governors

Upper Canada College’s Next Official Visitor

Student Consultation & Recommendation
Student Body Overwhelmingly Endorses Royal Visitor

At the request of Dr. Power, the UCC Monarchist League organized a comprehensive student debate and consultation regarding the Official Visitor. A presentation during the April 27th school assembly informed students about this important process and provided an overview of the role and chronology of the Official Visitor. On May 2nd, the League hosted an hour-long debate. We heard a variety of opinions during this lively and thought-provoking discussion.

Two weeks ago, the UCC Monarchist League launched a school-wide survey to gauge student opinion regarding the Official Visitor. This initiative was designed to answer one of Dr. Power’s main questions: Do students want a Royal Visitor?

1. Should Upper Canada College’s next Official Visitor be a member of the Royal Family?
   - Yes
   - No
   - UCC should not appoint another Official Visitor

The survey garnered 250 responses.

A sweeping majority of the student body voted in favour of a royal appointee. This decisive outcome was consistent across all grades; more than 93% of Year 1s voted to maintain UCC’s links with the Crown.
UCC’s Links with the Crown

Upper Canada College is the only school in the Commonwealth to feature the royal crown in its coat of arms.

In 1920, Edward, Prince of Wales was appointed as the Visitor of Upper Canada College. He ascended to the throne as King Edward VIII in 1936.

It will be a great pleasure to all to hear that the HRH the Prince of Wales has expressed a wish to be given the fine old English title of Visitor of this school. HRH met so many “Old Boys” while fighting in World War I that when he made his visit to Canada last year he instituted special inquiries about the previous history of the College. Finding that the title existed, he has thus honored us by becoming “Visitor of Upper Canada College”.... The gracious offer of the Prince, places the position on a still higher plane, and it makes us all feel a lot prouder of the grand old College to which we belong.”

“Our Royal Visitor” College Times (Easter 1920)

Prince Philip became the Official Visitor of the College in 1955. He has visited UCC five times.

Recommendations

The Upper Canada College Monarchist League recommends that the Board of Governors appoint a member of the Royal Family as the Visitor, in accordance with the wishes of the student body.

UCC’s next Official Visitor should meet the following criteria:

- Integrity
- Non-partisan
- Role model

We recommend the appointment of a young Visitor. Prince Philip held this office for 57 years; with luck, his successor should also serve for several decades.

Recent internal polling of Monarchist League members determined that Prince William, Duke of Cambridge is the most widely-supported candidate.