

The Other Special Relationship: Anglo-Canadian Relations from the Churchill Era to the Present Day

Churchill College, 21 October 2008

Conference Summary

The Churchill Archives Centre and the Canadian High Commission co-hosted a day-long conference on Anglo-Canadian relations. The purpose of the event was to review and analyze the evolution of Anglo-Canadian relations since the Churchill era. The conference included many dignitaries including former British and Canadian politicians, diplomats and eminent academics, and covered a diverse set of topics and themes. The ensuing document provides a summary of the presentations delivered during the day.

Professor David Dilks - Keynote Address



Prof. Dilks dwelt upon Churchill's fondness for Canada and on the military and economic contribution made by the Canadian nation during both world wars. Visiting Canada on nine occasions over a span of more than half a century, Churchill viewed that country as a vital link in Anglo-American relations and was impressed from the beginning by its size, beauty and vast resources. Canada had much which Britain did not possess; the capacity to grow all its own food, immense reserves of minerals, and almost limitless space.

In the second part of his address, Prof. Dilks dwelt upon the extent of

Canada's commitment to the Alliance during the Second World War. She contributed troops, training, armaments and food that were crucial to the war effort. Canada's gifts in cash between 1941 and 1946 were more generous than those of any other country of the overseas Commonwealth; to such a degree, indeed, that the burden upon individual Canadian taxpayers was between three and four times as great as that borne by their neighbours in the USA. Nor did the intimacy cease at the end of the war. Canada played a crucial part in the founding of NATO, and during Churchill's last visit agreed to supply materials indispensable to British manufacture of the hydrogen bomb. In sum, Prof. Dilks argued, links with Canada proved powerful and valuable during Churchill's time, and have remained strong.

Session 1: The Historic Context
Chair – Professor Anthony Badger

Professor Jack Granatstein - The
Military Relationship

Prof Granatstein discussed the relationship of the Canadian military with their American and British counterparts. While recognizing the historical connections with the British military, resulting from Canada's colonial roots and the two World Wars, he argued that the Canadian military evolved to have a closer relationship with their American counterparts. This was due to a number of factors such as the impact of NATO, the necessity for continental security during the Cold War and the War on Terrorism but was also rooted in a practical need for the Canadian military to be distinguishable internationally after the Suez crisis. Canada's role in facilitating a peaceful solution to the invasion by Britain and France of the Suez Canal was almost prevented because Canadian troops looked similar to British troops.

Prof Granatstein argued that Canadian military officials also maintained an appreciation for the sophistication of the American military complex and saw great potential for cooperation with the Americans over regional security. Indeed this was considered integral to Canada's troop commitment in the Second World War. Shortly after the war Canada and the US signed the North American Air Defence Agreement which brought greater coordination and cooperation. To end Prof Granatstein surmised...“We

are friends and allies forever, but the Canadian military now look fondly to Britain as a relative living far away. Mama, sometimes feared and occasionally admired, is now right next door.”

Hon. Roy MacLaren - Diplomacy,
Commerce and Trade

The Hon. Roy MacLaren, a former Member of Parliament and Minister for International Trade in the Canadian Government, talked about the economic, commercial and diplomatic ties between Canada and Britain during the final years of Churchill's term as British Prime Minister. In particular, Mr MacLaren described the approach taken by then Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King who channeled massive financial assistance to Britain, directly and indirectly, immediately after the war. Thereafter Anglo-Canadian foreign policy became focused on the economic possibilities stemming from partnering with the USA, the war having confirmed Britain's replacement by the United States as Canada's chief trading partner and increasingly its major foreign investor. As Churchill was acutely aware, Britain could no longer pay for its essential purchases from Canada and the USA. As a result “...bilateral ties were not defined so much by Canada and the United Kingdom themselves, as by the inescapable fact of the rise of the United States and the decline of an increasingly war-exhausted and near-bankrupt Britain.”

Despite this inescapable shift in economic relations, Mr MacLaren noted that Britain and Canada had also worked together and sought integration at a multilateral level through the establishment of important international institutions like the United Nations, NATO and the GATT and facilitated a new approach to the Commonwealth. Particularly in the post -King context under Prime Minister's St. Laurent and Pearson, the Commonwealth became central to Canada's foreign policy thinking which led to the pioneering of the Colombo Plan, and the focus on India and Pakistan in development assistance, all carried out in close collaboration with the UK.

Sir Brian Fall - The British Perspective

Sir Brian Fall, a former British High Commissioner to Canada, gave his insights into some of the historic and contemporary challenges facing Anglo-Canadian relations. Sir Brian noted that both British and Canadians suffer from a similar flaw when considering the relationship - that they know the other well. Indeed, Sir Brian argued that the tendency in British foreign policy circles is to oversimplify the cultural diversity of Canadians, thinking that there is only a French and English part. The English part of the country is considered to be very similar to the UK. This "two-tribe" view discounts the impact of other cultures, particularly Italian and Chinese on the Canadian social fabric.

Sir Brian also lamented the decreasing degree of importance ascribed to the Anglo-Canadian bilateral relationship. "By far the best informed senior political figure in London about Canadian affairs is the Head of the Commonwealth, who keeps herself very much up to date and certainly knows an awful lot more about what is going on in Canada than the Prime Minister at the other end of the Mall." Reasons for this relate to other competing priorities such as the UK's focus now towards the EU and economically with the US.

Discussion

A lengthy discussion ensued after the presentations around the idea and role of the Commonwealth in Anglo-Canadian relations. Indeed, the speakers maintained differing views about its use and recognition in Canada and Britain but agreed that it could play a valuable role as a forum to advance common interests, strengthen ties and promote multilateralism. The main problem was that the institution of the Commonwealth is seen as of secondary importance in foreign policy matters in Britain and Canada – debates over how to handle South Africa under the apartheid government or to expel Pakistan reinforced fissures amongst its members as opposed bringing them closer together.



Dr Maria Tippett – Churchill Portraits

Dr Tippett gave the conference an introduction to the history and background of one of the most famous Churchill portraits, the “Roaring Lion” taken by Canadian Yousuf Karsh. Dr Tippett discussed how Karsh had taken the photo after Churchill had addressed both Houses of the Canadian Parliament. Looking tired and in need of a cigar, Churchill assumed a typical pose. However, Karsh wanted a different look, so he approached Churchill and removed his cigar from his mouth. Tippett recalled that “by the time Karsh had done this and returned to his camera to re-check the focus, Churchill was glowering – it was, of course, at this moment that Karsh clicked the shutter...” and history was made.

Session 2: Arts, Sciences, Education and Culture

Chair - Professor Michael Gibbons

Dr. Maria Tippett – UK-Canadian Institutions and the Arts

Dr Tippett spoke about the changing relationship of cultural exchange between the United Kingdom and Canada. She explored the extent to which cultural institutions such as

Britain's Royal Conservatory of Music and Royal Academy of Art became a template for cultural organizers in Canada during the early part of the twentieth century. She noted how Canadians also depended on British magazines, British critics, and British adjudicators to give their artists, writers, musicians and dramatists 'credibility' within and outside of the country. She concluded by showing how, towards the middle of the last century, this process was reversed.

First Canada's cultural organizers began developing cultural institutions that had little to do with their English-Canadian origins. Second, the work of Canada's writers, artists, musicians and dramatists began to more fully reflect their country's ethnic and cultural diversity. And, lastly, cultural producers in Canada began to participate on the world stage, rather within the narrow British framework.

Dr Nancy Lane - UK-Canadian Institutions, Women and the Sciences

Dr Lane presented on the extensive opportunities for scientific collaboration between British and Canadian scientific institutions and the role of women in them. The Structural Genomics Consortium run through the Wellcome Trust in the UK with the University of Toronto, the relationship between the Royal Societies in Britain and Canada, the British Antarctic Survey and various Canadian Arctic institutes, and the Frontiers Conference held at Canada House in London, that focused on

women in science, were presented by Dr Lane as examples of the institutional linkages that exist. Dr Lane noted "...Universities in both countries are becoming very concerned about reasonable exchanges between not only students, but also academics. They think that it is more strategic to work together in a co-coordinated fashion, whereas, in the past, there have often been students going somewhere because they want to study in that particular university, there are now more careful organisations of such migrations and interactions."

Dr Lane also noted that there are important links between governmental scientific institutions. The Canadian Government's Office for Science interacts with the UK's foresight programme which deals with the early detection of issues of national importance in respect of science and health. The UK Department of Health has linkages with its Canadian counterparts particularly on childhood obesity. In addition, since 2005 a Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform project has been a mechanism whereby the UK and Canada share technology and transfer knowledge. In innovation and business management of those techniques, the sharing of technology is hugely important, particularly for the young. Young entrepreneurs—students in science and technology—are encouraged to think about ways to exchange ideas between the two nations. The idea is to encourage more young people to go into entrepreneurship.

Sir Nicholas Bayne - Academic and Cultural Links

Sir Nicholas argued that the significant academic links between the UK and Canada are a key part of the relationship. "Partnerships between British and Canadian universities are growing apace, for joint teaching, research, publishing and administration." This is exemplified in such efforts to endow research chairs such as the Lester B Pearson Chair in International Relations at Oxford, the leadership role Canadian academics play in British universities, and the number of Canadian studies programs that exist. In addition over 5,000 Canadian students study in the UK and over 6,000 British students are engaged in courses with Canadian content.

Sir Nicholas considered that the "academic links clearly owe much to our common history and language but, above all, they thrive because we share so much in our human values, our political and legal systems, our methods of thought and our ways of making policy. Canada, being a well-ordered and peaceable country, seldom attracts attraction in the British media so the academic and cultural links beyond their intrinsic value serve the wider purpose of making Canada better known."

Discussion

The discussion at the end of the session addressed a broad diversity of points surrounding how Canadian culture gains traction and is

perceived in the UK to why there exist so few undergraduate exchange opportunities. Dr Tippett commented that it was very hard for Canadian artists to gain exposure through the UK media, more so than Australians. She conjectured that this was most likely due to perceptions that Canada is boring and nice. Academically, exchanges fostered cross-cultural understanding but also acted as ways to compete with the resources maintained by American institutions. Undergraduate academic exchanges were considered more difficult to arrange due to curriculum differences, however Sir Nicolas pointed out that there exist a number of Canadian studies programs in the UK that could have a similar effect of building cross-cultural understanding.



Session 3: A Political Perspective Chair – The Hon. William C. Graham



The Rt. Hon. Lord Howe of Aberavon **- A British Perspective**

Lord Howe, former Foreign Secretary under Margaret Thatcher discussed Anglo-Canadian relations in two important contexts, under the Commonwealth and in light of the UK's membership in the EU. The former acted as a solid ground when Lord Howe was Chancellor of the Exchequer to test ideas and to learn from other countries about financial affairs. It was also a useful institution to apply pressure on such countries as South Africa over apartheid. Saying that, Lord Howe recalled how Canada and the UK did experience disagreements over policy relating particularly to South Africa which culminated with the Canadian Prime Minister accusing the British Government of lacking sincerity in efforts to end apartheid. Lord Howe explained that the disagreement stemmed largely from misunderstanding surrounding trade statistics and an unsympathetic comment by Margaret Thatcher

regarding the status of the ANC as a terrorist organization.

In the context of the UK's membership in the EU, Lord Howe argued that it was of benefit to Canada as they could easily link to the EU market "...[i]t provides a vehicle within which there can be partnership between ourselves and our colleagues in North America." He considered that the EU and Canada are countries that are prepared to reach out to construct and sustain a worldwide multilateral relationship of respect between countries, which are as peaceful and orderly as possible. This creates a context where it is easy to work together, especially in NATO. In conclusion, Lord Howe turned his attention to the re-emergence of Russia on the international stage indicating that it required particular attention and sensitivity from the UK and Canada.

The Rt. Hon. Charles Joseph Clark - A Canadian Perspective

The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, former Prime Minister of Canada surmised that the Anglo-Canadian relationship was based on a fundamental likeness that is represented in our government institutions. This was argued to be a constant in Anglo-Canadian relations even as Canada changes demographically through encouraging immigration and promoting individual cultures and beliefs. "We are a direct extension of your institutions...much more deliberately and emphatically than your other Atlantic relation... So, through the last 30-40 years, Canada and Britain have seen

issues similarly, and our reflex has been to maintain our common bonds, even when other forces tear at them."

Mr Clark also reflected upon the Anglo-Canadian relationship in the context of repatriating the Canadian constitution. This, he argued, was a divisive issue between the governments. On the one hand repatriating the constitution was a popular idea in Canada but inspired an "intrusive interest" by the British Parliament. As Leader of the Opposition at the time, Mr Clark welcomed the interest in Canadian affairs of the British Government: "[i]t was in a sense an expression of the unusual historic link between our two countries...The critical ingredient of the Canada-UK relationship is culture. It is not just a shared set of values and assumptions, but an instinct to make progress through consensus rather than conflict."

Discussion

The subsequent discussion highlighted British-Canadian cooperation politically in terms of sharing best practices. Lord Howe, discussed the many times he had been to Canada in an official capacity to study such things as labour relations and anti-discrimination legislation. The Canadian High Commissioner James Wright added that there was incredible interest in investing and trade with the UK by Canadian Provinces and private enterprise. Returning to the issue of repatriating the Canadian constitution, Lord Wright of Richmond clarified from his

recollection that the British Government was always supportive of the Canadian and Australian efforts.

The role of the Commonwealth was again discussed in this session with Prof Peter Clark reflecting upon the Imperial residue that such an institution has left. In particular he contended that the Commonwealth was still a useful institution from the perspective of soft power and soft diplomacy but that its real legacy was cultural. Participants also commented on Canadian-British cooperation in Afghanistan under the NATO mission as a framework for defence cooperation and believed it was an important mission in terms of working to secure global security.

Session 4: Security Issues

(Dame Veronica Sutherland introduced panel on behalf of the Airey Neave Trust)

Chair – Admiral John Anderson



The Rt. Hon. Lord Carrington - The relationship within NATO

Lord Carrington focused on the contribution of Canada in NATO arguing that it had been one of the organizations most supportive and important members. “When we think about the role of Canada in that organization...it was always supportive and there is no way in which I can be even remotely critical about Canada. So many people, particularly the Europeans, of course, when they talked about the North Atlantic Organisation meant the United States and Europe. They did not really understand Canada’s contribution.”

Lord Carrington also addressed the current NATO role in Afghanistan, expressing concern that members now approach these issues “as if they were diners à la carte. You do what you like if NATO asks, but you do not do anything that you find disagreeable. That is bad for NATO.” Such an evolution for NATO has implications for its effectiveness and its ability to deter aggression. Lord Carrington contended that “[i]f I were a Russian, I would not be militarily worried about Georgia or Ukraine joining NATO because I would not feel that it was a danger to me, having regard to what has happened in Afghanistan. At the same time, if I were a Georgian or a Ukrainian, I would not necessarily feel more militarily more secure if I joined NATO. We really ought to ask ourselves whether all this is entirely worth while.”

The Hon. William C. Graham - The Canadian view post 9/11

The Hon. William Graham gave attendees an analysis of contemporary Canadian security issues. Mr Graham drew on his experiences as the former Leader of the Official Opposition, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Defence to discuss Canada's role in North American security, NATO, and approach to Afghanistan and Iraq. Mr Graham noted that the Canadian security agenda changes in the different forums which Canada participates. In North America, Canadians are highly integrated with the Americans under the umbrella of NORAD and rely on Americans for their security. A fact that has made Canada's refusal to participate in the Ballistic missile defence programme that much more problematic. Internationally Canada takes a more independent position: "As a template, let us consider the Afghan mission. I was Defence Minister when we discussed with my colleague, John Reid, and my colleague in Holland whether we would form a specific group, when we would take Kandahar, while Britain and Holland would take Helman Province. There were a lot of reasons for that. Mr. Karzai was anxious for it to become NATO. He was nervous politically that 50 per cent. of the country was not under a NATO flag, but an American flag. It was not a healthy, political situation for him to be in. There was a lot of pressure on us to replace the Americans in those areas."

Mr Graham reflected on the ease with which Canada and the UK had worked closely together, not only militarily but also with respect to aid for Afghanistan. "I came [to the UK] as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the mid-1990s and we talked to the British about the need for action in [Afghanistan] where it would be military-plus because the military could not solve the problem and other complex elements were needed. We had started to refine that concept with our Afghan missions, with the provincial reconciliation teams. They are military manned, but they are political in what they do. I said that our troops were dying over there and we needed to build wells, roads and hospitals and that is what we must do if we are to be justified in our mission." Mr Graham also noted the important role that law played for the UK and Canada in its military activities. He noted that the close relationship between the countries, particularly on security issues was because both hold the 'rule of law' as paramount in domestic and international affairs.

Sir Andrew Burns - The British view post 9/11

Sir Andrew opened his presentation recalling his experience as the UK High Commissioner to Canada in the period prior to 9/11. He noted that the relationship had drifted apart and there seemed to be a sense of ambivalence in the way that each country viewed the other. He pointed to a number of aggravations such as the Canadian Government canceling of a contract to provide

military helicopters, the problematic British diesel submarines purchased by Canada and concerns over transferring foot and mouth via British tanks during joint military operations, as well as an apparently lack-lustre EU relationship. In contrast, there were also areas of real cooperation such as the practical and greatly valued Canadian contribution towards bringing about peace in Northern Ireland. Sir Andrew saw things as having rather changed after 9/11 and that there had developed a reinvigorated sense of cooperation and companionship, particularly in NATO. Nonetheless the two countries had taken different paths with respect to Iraq.

Sir Andrew concluded that in order to sustain the bonding effect of 9/11 that both the UK and Canada had to emphasize the other aspects of the relationship beyond military and economic. "In many ways, it is down to nurturing, broadcasting and promoting the genuinely deep intellectual and cultural exchanges—not only the trading ones, but everything that universities and ingenuity can develop—because there are so many common links and experiences between our countries."

Discussion

The discussions at first explored the reactions by Canada and the UK to 9/11 in particular whether the subsequent political positioning and military activity in Afghanistan and Iraq were overreactions. Mr Graham elaborated that the Canadian position was complex in that Canada

maintained military ships in the Persian Gulf and allowed for regiment rotations between Canada and the US to occur whilst the US was fighting in Iraq. So Canada was not at war in Iraq but it was not an ambivalent observer. The panel considered that Afghanistan and Iraq were not overreactions. However, the effect of these campaigns on social cohesion internally in the UK, the rise of anti-Americanism in the EU and the effect of the security consciousness in the US on the movement of Canadians and Canadian goods, were considered to be downsides. The discussion subsequently shifted to the future. Considering the concerns over Arctic sovereignty, the Hon. Bill Graham argued that these would be resolved more on environmental and social grounds than on military ones.

Session 5: The Contemporary Perspective

Chair – The Lord Wright of Richmond



His Excellency, Mr Anthony Cary – British High Commissioner to Canada

Mr Cary's speech emphasized the strong, stable and mature

relationship between the UK and Canada. In particular, the High Commissioner discussed the important collaboration taking place in Afghanistan, the history of academic and scientific exchanges, and the sharing of best practices between the Governments, citing constant visits by UK parliamentary committees to their counterparts in Canada. Yet the relationship was thin in some respect that was hard to define. Canada did not have a strong 'brand image' in the UK, which was odd in the historical context. The web of personal relationships and affection, however, ran very deep. He had been heartened by the strength of the reaction of Canadian alumni of the Commonwealth scholarship against British plans to abandon scholarships to Canadian students. (This had been the unintended consequence of a decision to pass the lead for the Commonwealth Scholarship programme from the Foreign Office to the Department for International Development, with its strict poverty focus).

The High Commissioner discussed a Memorandum of Understanding, which was on the point of signature, to promote research co-operation between the Arctic and the Antarctic. This led him on to the issue of climate change, which was now understood in the UK, and in Europe generally, as a matter of *international security*. It was at the very top of the Foreign Office's agenda (as it was central to the work of all other Govt Departments, now led by a Department of Energy and Climate Change). There was no equivalent

sense of urgency or priority in Canada, where the issue had become a political football. Canada had reneged on its Kyoto commitments, and continued to drag its feet. This was one of the very few sources of friction between the Canadian and British Governments. The best hope, perhaps, was that a new US President would galvanise action across the whole North American continent.

His Excellency, Mr James Wright -
Canadian High Commissioner to the
UK

Mr Wright echoed the comments of Mr Cary regarding the strength of the Canada-UK relationship and emphasized that, in many contexts, the two countries maintain shared values and interests, in trade and investment as well as history and institutions. However, he noted that in spite of the excellent bilateral relationship, "both countries ran the risk of taking each other for granted", and that both Canada and the UK need to reflect on this. He went on to argue that Anglo-Canadian relations are highly integrated, highlighting how the High Commission is constantly talking to their British colleagues on Russia, Georgia, Sudan, the Middle East peace process, proliferation and Iran, energy, security, climate change, public service reform and the recent financial crisis. Mr Wright contended that "[t]here is virtually no area of Government today that the relationship does not touch on in important parts" not because the British naturally do it better than anyone else, but rather because the

way “our” governments are structured and their principled basis is similar.

The High Commissioner sought to address an area that had not been given much attention over the day: the current trade and investment relationship. Based on 2007 figures, the two way trade between the UK and Canada accounted for \$24 billion and was rising. The Mr Wright noted that “650 British companies are in Canada and more than 600 Canadian companies are in Britain. That ties into Canada’s engagement with the European Union and our push to go ahead and have an enhanced economic and trade relationship with the European Union. Britain will be the net winner if we achieve free trade with the European Union. I say that because at the moment about 35 per cent of Canada’s trade with the European Union comes to Britain; 40 per cent of Canadian investment in the European Union comes to Britain.” Mr Wright also touched upon Canada’s role in NATO arguing that there was a risk of it becoming a two tier organization, with some countries constantly taking on a higher risk than others. He surmised that this arrangement was not tenable for much longer.

Discussion

The discussion addressed a number of the topics that the High Commissioners had raised, in particular how Canada and the UK can get more coverage in their respective media and the impact of the EU on Anglo-Canadian relations.

It was argued that Canada understood how the EU worked and needed access points through the member states. Sometimes the UK would be the appropriate access point, other times it would not. From the UK point of view, being part of the EU was a necessary thing and all agreed of its strategic value for Britain. The strong and sentimental relationship with the UK created opportunities for Canada to deal with issues in the EU. On the question of the Arctic, Mr Cary was asked about the status of the NW Passage. He said that the EU, like the US, considered these international waters through which they had rights of passage. He had been personally attracted to the idea of recognising Canadian sovereignty, as it might then have been possible to establish a joint commission with the US to police the waters more effectively and to protect them environmentally. But recent policy reviews in the US and in Europe had confirmed the existing legal interpretations. The final comment fell to Prof Dilks who focused on the important role that the Canadian Studies programs at UK Universities and the Commonwealth Scholarship program play in fostering the interlinkages between the two countries.

Closing remarks by Professor Margaret MacMillan



Professor MacMillan concluded that a great number of topics had been covered during the one day conference on the Anglo-Canadian relationship. She surmised that the change in the relationship was inevitable ... “One hundred years ago, many Canadians thought in terms of a British empire that would become more centralised, more powerful and more important in the world, and they saw Canada as being very much a part of that empire. By the 1930s, it was clear that that was not going to happen, so Canadians got used to the idea of a British Commonwealth of Nations rather than a strong and centralised British Empire. The relationship has changed again since the Second World War, as it had to. In a way, Canada’s relationship with the United Kingdom has always been torn between the demands of Canadian geography, which make it almost essential that we get on with the United States and the remembrances of Canadians of history and of shared interests and values. So the relationship was bound to change.” Professor MacMillan noted that it was also important to consider the cultural

aspects of the relationship, the human side of it, the chance for artists, writers and performers to also make a contribution, rather than just the governmental or political relationships.



Conference Participants

Admiral John Anderson

Formerly Canadian Chief of Defence Staff (1993), and Ambassador and Permanent Representative to NATO (1994-97)

Professor Anthony Badger

Master of Clare College, Cambridge, and Paul Mellon Professor of American History, University of Cambridge

Sir Nicholas Bayne

Formerly British High Commissioner to Canada (1992-96)

Sir Andrew Burns

Formerly British High Commissioner to Canada (2000-03)

The Rt Hon. Lord Carrington

Formerly British Secretary of State for Defence (1970-74), Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (1979-82), and Secretary General of NATO (1984-88)

His Excellency Anthony Cary

The British High Commissioner to Canada (since 2007)

The Rt Hon. Charles Joseph Clark

Prime Minister of Canada (1979-80), Secretary of State for External Affairs (1984-91), and Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs (1991-93). Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party (1976-83 & 1998-2003)

Professor David Dilks

Formerly Professor of International History at University of Leeds (1970-91), Vice-Chancellor of Hull University (1991-99), and author of 'The Great Dominion: Winston Churchill in Canada 1900-1954' (published 2005)

Sir Brian Fall

Formerly British High Commissioner to Canada (1989-92), then Ambassador to Russian Federation (1992-95)

Professor Michael Gibbons

Formerly Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities (1996-2004)

The Hon. William C. Graham

Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs (2002-04), and Minister of National Defence (2004-06). Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada (2006)

Dr Jack Granatstein

Distinguished Research Professor of History Emeritus at York University, Toronto, and formerly Director of the Canadian War Museum, Ottawa (1998-2001)

The Rt Hon. Lord Howe

Formerly Chancellor of the Exchequer (1979-83), Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Office Affairs (1983-89), and Leader of the House of Commons and Deputy Prime Minister (1989-90)

Dr Nancy Lane

Neurobiologist and Senior Research Associate at the Department of Biology, University of Cambridge, and Fellow of Girton College. Nancy is a member of UNESCO's Scientific Committee for Women in Science and Technology and chaired the Cabinet Office Working Party on Women in Science, Engineering and Technology

The Hon. Roy MacLaren

Formerly Canadian Minister for International Trade (1993-96) and High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland (1996-2000)

Professor Margaret MacMillan

Historian and Warden of St Antony's College, Oxford (since 2007). Formerly Provost of Trinity College, Toronto (2002-2007)

Dame Veronica Sutherland

President of Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge (2001-08). Formerly British Ambassador to Republic of Ireland (1995-99), and Deputy Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat (1999-2001)

Dr Maria Tippett

Historian and biographer of Yousuf Karsh. Formerly a Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge.

Professor Sir David Wallace

Master of Churchill College, Cambridge, and Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences (since 2006). Formerly Vice Chancellor of Loughborough University (1994-2005)

His Excellency James R. Wright

The Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland (since 2006)

The Lord Wright of Richmond

Formerly Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the British Diplomatic Service (1986-91)

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