

EXPLORER

2014 ROYAL TOUR ♦ SPECIAL FEATURE ♦ MAY 18-21, 2014

On the Royal Tour with Prince Charles & Camilla

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



Royal Party Arrives in Halifax, NS



Official Welcome - Grand Parade



Visit to Halifax Public Gardens



Their Royal Highnesses Visit to Pier 21



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Royal Party Arrives in Halifax

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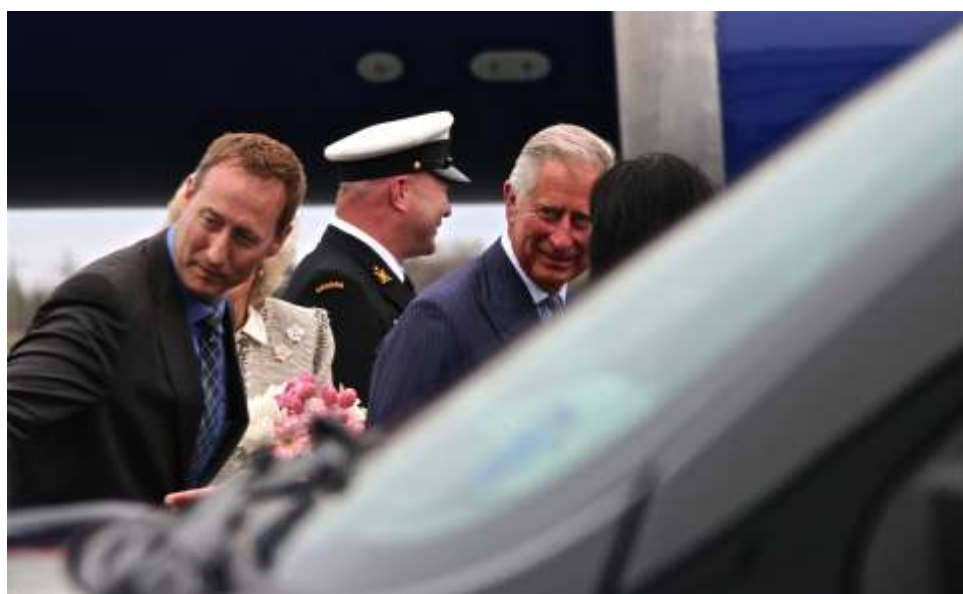
The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall departed RAF Brize Norton, UK at 4:15 BST and arrived at the Robert L. Stanfield International Airport in Halifax, NS at 6:35 pm ADT on May 18 to begin their 4 Day Royal Visit to Canada.

Prince Charles, wearing a blue pin-striped suit and maple-leaf lapel pin, and his wife, Camilla, attired in a cream and gold tweed coat with black gloves, carrying a Canadian black clutch bag given to her on her last visit by a Canadian friend, descended the 25 stairs of the Government of Canada plane onto the tarmac.

The Royal Couple shook hands and exchanged greetings with roughly 22 dignitaries including Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Peter MacKay, his wife, Nazanin, and son, Kian Alexander; Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil and wife, Andrea; Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MP Scott Armstrong and wife, Tammy; Commander of H Division RCMP, Chief Superintendent Brian Brennan and wife, Cariann; Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MLA Larry Harrison and wife, Suzanne; Mayor of Halifax Michael Savage and Darlene Killen; Deputy Royal Tour Coordinator, Joel Girouard; Nova Scotia Chief of Protocol, Glennie Langille; and President of Halifax International Airport Authority, Joyce Carter.

Wearing purple tiered-lace dresses with purple lace and sequin flowers adorning their hair, Grace Elizabeth and Molly Jane Lenihan, ages 3 and 9, presented flowers to Camilla. They are the daughters of Carla MacQuarrie and Peter Lenihan of West Chezzetcook, NS.

The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall's motorcade departed for Government House, the oldest official residence in Canada, and a meeting with The Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd), Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and his wife, Joan. The Duchess of Cornwall and Mrs. Grant sat on the same couch and visited while The Prince of Wales and Lieutenant Governor sat in two separate arm chairs for their conversation. The four posed for a photo then Prince Charles was sworn in to the Queen's Privy Council for Canada by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, near a painting of his grandfather King George VI. Later, The Royal Couple attended a reception with invited media, where they both went around the room, had conversations and shook hands. The Prince and The Duchess stayed overnight at Government House.



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2014 ROYAL TOUR ♦ SPECIAL FEATURE ♦ MAY 19, 2014

Official Welcome to Canada - Grand Parade

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



On a cold and drizzly Victoria Day morning hundreds of enthusiastic well-wishers were on-hand at the Grand Parade in Halifax for the Official Welcome of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall to Canada. His Royal Highness was given full military honours complete with a 21-gun salute, "O Canada" by the Royal Canadian Air Force Band and a 100-person Guard of Honour.

Their Royal Highnesses were welcomed by Governor-General David Johnston who mentioned, "This holiday is a reminder of the deep and enduring ties that exist between Canadians and the Royal Family." An aboriginal blessing was given by Shubenacadie First Nation Elder Doug Knockwood, and speeches were delivered by Peter MacKay, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia.

Wearing a Canadian maple leaf pin, His Royal Highness stepped to the podium and addressed Canadians in the first of 4 speeches planned for the 2014 Royal Tour. "We are always made to feel so much at home in Canada and are greatly touched by the warmth of your welcome."

Prince Charles and Camilla laid a wreath at the cenotaph to honour Canadian military service on the 100th anniversary of the Great War and 75th anniversary of World War II. Afterwards, they signed the Government of Canada Golden Book and Government of Nova Scotia Guest Book before a royal walkabout to shake hands and visit with members of the crowd. The genuine warmth, sincerity and friendliness of the Royal Couple were as noticeable as Camilla's stunning royal blue outfit trimmed in Nova Scotia tartan.



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2014 ROYAL TOUR ♦ SPECIAL FEATURE ♦ MAY 19, 2014

Prince Charles Visits Halifax Public Gardens

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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At the Halifax Public Gardens His Royal Highness was greeted by an enthusiastic, flag-waving crowd of all ages. As music filled the air from the nearby Bandshell, he stopped to chat and shake hands with many along the winding pathways who had waited patiently for his arrival. One young boy practiced a curtsy and grew more excited as Prince Charles drew near.

The Prince of Wales toured the Victorian Gardens and viewed the Diamond Jubilee Fountain erected on June 22, 1897 by the Garden Commissioners to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of his great-great-great-grandmother, Her Majesty Queen Victoria. He talked with members of the Dahlia Society as well as local members of the Monarchist League. Prince Charles then planted an English oak tree in the shadow of the oak planted by his grandfather, King George VI, in June of 1939. Afterwards, a representative of the Royal Canadian Mint presented Prince Charles with a set of coins that were struck to honour the 75th anniversary of the 1939 Royal Tour.

Of particular interest to Annapolitans, Prince Charles stopped to talk with the Annapolis Royal Robots, a provincial award-winning youth science and technology group comprised of students from grades 6 and 7 sponsored by Acadian Seaplants. They presented Prince Charles with an honorary membership and orange team t-shirt to which he smiled and replied, "Are you sure I deserve this?"

While The Prince of Wales was touring the Public Gardens The Duchess of Cornwall visited the Northbrook Community Centre. She met privately with representatives of Alice Housing, a shelter in Dartmouth which provides counselling for women and children who are victims of domestic abuse.



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Their Royal Highnesses Visit Pier 21

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall visited the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market before making their way a few doors down to Pier 21 and the Canadian Museum of Immigration. This was near the Cunard Centre where the parents of Prince Charles, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Phillip Duke of Edinburgh, had attended a reception in 2010.

Prince Charles and Camilla smiled for photos for an enthusiastic crowd as they entered Pier 21 to attend a Tea to pay tribute to war brides and veterans of World War II. Canada's military involvement was a central theme of the Royal Couple's tour of Halifax, and Pier 21 was the main point of departure for the almost 500,000 Canadian military personnel who served overseas in World War II. It has also served as an entry point for thousands of refugees, immigrants, war brides and children who fled Britain during the war.

Liz Rigney and members of the Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy played period music on a stage shaped like a ship while participants enjoyed tea, sandwiches, biscuits and preserves.

As with their other stops, Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, took time to mingle with their guests. They took time to stop at each table to meet the veterans and war brides and listen to their stories. Before departing they both signed the official Guest Book.

After the event, they talked and shook hands with people on their way to the motorcade which left for the Robert L. Stanfield International Airport and a short flight to Trenton Airport for a tour of Pictou, Nova Scotia and a celebration of Celtic heritage at the Hector Heritage Quay. Later in the day the Royal Couple flew to Charlottetown to begin their tour of Prince Edward Island.



EXPLORER

2014 ROYAL TOUR ♦ SPECIAL FEATURE ♦ MAY 20, 2014

Province House and Confederation Centre

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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The Duchess of Cornwall, wearing a light green coat ensemble with a scarf coordinating to the colours of the Prince Edward Island flag, and The Prince of Wales, attired in a grey, double-breasted suit, visited Province House in Charlottetown, PEI in the morning to attend a Youth Parliament Debate. They were led into the provincial legislature, a small room with high ceilings and a semi-circular balcony for the public gallery.

Their Royal Highnesses sat at a table to watch more than a dozen youth parliament members debate issues important to Canada's young people. Watching intently, they laughed when one youth Opposition member noted he didn't have an interest in politics. The debate was also shown on a large screen to the crowd assembled outdoors.

Following the debate, The Royal Couple met with the young participants and were led into the library where they were presented with a print of a painting depicting the Charlottetown Conference. They signed the guest book and toured the chamber where the Fathers of Confederation met.

As Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, left Province House, they were presented with flowers and went on a brief walkabout to shake hands and talk with people who had waited patiently in the light drizzle to meet them. Afterwards, they proceeded next door to the Confederation Centre of the Arts where The Prince of Wales delivered the second of four speeches scheduled for the 2014 Royal Tour. He was presented with the Symons Medal for his contributions to Canada by Professor Thomas Symons. The Royal Couple then unveiled a plaque commemorating the 50th anniversary of Confederation Centre of the Arts.

Before leaving, Their Royal Highnesses took a brief tour of the Confederation Centre of the Arts and met with an actress playing Anne of Green Gables. Afterwards, Prince Charles departed for Holland College, and Camilla left for a visit to the Prince Edward Home, a nursing home/manor for long-term care for those in need.



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2014 ROYAL TOUR ♦ SPECIAL FEATURE ♦ MAY 20, 2014

The Prince Unveils Plaque at Holland College

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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His Royal Highness visited the Prince of Wales Campus of Holland College in Charlottetown, PEI just before noon on Day 3 of the 2014 Royal Tour. Earlier in the morning, he and The Duchess of Cornwall had visited Province House and Confederation Centre of the Arts where he received the Symons Medal, gave a speech and unveiled a 50th anniversary plaque for the Confederation Centre of Arts.

Upon arrival at the Centre for Applied Science and Technology (CAST) building of Holland College, he was promptly greeted by a group of dignitaries, and then turned to approach the crowd of well-wishers. He spent time shaking their hands and talking with them.

His Royal Highness then went inside to meet with students and graduates interested in construction projects and sustainable development. He walked around a large workshop and discussed various projects which he remarked were "fantastic". At one point, he jokingly swung a large wooden mallet used to hammer wooden pegs toward the ground as though it were a croquet mallet.

Later, he met with local business leaders before going outside to unveil a large plaque bearing the date of his visit and marking the campus which was named in his honour. Prior to the unveiling, two determined men worked valiantly to keep the wind from uncovering the tarp before the appointed time.

Before departing to reunite with his wife, Camilla, who had visited the Prince Edward Home, Prince Charles did a walkabout, shook hands and visited with the enthusiastic crowd. Despite his hoarseness and the onset of a cold, he seemed to thoroughly enjoy his visit. His warmth, friendliness and sincerity were evident as he interacted with the crowd while making his way back to the motorcade for the short drive to Cornwall.



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Their Royal Highnesses Visit Cornwall, PEI

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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Despite the grey skies and chilly temperature, it was a festive, parade-like atmosphere at the Cornwall United Church in Cornwall, PEI as people of all ages gathered to get a glimpse of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. A school band, members of the Kensington Girl Guides, Boy Scouts and Pathfinders with their tents, youngsters on horses from the Canadian Pony Club and a host of little princes and princesses with their homemade crowns, proudly waving their PEI and Canadian flags, were on-hand to make the Royal Couple feel welcome.

Their Royal Highnesses were greeted by PEI Premier Robert Ghiz and Dr. Kate Ellis Ghiz who presented Reverends Nigel Weaver and Jean Ward, Ministers of Cornwall United Church, member Mrs. Valerie Acorn and Cornwall-Meadowbrook MLA and Minister of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development, the Honourable Ron McKinley. They entered the Sanctuary where they met with church leaders from various denominations and took in a performance by a combined choir from local churches in Cornwall. After meeting with choir members, The Prince and Duchess talked to some young children who were colouring as part of a children's program run by the church. They asked about their art project, where they went to school and if they liked to read.



Prince Charles and Camilla then made their way into the Church Hall where they viewed displays and chatted with several community groups. Camilla stopped to stitch on a piece of embroidery for Marie Kenny, President of the Women's Institutes of Canada, which had been designed to mark the Royal Visit. They also talked to individuals drawn from the community who were enjoying afternoon tea.



Outside, rain had not dampen the spirits of the crowd who had waited patiently for hours. The Royal Couple did not disappoint as they donned their umbrellas and took time shake hands and talk to many of the groups and individuals on both sides of the route. They departed separately. The Prince went to Bonshaw Provincial Park while The Duchess visited Immanuel Christian School.



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2014 Royal Tour - Why This Year?

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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“CANADIAN ACHIEVEMENT: Commemorating Our Past – Celebrating Our Future”

SUBMITTED

The year 2014 marks a special moment in the life of our country. In the lead-up to the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017, Canada will commemorate a broad range of anniversaries that speak to the essence of nation building. These include:

- 200th:** birth of Sir George-Étienne Cartier (2014)
birth of Sir John A. Macdonald (2015)
- 175th:** birth of Sir Wilfrid Laurier (2016)
- 150th:** Charlottetown and Quebec City Conferences (2014)
- 125th:** Stanley Cup (2017)
- 100th:** outbreak of World War I (2014)
battles of the Somme and Beaumont Hamel (2016)
battles of Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge (2017)
women's suffrage (2016)
creation of the National Hockey League (2017)
- 75th:** outbreak of World War II
Battle of Hong Kong (2016)
Dieppe Raid (2017)
- 50th:** National Flag of Canada (2015)
Order of Canada (2017)
Canada Games (2017)

Two dates will be a cause of great celebration:

- July 1, 2017:** Sesquicentennial of the Dominion of Canada
- Sept. 10, 2015:** Reign of Queen Elizabeth II surpasses that of her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria, making her the longest-reigning Sovereign of Canada

These and many other regionally based anniversaries will be a source of great pride for all Canadians. Therefore, it is fitting that The Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall visit with Canadians as we now enter this significant period of commemoration and celebration and continue to build a society and country that is truly the envy of the world. All Canadians have a reason to commemorate our past while celebrating the spirit of nation building that is alive and well in all regions of our country– reflecting our pride in our accomplishments and confidence in our future.



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Their Royal Highnesses Depart PEI for Manitoba

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



As The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall ended Day Three in the Maritimes of their whirlwind 2014 Royal Tour, they exchanged farewells with a group of dignitaries and boarded Canadian Forces Airbus (RCAF-1), bearing the red Canadian maple leaf and motto, "The True North Strong and Free". After removing The Prince of Wales' Personal Standard in Canada from the cockpit window, the plane taxied off down the runway of Charlottetown Airport in Prince Edward Island, bound for Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The Royal Couple arrived at Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg and proceeded to Government House for a private reception. The following morning, on the last day of their Royal Tour, Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, attended the "Aerospace and Aviation in Manitoba Day" at the Stevenson Hanger where both His Royal Highness and Prime Minister Stephen Harper delivered remarks to the assembled crowd. They then visited the Pavilion Gallery Museum in Winnipeg to discover the history of "Winnie the Pooh" and his connection to Winnipeg.

The Prince of Wales departed for Churchill, MB to tour the new "Journey to Churchill" Exhibit where he fed one of the polar bears. Afterwards, he visited Place Bernadette Poirier, Innovation Alley and Red River College before returning to the Fairmont Winnipeg Hotel where he was made an Honorary Commissioner of the RCMP. During this time, The Duchess of Cornwall visited the world-famous Royal Winnipeg Ballet and the Assiniboine Credit Union.

Their Royal Highnesses then reunited and went to the Manitoba Legislature where The Prince of Wales delivered his last speech of the Canadian visit. At the Legislature, he was inducted into the Order of Manitoba. They received full military honours before departing CFB Winnipeg for RAF Brize Norton, UK aboard a Canadian Forces Airbus (RCAF-1), thus ending their 2014 Royal Tour of Canada comprised of almost 140 events in three provinces in four days.



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Behind the Scenes - Making It Happen

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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Here's a rare glimpse "Behind the Scenes" of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall's 2014 Royal Tour of Canada. A talented team of dedicated individuals worked for months to make sure that every aspect of the Royal Visit went off like clockwork. Every facet was timed to the minute with military precision. No detail was too small. Nothing was left to chance. Yet when Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, were visiting with crowds and attending almost 140 events in 4 days, nothing felt rushed nor timed. People who came to see The Royal Couple found them warm, friendly, outgoing and easily accessible.

During his 17 visits to Canada, The Prince has visited every province and, counting his visits to communities in Nunavut that took place before its creation in 1999, every territory as well. The Duchess of Cornwall first visited Canada with The Prince in November 2009, and for a second time in May 2012. His Royal Highness last visited Nova Scotia in 1983. This was the first visit to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba by Her Royal Highness.



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Behind the Scenes - Getting Us There

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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Motorcades, motorcoaches and motorcycle escorts ... planes, automobiles and shuttle buses ... the mv Confederation Ferry, Confederation Bridge and even a large cow at the Charlottetown Airport were all part of The Explorer's 2014 Royal Tour experience.

The British media flew on the same plane as The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. Most others had to make their own way between provinces. Once there, depending on the events we wanted to cover, we had to choose between Bus A, B or C. Transportation schedules were tight and timed to coincide with events. I chose Bus A, and drivers, Les and Barrie, made sure we arrived at our designated stations well in advance of the arrival of Their Royal Highnesses.

Prince Charles and Camilla attended nearly 140 events in 4 days – more than Prince William and The Duchess of Cambridge did during 3 weeks in Australia and New Zealand. There wasn't time to stop for meals, so granola bars and an occasional boxed lunch were welcome sights.



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Behind the Scenes - Covering the Story

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Once we left our hotel in the mornings (Radisson Suites in Halifax and the Rodd Charlottetown), our days were full, equipment was heavy, maneuvering cameras with umbrellas was awkward, and opportunities to sit or eat were few and far between. On the other hand, the warmth and friendliness of The Royal Couple, the enthusiasm of the people of all ages who came out to greet them, and the opportunity to share this special story with you far outweighed all of the other.

As The Explorer's coverage of the Royal Tour of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall winds down, we hope you are enjoying seeing some of the action that went on "Behind the Scenes".

If you are wondering why The Explorer has had so much coverage about the Royal Visit, watch for tomorrow's article. We'll get personal and bring it all home. Annapolis Royal has many reasons to be greatly interested in the 2014 Royal Tour!



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The Royal Tour - On a Personal Note

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON

As a little girl I remember being fascinated with the beautiful young Princess who was crowned Queen of England and became Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I, too, wanted to grow up, wear a pretty crown and marry a handsome Prince.

When I finally found my Prince Charming, sure enough, he lived in the country where my beautiful Queen was Sovereign. To propose, he wrote a Royal Fairy Tale entitled, "The Magic Prince". I said "I Do!", and, as they say, the rest is history. I packed up my U-Haul, said goodbye to my world and embarked on a journey of a lifetime. Even my new town was Annapolis "Royal". I knew it was my destiny.

Eager to embrace my new life, I studied to become a Canadian citizen and wanted to know everything about my new home. I soon realized that I was, indeed, very blessed, in more ways than one. My handsome "Magic Prince" was everything of which I had ever dreamed, and much more. My new land was steeped in rich history, which I love. The more I learned, the more I wanted to know. I was determined and proud to become a true Annapolitan and productive Canadian.

On August 6, 1996, another dream came true. I took my oath of citizenship to my beloved new country. The first thing I did after being sworn in was become a member of the Monarchist League. On the same day, one of my first photos as a proud new Canadian was taken on the steps of the Grand Parade in Halifax with the Town Clock behind me. The clock had been built by orders of the Duke of Kent in 1801, the same man who built the Officers' Quarters at Fort Anne NHS in 1797 where I met my husband. It just so happened that the Duke was the great-great-great-grandfather of my beautiful Queen Elizabeth II. Yes, Her Majesty was now, officially, mine. Two years earlier, in 1994, Her Majesty stitched on the Fort Anne Heritage Tapestry, and no Annapolitan was more proud than I. She stitched on her ancestor, Queen Victoria, the Duke of Kent's daughter. Earlier, I had stitched on the American flag.

As years passed, I enjoyed wonderful opportunities to host two Lieutenant Governors in Annapolis Royal on behalf of The Historical Association of Annapolis Royal of which I have been honoured to serve as President. The Lieutenant Governor resides in Government House and is Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Official Representative in Nova Scotia. I again saw my beloved Annapolis Royal entwined in the "Royal" story. The first Lieutenant Governor just happened to have lived in Annapolis Royal in the de Gannes-Cosby House (c.1708), Canada's oldest wooden house.

On two occasions I have had cause to correspond with Buckingham Palace. One of the greatest thrills of my life was to receive an invitation to attend the Official Reception for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2010 when she visited Halifax with her husband, Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh. Two years later, I was delighted to coordinate our area's Diamond Jubilee events to celebrate the 60th Year of her reign. The Diamond Jubilee of her great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria, had been celebrated at Fort Anne, where my husband had just retired as Heritage Interpretation Supervisor. Later that year, I was humbled to have been selected to receive one of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medals for service to Canada.

So you can see, my coverage for the Explorer of the 2014 Royal Tour by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall was a bit personal for me. I found myself back on those same steps, where I took my prized citizenship picture, preparing to cover the 2014 Royal Tour of my beautiful Queen's son, Prince Charles, and his "darling wife", Camilla. My heart was filled with emotion and gratitude. No words could ever fully express the happiness and pride I felt when talking to both of them about my beautiful Annapolis Royal and our many ties to The Royal Family. They were extremely warm and friendly and seemed genuinely interested in our conversations. My husband and I had previously sent Their Royal Highnesses a packet and invitation to visit Annapolis Royal. He apologized that he didn't have more time on this trip. Prince Charles said he often wore his Canadian pin and was very interested in his mother's stitches on the tapestry. I told him that I hoped to have an opportunity to show them Annapolis Royal in person one day. His smile indicated he would like that. Camilla joked and wanted me to make sure to order up some good weather.

Who knows what the future will bring? After all, my story in Annapolis "Royal" began with "The Magic Prince".

[Click for Coverage of the 2014 Royal Tour](#)



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A Royal Welcome - Faces in the Crowd

DURLINE DUNHAM-MELANSON



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