DWIGHT MacAULAY, CVO

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Dwight MacAulay is the recently retired Chief of Protocol for the Government of Manitoba and has also served as the Chief of Protocol for the Government of South Australia from 2006-08.

A native of Killarney, Manitoba, he attended Brandon University (Science) followed by a career in radio and television news broadcasting before joining the Manitoba Government in 1980.

Since joining the Manitoba government, he has served as Director of Radio and Television Services and Director of Information Services which handled all government news releases, news conferences and radio and television services.   In addition, he was also Director of the Citizens’ Inquiry Services, a federal-provincial public information easy-access service.

In 1998 he was selected to be the Chief of Protocol for the Government of Manitoba.   As Chief of Protocol he has organized and worked on several Royal visits – including those of Her Majesty The Queen, The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, Prince Edward, The Duchess of York (Sarah Ferguson) and several additional members of the Royal family including Lord and Lady Selkirk, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent and also a Royal visit by the King and Queen of Sweden.

He has also played a key organizational role with respect to many premiers’ conferences and ministerial conferences and has played a key planning, organizational and implementation role on several international trade missions to such nations as the United States, China, Philippines, India, Iceland, France, England, Belgium and Australia.

As Chief of Protocol he also met and worked with heads of state, governor-generals, presidents, prime ministers, premiers, governors, ambassadors, high commissioners and consul generals representing many different nations from throughout the world. He was also responsible for the provincial office of the Special Envoy for Military Affairs and initiated many programs to recognize and honour Canada’s Armed Forces

In September of 2002, he was honoured with the Governor General’s Golden Jubilee Medal in honour of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee.    Later that same year, on October 9, 2002, he was invested as a Lieutenant in the Royal Victorian Order (LVO) by Her Majesty The Queen when She visited Manitoba as part of the Golden Jubilee Visit to Canada.     Dwight was, and is, the only person in the history of the province to ever receive this honour.

Eight years later, on July 3, 2010, The Queen elevated Dwight to the position of Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) -- once again making him the only Manitoban to ever receive such an honour.   The CVO is the highest possible rank attainable in Canada in the Royal Victorian Order.

In the summer of 2010, Dwight was asked to serve on a national committee to map-out and coordinate Her Majesty’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012 and he also co-chaired the Manitoba provincial strategy and response for the Jubilee celebrations.   In April 2012 he was awarded The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Canadian Private Secretary to The Queen.

In addition, Dwight has played a key role in other events such as the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the Selkirk Settlers, securing a three-month exhibit of the Magna Carta and securing debris from the World Trade Centre in New York City in order to establish a 9-11 Memorial at the International Peace Garden which straddles the Canada-U.S. border between the Province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota.

As Chief of Protocol, Dwight served as Secretary to the Order of Manitoba Advisory Council (Manitoba’s highest honour) and was a key advisor to the Premier with respect to The Order of the Buffalo Hunt (another honour frequently awarded to international guests or visitors to the province who would not qualify for the Order of Manitoba).

In October 2012 he was selected to be a presiding official for Citizenship Courts and has conducted over 200 ceremonies throughout Manitoba, swearing-in over 20,000 new Canadians over the past seven years.

In 2013 he received the Toastmasters International Communication and Leadership Award and in 2014 was honoured as Citizen of the Year by the Manitoba Chapter of the St. Andrew’s Society.

In 2015 Dwight was selected to serve on a national committee to revamp and redesign protocol standards for all protocol offices within Canada and in 2016 was asked to deliver a TED-Talk on protocol.  The talk was titled:  "Protocol: Who Needs It?" and can be seen on YouTube.

With regard to volunteer activities, he is actively working to develop a music hall of fame for the province of Manitoba which will (hopefully) open in 2020.     He is also actively involved in a movement to establish a statue on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislative Building to recognize the contributions of the First Nations to the founding of Manitoba and the development of Western Canada.

He is past-president of the Winnipeg Press Club (the oldest Press Club in Canada and third oldest in the world), Vice-President of the Manitoba Chapter of the Royal Commonwealth Society and serves on the board of the St. Andrew's Society, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the Children's Hospital Foundation, the St. John's Ambulance, the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural Centre and the Manitoba Historical Society.  He also serves on the Senate of the Fort Garry Horse Regiment and was recently elected to be President of the Manitoba Intrepid Society.

In July of 2018, he was asked to advise on several possible initiatives the province might implement to celebrate and commemorate the 150th anniversary of its entry into Confederation in 2020 and is currently serving on a '2020' subcommittee dealing with any protocol issues related to the celebrations.