

THE BRITISH MONARCHY AND NEW BRUNSWICK

OBJECTIVE

- Learn about the Loyalists who migrated to present-day New Brunswick
- Meet the monarchs who existed from the time of the Loyalists to the present
- Understand what to expect from the coronation of King Charles III and his wife, Camilla, the Queen Consort

MATERIALS

- Letter paper
- Pen or quill pen (goose feathers are best) with ink
- Printable crossword puzzle



Cover image: The 1801 Union flag, which remains the flag of Britain.



As Britain prepares to crown a new King of England, it is interesting to learn about the connection between the British monarchy and New Brunswick.

In 1783, New Brunswick was still the British North American colony of Nova Scotia. After the American Revolution, many Loyalists came to New Brunswick to start a new life as British subjects.

Who were the Loyalists? The Loyalists were a group of people who lived in what is now the United States. During the American Revolution, they did not want total independence from England, so they fought to keep the United States under the rule of King George III. They eventually lost and many sought a new life in Nova Scotia.

In 1784, the King of England decided that Nova Scotia needed to be divided into two colonies – Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. From then and still today, New Brunswick has connections to England through the British monarchy.

King George III died in 1820 and his son, King George IV, was crowned King of England. King George IV died in 1830 and his brother became King William IV.

Victoria (born May 24, 1819) was the only daughter of Edward, Duke of Kent, son of King George III. Her father died shortly after her birth. Her three uncles did not have any children who could claim the throne, so in 1837, she became Queen Victoria I. During her reign and until she died in 1901, the role of the monarchy in New Brunswick changed.

Heritage interpreters at Kings Landing tell the story of New Brunswick from the years 1853 to 1863. At this time, the queen was married to Prince Albert and had nine children. If you have walked around Kings



Depiction of the young Queen Victoria.

Landing, did you notice a picture of Queen Victoria or Prince Albert? Ask the workers in the Kings Head Inn restaurant to show you the Victoria Room, the Albert Room, or the Dash Room which is named after Queen Victoria's favourite dog.



Who is New Brunswick's current Lieutenant Governor? The Honourable Brenda Murphy

Who is Canada's current Governor General? Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon

When Canada became its own country in 1867, Queen Victoria was a constitutional monarch. This meant that she had a constitutional, ceremonial, and representational rule over Canada. She did not have a direct say in the day-to-day rules and laws of Canada as the prime minister does. The monarch has representatives in each province called Lieutenant Governors. Also, in Canada, we have a Governor General who represents the Monarch for the whole country.

Queen Victoria died in 1901. Her son Albert, known as Bertie, was king until 1910 and was called Edward VII. His son, George V, was king until 1936. George V's son Edward VIII was to become king, but he abdicated the position, meaning he decided he didn't want to take it on. His brother became King George VI. In 1953, his daughter Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II. She was queen for 70 years until her death in 2022, making her the longest serving British Monarch after her great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria, who served 63 years as the monarch. Queen Elizabeth's son, Charles III, will be crowned King of England during his coronation on May 6, 2023, and his wife Camilla will be crowned The Queen Consort.

During a coronation, the monarch is anoited with holy oil and swears an oath to govern the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth countries. It is the only European country that still does such a ceremony to signal God's blessing of the ruler and has origins back to unstable societies when there may have been several individuals with claim to the throne.



Charles III in the processsion for Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. -Katie Chan



Queen Elizabeth II during her visit to Canada in 2005. - Government of Alberta

ACTIVTIES

- 1. Pretend you are visiting England in 1837 when Queen Victoria was crowned queen. Your best friend in New Brunswick wanted you to write them a letter describing the event. What would you say to them? Practice writing a letter with a quill pen (goose feathers are the best) and real ink.
- 2. Test your knowledge of the royal family! Complete the crossword puzzle on the next page.
- 3. Watch part of the coronation of King Charles III. What are the processions and ceremony like?

ADDITIONAL READING

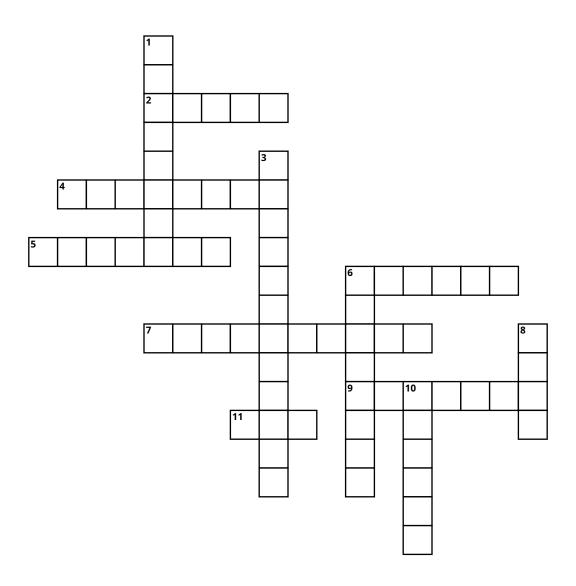
Read more and learn about the coronation and the King and Queen Consort. royal.uk/coronation

SOURCES

Harris, Carolyn. "Constitutional Monarchy". The Canadian Encyclopedia, 12 October 2022, Historica Canada. www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/constitutional-monarchy.

Torrance, David. "The coronation: History and ceremonial". 3 May 2023, UK Parliament House of Commons Library. https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9412/

Royal Crossword Puzzle



Across

- [2] a hat a king or queen wears[4] Queen Victoria rode to her coronation in this
- [5] country where Queen Victoria was born
- [6] title given to the son of a queen or king
- [7] a ceremony that officially crowns a king or Queen
- [9] there were three kings with this first name [11] how many King Georges were there

Down

- [1] the first name of New Brunswick's queen in 1853
- [3] became a province in 1784
- [6] title given to the daughter of a king or queen
- [8] Queen Victoria's favourite dog
- [10] husband of Queen Victoria

Solution

