

**Speaking Notes - Honourable H. Frank Lewis
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island
Nathan Tidridge Presentation on “Prince Edward, The Duke of Kent”
Government House
Friday, August 2, 2013**

MC Catherine Hennessey,
Mr. Tidridge (Nathan and Christine),
Professor Tom and Christine Symons,
MLA Kathleen Casey and MP Sean Casey,
Special guests everyone.

Welcome to Government House for a special occasion for our province, for Canadians and for the cause of history.

To me, it seems as if this book, Prince Edward, Duke of Kent: Father of the Canadian Crown is long overdue.

It brings to clear light the comprehensive contributions of this man and member of the Royal Family to the colonies of the day, the development of Canada, our identity as Canadians and the legacy that he inspired, particularly in his own lifetime.

Now, neither this province nor the colony that proceeded has been reputed to have its reservations about people who are often described as being "from away."

I don't share the suspicion, even if I may share that particular opinion about us from time to time.

What I want to illustrate is that Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, never even set foot on this Island in his day, even as he lived in Halifax for a half a decade and visited numerous towns in Upper Canada.

What is recorded in history and what must certainly be written between the lines of history regarding November 29th, 1798, is that Prince Edward, the Duke of Kent must have been highly revered if he had never set foot in the colony yet the political will on that day 215 years ago was to

rename our colony in his honour.

For all that Mr. Tidridge's book has to say about this distinguished historical figure, this event speaks loudly, even in modern day Prince Edward Island.

Mr. Tidridge, thank you for many things, first among them the publishing of this wonderful book.

We are grateful also for including Government House in your plans for Prince Edward Island and a special note of appreciation for bringing this portrait that we will proudly display here in the house for all our visitors to see.

Together, they are a renewed opening to understanding and appreciation of the man whom you aptly describe as the Father of the Canadian Crown.

On behalf of his great, great, great grand-daughter, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, please accept our deepest thanks and sincere congratulations on this book and the well-deserved accolades on its publication.

Thank you all for coming today.