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Valour Canada Newsletter • April 2023

Special Update: General Sir Arthur Currie Award Dinner 2023



Photo: Mr. Murray McCann, the honoured recipient of the 2023 General Sir Arthur Currie Award.

On Monday, April 17, 2023, <u>Valour Canada</u> hosted the 2023 General Sir Arthur Currie Award Dinner at Calgary Golf and Country Club. More than 190 guests attended the award dinner and unanimously provided very positive feedback.

Without the generous donations and support from our donors and sponsors, the event couldn't have been so successful. We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to you: thank you for continuously supporting Valour Canada!

Click here or the image below to view the CTV news report.



Photo: a screenshot from the CTV news report of the 2023 General Sir Arthur Currie Award

The **2023 General Sir Arthur Currie Award** is received by **Mr. Murray McCann**, a visionary entrepreneur and leader who reinvests his success back into the community serving some of society's most vulnerable through funding from his charitable foundation and aided by hundreds of volunteers.

The Award Dinner started at 5:30 pm. During the reception, guests were engaged in lively conversations, bonded among friends and family over wine and hors d'oeuvres, experienced Valour Canada's virtual tours wearing VR goggles, participated in silent auctions, and enjoyed browsing military artifacts.

At 7 pm, following bagpiper Michael O'Sullivan, guests moved into the dining room and sat down at their tables. John Q. Adams, President, delivered an introductory speech followed by a short video about Valour Canada's vision and mission. Land recognition and prayer were provided by George Pambrun, and the singing of the national anthem was led by Ross Pambrun.

Valour Canada was also honoured to have invited Canadian Military Historian Dr. David Bercuson who spoke about General Sir Arthur Currie. Guest speaker The Honourable Ric McIver, MLA for Calgary-Hays, talked about Mr. McCann's achievements and contributions to Calgary and Canada. A video honouring Mr. McCann was played before all guests, and a touching, joyful moment erupted in the dining room when everyone arose from their seats to congratulate Mr. McCann.

Click here or the image below to view the video honouring Mr. McCann:



Photo: a screenshot from from the video honouring Mr. McCann

The award bronze was presented to Mr. McCann, who then announced that he would gift *The Times of History of the War*, a collection of books printed and published in 1917 to <u>Valour</u> <u>Canada</u> to express his appreciation for this award.

Here are some photos of the evening. More will be shared soon!



Brad Pierce (L) and Murray McCann (R)



Carol McCann (L) and Murray McCann (R)



(L to R:) John Q. Adams, Ross Pambrun, George Pambrun and J.R. Cox, CD



Ross Pambrun (L) and John Q. Adams (R)



Murray McCann (L) chatting with The Honourable Lois Mitchel (R)



Military artifacts display throughout the Award Dinner

Our military history library contains over 220 compelling and educational stories from Canada's military history. Today, let's learn about General Sir

Arthur Currie:



General Sir Arthur Currie, GCMB, KCB

General Sir Arthur William Currie, GCMG, KCB (December 5, 1875 – November 30, 1933) was the first Canadian commander of the Canadian Corps, succeeding Sir Julian Byng on June 9, 1917 two months after the Battle of Vimy Ridge.



Hill 70: Currie's Plan

Prior to the British assault on Passchendaele being bogged down by heavy rainfall in the summer of 1917, the High Command knew that they had to somehow prevent additional German reinforcements from being sent to oppose them in Belgium.

Our <u>YouTube</u> channel hosts over 150 short, Canadian military history documentaries. Check out these videos today:



Sir Arthur Currie (Video)

General Sir Arthur Currie was a prominent Canadian figure in WWI. Some historians argue that he was, in fact, the best general during the Great War.

Watch this short video on Sir Arthur Currie by clicking <u>here</u> or the image on the left.

Please subscribe, like and share our videos here!

WE NEED YOU!

Your support helps us to continue providing free resources for students and teachers across Canada.

One \$50 membership covers the cost of bringing 3 students to our in-museum program. Every membership purchased helps us to continue to keep our services offered at no cost to those students.

<u>Please consider a donation to Valour Canada as part</u> of your annual giving.

For more information, please click on the photo.

Please consider supporting our programming by becoming a member or donor today!

Thank you for reading! Valour Canada

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