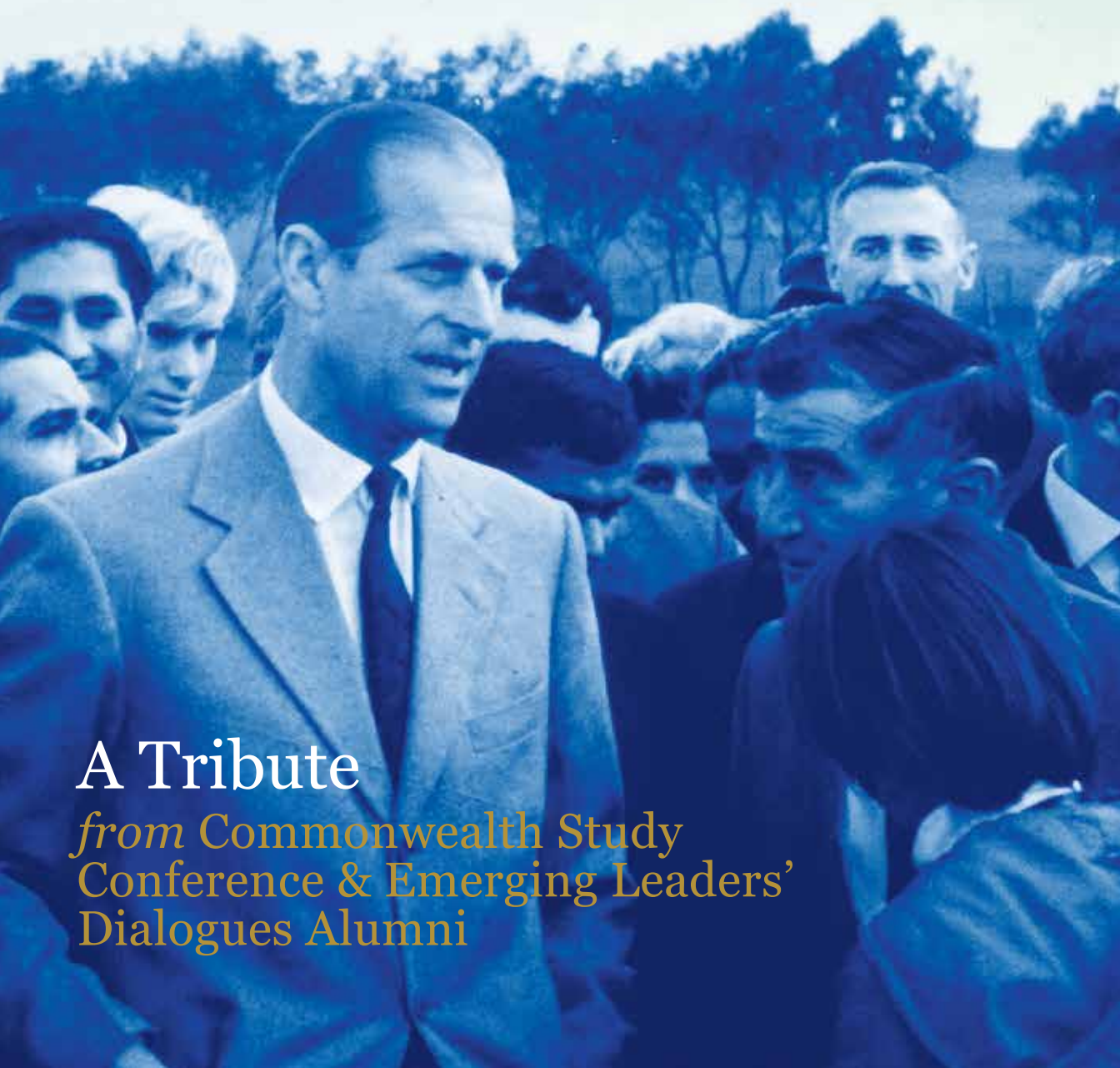


THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S



GLOBAL LEADERS SINCE 1956

HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh



A Tribute
*from Commonwealth Study
Conference & Emerging Leaders'
Dialogues Alumni*

**HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh:
A Tribute from Commonwealth Study Conference
and Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Alumni**

Compiled and Edited by Karen Henderson

Designed by Jenny Walker

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Introduction

IF ONE HAS RECEIVED A LETTER OR WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, one is witness to a clarity of thought and economy of pen second to none.

Consider this: “The structure of the conferences has remained constant simply because it has been shown to work. The principal of learning by observing and discussion was established from the inception and every opportunity is provided for opinions and assessments to be debated forcefully, but objectively.”

Here is the essence of the Duke of Edinburgh’s study conferences, designed by His Royal Highness, initiated in 1956, and continuing to challenge assumptions of up and coming leaders 62 years later in the Emerging Leaders’ Dialogues, CSCLeaders and the Canadian Leadership Conferences. By design, it is the only leadership program where one completes the curriculum quite aware you know less than you thought you did when you started.

Once again, Prince Philip: “The purpose of the conference is to look at the tensions, problems and opportunities created by this dichotomy between industrial enterprise and community development.”

Here the study conference process – the plenaries, the study groups, the Chatham House rules, the vigorous but respectful debate, the report-backs on observations (not recommendations), and of course the diversity so critical to the experience.

In Canada, some have questioned the value of investing significant resources in such a relatively small group of participants. The analogy used in response is that it is like adding a drop of red wine to a glass of water. It changes everything. Developing more mindful and sophisticated leaders changes the societies in which they operate.

This volume celebrates the achievement of Prince Philip – his gift to us all and to the Commonwealth countries, and the under-reported fact of how much he has personally cared about improving civil society. And as he said all along the task of extending this profound gift to future generations lies with those of us who have been the beneficiaries.

Ian Anderson MVO, Executive Director,
The Governor General’s Canadian Leadership Conference



HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's
Study Conference
Oxford 1956

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/KK

27th April, 1956

Dear Mr. Guinness,

Welcome to the great experiment. This is no ordinary Conference. It is not intended to put across any particular idea and it is not intended to consider any resolutions. It is simply intended, as its name implies, to study the human problems of industrial communities in the Commonwealth and Empire to pool experience and to listen to views and opinions.

You have been asked because you have some individual and practical knowledge of industry and the time you spend at the Conference should allow you to compare your experience and ideas with people from other parts of the world who are facing similar problems.

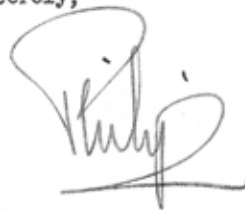
It is not much good wondering what is going to happen at this Conference because something like this has not been attempted before. Nobody quite knows what is going to emerge as a result. We trust that the clash of experiences with theories and with the study of practical problems will produce a better understanding in your mind of the many stresses and strains which are inherent in an industrial community. A better understanding of these problems may ultimately produce better and wiser solutions.

You will find together with this letter a group of papers contributed from various parts of the world and from various points of view. The writers and the subjects were selected to try to show the enormous scope of the human problems which are brought about by industry. They are designed to act as kindling, so to speak, for the main bonfire which we hope you will set alight at Oxford.

Naturally, we hope that the proceedings at Oxford and during the study tours will be interesting and instructive, but we also hope that you will enjoy yourself as much as possible during these rather hectic three weeks.

Yours sincerely,

C. E. Guinness, Esq.,
A. Guinness Son & Co., Ltd.,
Park Royal Brewery,
London, N.W.10






Foreword



I FIRST MET PRINCE PHILIP IN 1974, AT THE OPENING OF THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE (CSC) at Christ Church College in Oxford. He was chatting, before a formal reception, with Sir Anthony Burney, the Executive Chair of a large company in the UK. I felt very intimidated to be standing before a man that I had heard about and seen in many photographs, but after a few words, I was able to enjoy the short meeting.

Two things about that meeting have remained with me. One was the fact that it was in the entry to the Dining Room at Christ Church, and I have been reminded of that meeting every time I have seen a “Harry Potter” movie with my grandsons. The Christ Church dining hall has played a significant role in almost all Harry Potter movies. The second issue was the depth of understanding that Prince Philip showed in his discussion with Sir Anthony. He displayed a deep understanding of business needs, as well as the needs of the people that worked for the company. These two key issues have led a change in many of my beliefs.

Some years later, I was involved in a discussion after a long day at the 1980 CSC. Prince Philip was present with a handful of the Conference organizers. He told us about a new role that he had accepted to lead the WWF internationally. He explained that there was a large board, almost 150 people, that was far too large to “achieve anything,” with the result that it was the senior staff that made all decisions and the board simply discussed and approved recommendations at their AGM.

Prince Philip talked about his plan for change. The work of the WWF would be focused on a small number of priority topics, including endangered species and spaces. Protests about infrastructure and resource-based projects would disappear. The world would be divided into regions

with a small group of directors responsible for each topic in a region. Twelve head people from each of these committees would meet quarterly, and this group of board members would prepare recommendations for the AGM. The directors were taking control. Prince Philip told us that there would be positive and negative impacts of his plan:

- With the focus on key environmental issues, and no protests about industrial activities, he would be welcomed by industry, and would be able to raise money. He wanted WWF to be among the best-funded environmental charities on the planet, and would be positioned to support some very high-quality work.
- Many of the existing senior staff would likely choose to leave the organization, because the focus was changed, and decisions were now made by the board.
- He also addressed a need to remove people from a board in an acceptable way. Companies and organizations had processes to invite people to join boards, but what was needed was a way to retire them without damage to pride or support.

Several years later, I was working at an airline in Canada and among other things, I was responsible for environment. The Flight Attendants had come together and wanted to recycle waste from flights, and to donate the profit to an environmental charity. The company executive assumed the amount would be very small (it was larger than anyone imagined) and they immediately agreed that we could give the money to a charitable organization, but I would need to use care in selecting charities. I immediately thought of WWF, and arranged to meet the Canadian WWF President, Monte Hummel, in Toronto. His first question was, “why did you choose WWF?” I told him my little story – and he was very surprised, telling me that the expectations of Prince Philip had been

met – the organization had found that raising money was much easier with a well-focused strategy. They were doing well, but in the process, many senior people had departed – exactly as Prince Philip predicted. Monte told me that he had considered leaving, but when the dust had settled, they had a better organization with more power than they had ever had in the past. His view of having Prince Philip in charge had become all positive.

A few years later, Prince Philip came to Vancouver for a dinner hosted by WWF. I was asked if we could donate two passes to the Arctic, for a raffle at the dinner. We did that, but they also asked if we would bring our recycling committee, in uniform, to be hostesses for seating at the dinner. I immediately thought that this might be a wonderful opportunity to allow our committee to meet Prince Philip. It was agreed that he would meet the committee at our hangar and office facility for tea and discussion.

The day came. Prince Philip wanted to see our facilities for recycling, so his arrival was at the door of the incinerator building. That ugly machine was used to burn international waste – preventing the possible spread of agricultural diseases. Company people were shocked, but the staff from the UK thought it was a great idea. The visit was great fun. Prince Philip was his animated self, and we had a photo taken that showed him sitting, surrounded by a committee of flight attendants. As he was departing, he thanked the company CEO, the EVP Operations (my boss) and when he came to me, he quipped, “nice to see that you are still gainfully employed.” I laughed with him, but the executives present wondered what had happened. Prince Philip, in addition to all his other skills, has a great memory for people and faces. He also has a profound sense of humour.

Since the founding of the CSC in 1956, 5980 leaders from a wide variety of backgrounds, and from countries spanning the Commonwealth and beyond, have had their perspectives broadened, their leadership strengthened and their networks expanded through participation in the Conference or one of its affiliates - UK Leadership Forum, The Governor General’s Canadian Leadership Conference, Emerging Leaders’ Dialogues, and CSC Leaders. The tributes that follow are written by global alumni of every one of the aforementioned Conferences and Dialogues. The alumni are from civil society, public and private sectors, and trade unions - though they have diverse, and at times divergent, viewpoints they all agree that a key outcome of their experience is the ability to build common ground and work with people with whom they disagree, which has had a great impact on the alumni, their organisations and their countries.

In closing, I would have to say that the experience of the Commonwealth Study Conference and the creation of the Governor General’s Canadian Leadership Conference were two events that impacted my life. I commented to someone only a few days ago that I learn far more from people that I disagree with and are not afraid to counter my position, than I learn from someone that supports all that I believe. This is a lesson learned directly from my involvement with Prince Philip and the Conferences he created.

And so a huge vote of thanks is due to Prince Philip for the leadership he showed us. He was always a joy to work with – but he was also prepared to challenge and debate any issue. Those discussions have been significant in my learning processes and the learning processes of the Alumni.

Malcolm S. Metcalfe LVO, P.Eng

1974 Alumnus from Canada



Alumni Tributes



Reminiscences on the 1986 HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Sixth Commonwealth Study Conference

I PARTICIPATED IN THE 1986 DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S SIXTH COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE under the theme "Managing Change in an Industrial Society". I formed part of Group 16 that visited Tasmania, Australia. I was at that time Head of the School of Industrial Technology of the University of Mauritius.

The Conference was, in many ways, a memorable and eye-opening experience for me. The mining industry in Tasmania at that time had to deal with reduced prices of minerals worldwide, resulting in the need for greater efficiency and possible retrenchment, or even closure of some mines. Managing that change was not easy and it required dialogue between government, industry, trade unions and the community. The discussions that arose in my Group comprising fourteen members having different backgrounds from twelve countries were so enriching and enlightening. The sugar industry in Mauritius, too, was facing a similar threat and it was interesting to compare the two situations. As pointed out by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in his inaugural address, the Conference was not intended to produce answers but "to give the members a chance to ask questions and to gain a broader understanding of the challenges which modern industrial communities present to the individuals and their families". And in his closing address, he mentioned: "It's only when problems are recognised and faced that there is any hope for solving them. We shouldn't forget that while technology may make many jobs redundant, it also creates new jobs". And later in the same speech: "No industrial system can function satisfactorily on purely pragmatic, materialistic and economic principles. Industrial activity of any kind involves people and is for the benefit of the people. It therefore needs to be influenced by the ethical and moral standards and values which have been inherited or adopted within the culture of the community which it serves". Words of wisdom pronounced thirty years ago but which are equally relevant today.

Thank you, Your Royal Highness, for creating opportunities, through the Study Conferences, for future leaders to meet, learn and discuss issues shaping Commonwealth societies. For many of us, the Conference has proved to be a life-changing experience.

Goolam Mohamedbhai

Rose Hill, Mauritius

February, 2018



It's only when problems are recognised and faced that there is any hope for solving them. We shouldn't forget that while technology may make many jobs redundant, it also creates new jobs.

— HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

A “Thank you” to The Duke of Edinburgh for his patronage of the Commonwealth Study Conferences.

BACK IN 1974 I was delighted to receive an invitation to attend the Commonwealth Study Conference scheduled for the United Kingdom. Very happy to have been chosen as a representative of my adopted country of Canada and intrigued by the opportunity to meet young leaders from around the Commonwealth. Apart from those thoughts the upcoming experience was going to be all brand new to me as an aspiring young trade union leader. From the very first orientation talk at Queen Mary College in London to the final dinner together at Oxford absolutely everything that happened was exciting, brilliantly educational and stimulating. I met so many people from different parts of the world and walks of life, and I heard so many new ideas and approaches to the common problems faced by the membership of my Union and the people of my country. Yes, there was a sense of overload, but oh what valuable overload of new ideas as well as so many challenges to the rather traditional ways that I had been thinking.

The highlight was my first morning in my small bedroom in the Christ College student quarters I was sharing with a young manager from India. There was a knock on the door and an elderly gentleman entered with a cup of tea delivered to my bedside. He was our “scout” or servant for the duration of our stay at the college. A light in my head flicked on as I quickly realized that this was the lifestyle enjoyed by Oxbridge students, who in turn went on – and still do go on – to play key leadership roles in just about every single field of British endeavour.

The Study Conference was simply brilliant – in bringing aspiring young leaders together – in exposing them to each other as well as to true life experiences in the host nation in a way that exposed us to “warts and all”. And while I simply loved the whole thing at the same time it is clear that those who envisaged such Conferences and made them happen were supported and encouraged from the outset by the iconoclasm and bold thinking so typified by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. Because of his initiative and continued support literally thousands of young people have similar experiences each of their own unique kind. Therefore it is with much humility that I extend to the Duke my deep and sincere thank you for what was truly a life-changing experience.

John L. Fryer, C.M., 1974 Conference--U.K.

Group F

Yes, there was a sense of overload, but oh what valuable overload of new ideas as well as so many challenges to the rather traditional ways that I had been thinking.



IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO REPRESENT MY TINY PACIFIC ISLAND NATION OF SAMOA at the 2014 Emerging Pacific Leaders’ Dialogue. As part of the 2014 EPLD Alumni I was honoured to meet HRH Princess Anne with our study group from New Caledonia at the closing ceremony hosted by Vanuatu.

I believe, the long-term vision of the HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in establishing this platform has greatly enriched the lives of people from around the world. The 2014 EPLD has had a catalytic effect on my professional and personal life through the experience, values and friendships I have gained from being part of the Dialogue. In 2016 I was promoted as CEO of our company and also successfully completed my Masters of International Business from Deakin University Australia.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity given by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH Princess Anne to be part of these dialogues which has made it possible for everyone around the world to make important contribution towards sustainable and equitable development for all.

I wish you God’s continued blessings and long health.

Nadia Meredith-Hunt

CEO, KVACONSULT LTD, 2014 Alumnus from Samoa



I WAS 26 YEARS OLD AND FELT VERY MUCH ONE OF THE “KIDS” when I attended the Commonwealth Study Conference in Canada in 1980. Since then, my professional life has been spent in the global trade union movement. Today I am General Secretary of UNI Global Union, which brings together more than 900 unions in 150 countries, including many Commonwealth nations. As I cast my mind back to 38 years ago, I have vivid memories of Study Group Five; ours was a group of camaraderie and full-throated debates. Our group unity was finally forged during a hairy DC3 flight across Northern Alberta when all our prayers were answered with a safe landing and the understanding of our mortal common destiny. Our group leader, Hemi Mitic, has remained a friend ever since but we do hold him responsible for the plane journey. The political contours of the world have changed since 1980. At the time I became General Secretary in 1989, we were faced with a new Europe and democratic shifts in all continents. The end of history was pronounced. We tried to forge human rights in the new constitutions; we spoke of society, of raising all of the boats, of industrial democracy with the voice for the working people to be respected in the world of business. All of those themes and more figured in our passionate and often heated Study Group Five debates. Now fast forward to current times, where just two weeks ago I addressed the 2018 World Economic Forum in Davos. The theme of that global gathering was “Creating a Shared Future in a Fractured World.” My message for a new social contract brought echoes of those 1980 talks, with the call for government, business and unions to create a more shared future to heal this fractured world. Looking at the risks today from populism, xenophobia, climate change, the shareholder value-driven corporate model, inequality and all the threats that they bring to peace, the spirit of the Commonwealth Conferences and the vision of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in bringing young leaders together to forge another future was never more needed.

Philip Jennings, 1980 Alumnus from the United Kingdom

IN 1995, I WAS STARTING A SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL ROLE IN ASIA, and despite being interviewed by an Archbishop and a Chief Constable, the CSC programme was the last thing I wanted to do. Wiser heads prevailed and I ‘commuted’ from Malaysia for what turned out to be a highly impactful, hugely engaging, indeed, seminal experience. It was the breadth of participants that made it so special. Many of these individuals have remained lifelong friends – from backgrounds I would not have otherwise have come across. Years later, I have now observed, assisted, helped fund, recruit and manage eight different CSC programmes around the world – as well as presented numerous participants to Your Royal Highness. These have all been tremendous programmes with outstanding participants and a format that is both unique and important to Commonwealth progress. Targeting talented individuals from a breadth of occupations, who will progress further, is a highly insightful and effective change agent for the good. Sir, you have initiated and nurtured a very special programme and it is incumbent on all of us to ensure that its success continues. Thank you.

Chris Hartley, 1995 Alumnus from Great Britain

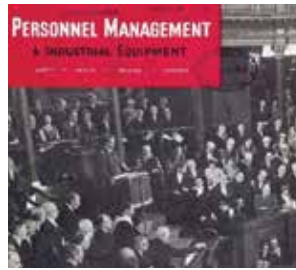
It was the breadth of participants that made it so special. Many of these individuals have remained lifelong friends – from backgrounds I would not have otherwise have come across.

EMERGING LEADERS’ DIALOGUE IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE that brings innovation and diversity together in a dynamic setting. ELD gave space for brilliant minds to come together and challenge each other to elevate our own education and professional conduct to a new and deeper level. ELD was an opportunity where I had the ability to define areas of myself - professionally and personally. I left feeling grateful I was able to partake in this experience, humbled, with direction, and most importantly as a more defined emerging leader.

Eric Klapatiuk,

2017 Alumnus from Canada







Aberfeldy

Somerset, Bermuda

18th February, 2018

To HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

Dear Prince Philip,

When the opportunity to participate in the 1962 Study Conference was offered to me by the Bermuda Employers' Council, I jumped at it because it was an opportunity to get together with the 35 Commonwealth Countries that were to be present at that Conference. I realized that the broader my knowledge was of their situations, the more effectively I could work here in Bermuda.

We were greeted by Conference staff in Montreal and immediately started our group work, made up equally of government, employers and trade unionists. The result of this cocktail of thought was fantastic and very rewarding.

Some participants asked Your Royal Highness why you were organizing the Conference, and you replied that you just liked to put people together; adding that it's so important for different social and economic groups to be in touch. The whole point was to show that we can all live, work and play together in our own Commonwealth countries and work together on necessary changes.

That is what I have spent my life doing. The Conference gave me the vision to encourage others to create a business atmosphere that motivates and empowers all those in the workplace with a keenly defined sense of direction, that allows every single individual to contribute to Bermuda's growth, and to cultivate and acknowledge that business is always a partnership with the community, the government, its customers, and those others that the business community serves.

I wish to thank Your Royal Highness for inspiring me to carry out your ideas to the best of my ability, of working to bring all people together, which has helped to bring stability to Bermuda.

Yours sincerely,

J. Christopher Astwood O.B.E., J.P.

A Tribute to HRH Prince Philip

I WANT TO PERSONALLY THANK HRH PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, FOR HIS "SOCIAL EXPERIMENT" OF 1956, which ignited a legacy of leaders. As an alumnus, the 1998 Commonwealth Study Conference hosted in Canada was a career changing experience for me. At that time, I was an in-house staff lawyer at Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited and really looking for an opportunity to advance my leadership potential to become a senior executive in the automotive industry.

My fellow participants like myself were intellectually curious. The two and half week study tour dialogue really opened my eyes to understanding business, political and societal issues through a variety of lenses. This experience made me a more effective business lawyer and in-house advisor as it allowed me to appreciate other points of view when negotiating transactions and providing legal advice which propelled my career advancement. It's no mere coincidence that I was recognized in 2017 as one of the world's leading general counsel.

More importantly though, I developed a deep connection and bond with several of the 1980 alumni such as Robert Taylor, Hemi Mitic and Mary Collins who also became my mentors and sponsors. As a result, I continued to remain involved with CSC and was pleased in 2009 to be one of the Founding Directors of Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Canada to take the CSC in Canada to its next stage of development under the auspices of HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne.



HRH Prince Philip in his wisdom knew that the real magic of these Study Conferences was the power of connection amongst the alumni that would keep his CSC vision alive.

Agnes Di Leonardi, 1998 CSC Alumnus

President & CEO, Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Canada Inc.

General Counsel, Corporate Secretary & Board Director, Mazda Canada Inc.

HRH Prince Philip in his wisdom knew that the real magic of these Study Conferences was the power of connection amongst the alumni that would keep his CSC vision alive.



Ideas have consequences, particularly when applied to the study of liberty.

IN 1956 HRH PRINCE PHILIP, A KEEN OBSERVER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AND ITS EFFECT ON INDIVIDUALS, realized that the three main community sectors (industry, trade unions and government) were not ‘talking’ to each other. He devised a plan to select potential leaders from each of these three sectors and ‘lock them up together’ for three weeks — living together, travelling together and learning together. This way, he felt that life-long bonds would be forged between ‘warring parties’ and the benefits would become obvious during subsequent years.

Travelling around Australia with HRH Prince Philip in 1968 as part of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Study Conference (now known as the Commonwealth Study Conference or CSC) we picked up many words of wisdom from the Prince himself. He told us: “the rate of change makes it more important to teach people how to think rather than what to know.” HRH Prince Philip was ahead of his time with many of his words still ringing true today.

He taught us how to ask questions by reminding us that, the first time we ask anyone a question, we will only receive a polite answer. This is because they are unsure if we really want to know. The second time we asked that question they will take us slightly more seriously and again give a partial answer. It’s only on the third time when we ask the same question, still being polite, that we will really get inside their mind and once they realize how serious we are they will open up and give us the true story. HRH Prince Philip said: “That’s the answer I want you to bring back to me, fully refined and fully focused.”

There were the two points that he wanted to leave us with. Firstly, that we should come to our own conclusions and act as an individual to avoid what is now termed ‘group-thinking’. His secondary message was always: “Don’t be afraid to excel and be the very best person you can possibly be.”

These comments, and the study tour itself, were behind my inspiration to set up our Mannkal Economic Education Foundation. I enjoyed the experience of being thrown into a pressure-cooker educational trip with 300 people from business, government and trade unions. We had to personally report back to Prince Philip where he proceeded to “belt the hell out of us” by teaching us “never to waffle”.

Ron Manners, 1968 Alumnus from Australia

I enjoyed the experience of being thrown into a pressure-cooker educational trip with 300 people from business, government and trade unions. We had to personally report back to Prince Philip where he proceeded to “belt the hell out of us” by teaching us “never to waffle”.

*Dzooobe Dzooobe! HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.
(Greetings in Guhu Samane language).*

I MET HRH PRINCESS ROYAL, PRINCESS ANNE AT THE EPLD 2014 IN VANUATU and found out that a community in the country worship you. You and I have people in our families that share the same name - my elder brother’s name is Philip and your eldest son is HRH Charles, Prince of Wales. I was born in the year that The Prince of Wales made his first marriage.

I am honoured to be part of this great community of people you’ve brought together into this network of CSC. I have seen my world differently since EPLD 2014. There is a lot to share but in short, in a small way, I have strengthened my commitment to advocate on harmful effects of plastic bags on the environment by completely doing away with the use of plastic bags when shopping at the local kiosk or trade store in my community. I have progressed well in my professional career.

On behalf of my wife, Helmtrude, and my daughter, Lahzi, I wish you good health and long life in many more years to come.

Charles Iha, 2014 Alumnus from Papua New Guinea

*I have seen my world differently
since EPLD 2014.*

IN 2009 MY COMPANY, Springstreet Communications, was asked by the alumni of the 1980 Commonwealth Study Conference (CSC) to help in the delivery of the first Commonwealth Conference that partnered Canada with the Caribbean region and Bermuda. Renamed the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue (CCELD), this event included 120 participants, over 22 countries and a 150 volunteers working in 20 locations across both regions. The sheer size and scope of the project was beyond what I imagined was possible. My team of event planners were challenged in unforgettable ways. The success of 2011 was followed by a smaller but no less ambitious CCELD 2015 with 60 participants and over 16 countries. The Dialogues were a pivotal point in the growth of Springstreet and for me personally as the company owner. I was inspired by a Board of alumni who were so committed to the vision of the Dialogues that, even years later, they still held the belief that this program is instrumental in shaping leaders for the future. The CSC model has stood the test of time in relevance and significance, which is a testament to your ingenuity and forward thinking. At the centre of the program's success is the study tour, where leaders from different sectors come together to discuss, debate and resolve the issues of the day, shifting their paradigms and embracing their leadership potential. Although I never was able to participant, the impact of supporting so many participants through the experience has changed my thinking of what it takes to develop a leader and the importance of being open to new ideas, opinions and a diverse range of thinking. Thank you for the Conferences!

Barb Crompton, Springstreet Communications, Canada

The CSC model has stood the test of time in relevance and significance, which is a testament to your ingenuity and forward thinking.

IT WAS THE BEST CONFERENCE I EVER PARTICIPATED IN because of the simple reason that I met the best cohesive team. Thanks to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh I learnt the spirit of teamwork and how to mobilize it. I myself converted as a Global Citizen after the Conference. It was a great platform to work with multi-ethnic individuals and experience the synergy.

Sujeewa Jayawardana
2016 Alumnus from Sri Lanka



WE EACH HOPE THAT THROUGH OUR EFFORTS AND INITIATIVES we may leave the world a little bit better than we found it. And there are so many ways to have a positive impact, big or small.

Your vision in founding the Commonwealth Emerging Leaders' Dialogue was ground-breaking and enduring – in that the approaches developed decades ago are just as relevant today, and it is unimaginable how many lives have been touched.

My ELD experience, which spanned Canada and the Caribbean almost ten years ago, was a critical turning point for me in gaining clarity around what my own approach to making a difference would be.

Traveling across different locales in my small group, breaking bread together, sharing and debating from our specific sectorial perspectives, was one of the richest learning experiences of my life. That, and facing the challenge of sharing digs with a perfect stranger while under the duress of minimal sleep and group project deadlines! The ELD experience not only evolves leaders, but fosters character and connections that far outlast the few weeks.

In the work that I do now at Oxford University, with young leaders from across the globe, I draw on the same experiential learning approaches that came alive for me through the ELD: the richest sources of education are often people and places that we may not come into contact with in our everyday lives; we learn a lot by being pushed outside of our comfort zones and even beyond our limits; and the complex problems of the world require leadership that is characterful, and not only conversant with but meaningfully connected to others who may not share the same point of view.

Thank you, for having this vision and for steadfastly providing this experience to so many for so many years.

Nadiya Figueroa

Jamaican Delegate / Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue, 2011
Dean of Scholarships, Director of Leadership / The Rhodes Trust,
Oxford University



HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IS FONDLY REMEMBERED BY THE ALUMNI FROM MALAYSIA. HRH Prince Philip met with Malaysian alumni on 5 March 1965 and 22 September 1998 in Kuala Lumpur during state visits with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

The Malaysian alumni formed the Commonwealth Study Conference Association of Malaysia (Coscam) in 1992. I was the President of Coscam from April 2014 until April 2016. I am proud to say that Coscam was the co-host of the Tenth Commonwealth Study Conference in 2007, where we hosted three study tours in Malaysia. What better way to pay tribute to HRH Prince Philip than to carry on with HRH's vision?

The legacy of the Commonwealth Study Conferences carries on in different ways. More recently, Coscam was the host of the Emerging Leaders' Dialogue Asia 2016 which was held in Malaysia.

During my career as an officer of the Judicial and Legal Service of Malaysia, I have drawn inspiration from the remarkable people whom I met during the Seventh Commonwealth Study Conference in 1992.

I wish to convey from heartfelt gratitude to HRH Prince Philip for inspiring me to play a meaningful role in society.

Susila Sithamparam, 1992 Alumnus from Malaysia

During my career as an officer of the Judicial and Legal Service of Malaysia, I have drawn inspiration from the remarkable people whom I met during the Seventh Commonwealth Study Conference in 1992.



DURING THE INTRODUCTORY RECEPTION IN SYDNEY, I was meeting other Canadian delegates. A fellow from Montreal, a trade unionist, who maybe had had a few beers prior to the reception, the highlight of which was to be introduced to you. He was really getting warmed up explaining to me how he was going to express his feelings about the monarchy in Quebec. By the time you approached us, I could almost feel him start to bristle...without missing a beat you addressed him in French and joked with him about something because he started to laugh. A year or so after the Conference I met him again and he said the "The Prince Duke is a great guy. I sent him a Christmas card this year".

30 years later, I still appreciate how that moment of your exchange captures the essence of the entire Conference.

Ian Gray, 1986 Alumnus from Canada

30 years later, I still appreciate how that moment of your exchange captures the essence of the entire Conference.

I WAS EXTREMELY FORTUNATE TO BE SELECTED TO ATTEND THE 1998 CSC, as a business representative from South Africa. It was a life-changing experience, providing a unique insight into the lens through which people from different countries, cultures, backgrounds and stakeholder groups view the challenges that are facing society. This enhanced understanding has served me well during my career in the global mining industry, where considering multiple stakeholders is a critical element of business success. It was a rare privilege to meet HRH, who expressed a keen interest in my views on the transformation that had recently taken place in South Africa, and the new challenges that would face my country.

John MacKenzie, 1998 Alumnus from South Africa

I WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY MY CONSIDERABLE GRATITUDE for being able to participate in the CSCLeaders Conference 2014. The Conference had a tremendous impact on my leadership both on professional as well as personal levels. In turn, I now use these leadership skills to positively influence others in many countries including the Commonwealth. The experience will last a lifetime. The vision the HRH The Duke of Edinburgh had in setting up the original Commonwealth Study Conference and subsequent leadership dialogues is an incredible inspiration that no doubt will continue to positively impact people, NGOs, industries and governments for many years to come.

Rob Bain, 2014 Alumnus from the United Kingdom



To: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

Re: Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference

Your Royal Highness,

I wanted to send this quick note of appreciation for all the public service you have done over the years. I live in the Vancouver area in British Columbia, Canada and was privileged to attend The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference in 1992. This Conference was a once in a lifetime opportunity and had a tremendous impact on me.

The Conference gave me the opportunity to meet and interact with bright and gifted individuals from all walks of life and all areas of the Commonwealth. But in addition to this, it also provided me with a new perspective on the value of the work you and the Royal family do.

I had the honour of sitting directly beside you at our wind-up dinner, and this was truly one of the highlights of the Conference for me.

So once again your Highness, I really and truly want to thank you for your public service and wish you all the best in the future.

Yours truly,

Gord Campbell

Duke of Edinburgh Commonwealth Study Conference, 1992

Group F

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HRH I AM GRATEFUL FOR THIS AMAZING OPPORTUNITY THAT YOU HAVE CREATED. Leaving this Dialogue in 2015 has shaped my leadership and professional skills in so many ways. I have grown to better deal with major challenges in leadership. The relationships gained from the experience have proven to be remarkable resource and support network.

Jevaughn Rhymer, 2015 Alumnus from British Virgin Islands



THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HAS LEAD MY LIFE INTO THE CAREER OF POLITICAL CONSULTANCY in United States Politics. I have worked on First Lady Hillary Clinton's Campaign to become Senator of New York.

I then went on to elect and re-elect President Obama, and to bring in the Affordable Care Act for 30 million Americans without any health insurance. My political consultancy has been to elect Senators, Governors, and Presidents of the United States for over 20 years.

Christie Jung PhD

member of American Association of Political Consultants-VA

1980 Group 16, Alumnus from Canada

I AM DEEPLY INDEBTED TO THE FORESIGHT AND LEADERSHIP OF HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH for my opportunity to attend the Commonwealth Study Conference in 1992, which was the last chance for Hong Kong delegates to join. After July 1, 1997, Hong Kong status is changed. And I was so fortunate to have my global development and networking experience in the 1992 Conference. Thank you very much, HRH Prince Philip.

Eddie HO, 1992 Alumnus from Hong Kong



I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH FOR SUPPORTING MY CAREER DEVELOPMENT AS AN EMERGING LEADER. I participated in the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue and it was the catalyst that I allowed me to take up my current leadership role at Bow Valley College. I will always cherish the moments and connections I made at the Conference.

Nicole Dodd, 2015 Alumnus from Canada

HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY for your brainchild that is the Commonwealth Study Conference (CSC). The Conference I attended in 1992 contributed to my development and will always be remembered as one of the important experiences in my life. My experience was a factor in my subsequent progression to higher office in my firm, the Massy Group, and as a result I have impacted the lives of several hundreds of people in a way that would not have been as positive, had I not had the broadening of my perspectives through CSC 1992. Thanks again!

David Jardim, 1992 Alumnus from Trinidad and Tobago

THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE IN 1980 in which I served as a Chair of a one of the Study Tour groups, had a huge impact on my life and subsequent career. The opportunity to work with future leaders from many different sectors and countries provided me with knowledge and confidence to later pursue a political career as well as undertake a variety of international assignments. The memories of our time together at the Conference and the Study Tours are still with me. The experience also led to working with the other 1980 Chairs to establish both the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference and the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue for a lasting legacy in leadership development.



Hon. Mary Collins, P.C., 1980 Alumnus from Canada

The experience also led to working with the other 1980 Chairs to establish both the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference and the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue for a lasting legacy in leadership development.

THANK YOU, HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, for giving me the opportunity to participate at the EPLD 2014 and I was on the team that went to Australia. I have met many people from many institutions and organisations, local industries and government around the country in eight days and that was an awesome experience for me. I have learned a lot about the economy, the culture and the development of Australia's environment, lifestyle and collaboration between people of European, Aboriginal and other ethnic backgrounds. Then meeting with Princess Anne and doing our presentation - that was the greatest thing that happened in my entire life. This Conference experience has given me more confidence in my job responsibility as a manager in a nickel mine industry, I have learned how to be a good manager, to listen to others and to trust the people you are working with. Thank you very much; I would give anything to live this experience again.

Best regards.

Jimmy-Clay GNAI, 2014 Alumnus from New Caledonia



I AM HUMBLLED BY THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH FOR HIS THOUGHTFUL LEADERSHIP in creating such an impactful program Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue.

The ELD has given me, and my fellow alumni, a wider view of the global political economy and how we all fit into it. As a professional Accountant and a Trade Unionist I was able to see how my two loves, financial analysis and workers' rights, could be blended to shape my approach to dealing with national and regional issues and has placed me on a path to interact with leaders of government in many countries and the international development partners.

I am now the President of the Jamaica Civil Service Association, the largest public sector union in Jamaica; a Vice President of the National Trade Union Center, The Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions; and sit on several boards inside and outside of the public sector. I am also a key participant in high level commissions and committees to include the Local Social Partnership pact chaired by Jamaica's Prime Minister the Most Honourable Andrew Holness.

Again I want to say thank you to His Royal Highness for founding and being the Patron of this noble movement that has created strong leaders.

O'Neil W. Grant, 2011 Alumnus from Jamaica



HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, I did not get an opportunity to meet with you Sir, but had the honour of meeting Princess Anne. The program has made me a better person and I gained a lot of knowledge from this Conference. I had made many friends with whom I still keep in touch. I have become a better leader. I am now holding the position of Vice President in Fiji Trades Union Congress. I thank the Commonwealth Study Conferences, Emerging Leaders' Dialogues, and CSC Leaders for giving me that opportunity to participate in the Conference. I was in the group that toured the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Teresa Veronica Ali, 2006 Alumnus from Fiji



SIR, I AM MEMBER OF THE INAUGURAL COHORT of the Emerging Leaders for Sustainable Community Development (Canada) program, which offered a truly transformative experience that pushed my understanding of complex social challenges while equipping me with the skills and empathy required to help devise the necessary solutions. It feels as though, as a global community, leadership skills are needed now more than ever -- your legacy shall live on through this program.

With humble thanks,

Matthew J. Bock, 2017 Alumnus from Canada.

HRH, I HAD THE GREAT PLEASURE OF REPRESENTING AUSTRALIA and travelling with HRH Princess Anne through our field trips in New Zealand. The entire Commonwealth Study Conference experience has had a major impact on me, my career and my ongoing contribution to the work I do at a country and international level. I will always be grateful for the careful thought the program achieved and I remain in contact with many alumni for lasting friendships and networks.

Cynthia Payne, 2003 Alumnus from Australia



I WISH TO THANK HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH FOR THE GREAT INITIATIVE OF THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE and the opportunity to have participated in Australia.

The Conference provided a unique opportunity for meeting people from diverse backgrounds, yet with common aspirations to explore and proffer solutions to what seem to be difficult challenges back in our various countries.

For me the Conference was a great experience to share thoughts on some key issues in governance and community development. Lessons learned on how the people in the rural communities worked together to build their communities to create a conducive place for themselves, including renewal of old structures while also protecting the environment.

Power was a big issue unsolved back in Nigeria. The Conference and the field visits provided me opportunities to know the various options available and as demonstrated both by the Victoria State and New South Wales.

I remember vividly having an opportunity to discuss some of the Nigerian issues with HRH The Princess Royal and her contributions which I found very useful.

Since returning to Nigeria, I have had various opportunities to be invited into policy formulation and on several occasions being invited by the Central Bank of Nigeria and other departments of Government either to participate in developing or reviewing policies through presentation of papers, attendance of workshops and sometimes television interviews and debates. No doubt my professional career has benefited immensely as a result of participating in the program. I wish HRH the Duke of Edinburgh a deserved rest as he retires from public engagements. The fruits of the Commonwealth Study Conference will last many generations with impact on nations of the Commonwealth.

Emmanuel Akinyemi Akintola, 2003 Alumnus from Nigeria

To HRH Prince Philip:

I ATTENDED THE 1998 CSC HELD IN CANADA. I must say that I will not forget the many memories and experience I had gained and shared and the many new friends that I have made around the world through my participation at the Conference. Over the years I have been able to develop greater leadership skills and take on leadership roles from what I have learned through the Conference. Thank you for being a model of leadership and establishing the Conference and the many other Conferences thereafter. Future leaders will surely benefit from such a Conference.

Gary K.Y. Yee, 1998 Alumnus from Canada



Your Royal Highness,

THE 1980 CONFERENCE WAS FOR ME A TEST OF STAMINA, good humour and the ability to work in a team of people from an extraordinary variety of backgrounds that included a trade union leader from the United Kingdom, a Nigerian banker and the collector of customs in the Solomon Islands! I could talk of relationships that were formed and aptitudes that were gained but I think the Conference's effect on me chiefly consisted in the conviction that I had had an absolutely unique experience of an operation run to exacting standards, and that I had to stick to those standards in my future career.

What I recall of your chairmanship is that you left no doubt in anyone's mind that this was an important undertaking and not a talking shop. Your visit to our residence to discuss our final presentations was an enlivening (and slightly unnerving) experience that marked the whole enterprise as different from, and superior to, the general run of extra-curricular activities in which we had all been engaged. There followed a sleepless night during which we struggled with our presentation and, after appearing to be going nowhere, it suddenly gelled and we realized we had something important to say.

I will always be grateful for having participated in your Conference and to you for having got it off the ground. Its influence is impossible to measure but no one who has had the experience will deny being pushed to attain greater heights as a consequence.

Gerald Wright, 1980 Alumnus from Canada

Dear HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh

I HAD THE HONOUR OF REPRESENTING SOLOMON ISLANDS at the 1986 Commonwealth Study Conference, visiting Tasmania, Australia. At the time, I was a 32 year old accountant of Chinese Malaysian origins recently emigrated to Solomon Islands and embarking on a new challenge of starting my own accounting firm. The Conference was a truly remarkable and eye-opening experience for a young accountant from Solomon Islands. Travelling with participants from many countries and varied career backgrounds, the world seemed both infinitely larger than I had ever imagined but at the same time it was so apparent that people are inherently the same no matter what their origins.

For me the most lasting impact the Conference had was to impart a fundamental belief that mankind can create opportunity and pursue improvements across almost any field of endeavour to ensure the advancement of both the local community and the wider society. Most importantly, the role leadership has to play in this process cannot be underestimated and I am sincerely thankful that the Conference allowed me the opportunity to develop as a business and community leader.

Some 31 years later, my involvement and commitment to CSC has never been greater. I have been involved in several Conferences and Dialogues as a coordinator in Solomon Islands, board member of Emerging Pacific Leaders and now as a director of CSC Australia. I cannot imagine my life without CSC and I have a life-long commitment to continuing the outstanding programmes that you so admirably established and led since 1956. Your vision for CSC is alive and well in the alumni community, which has achieved outstanding personal excellence and improved the lives on many people throughout the world.

I had the great privilege to meet you at Government House in Canberra, Australia in 2011 and was humbled receiving the OBE medal from HRH Prince Charles in 2003. Those two occasions will forever remain personal highlights of my life and memories I will cherish and share with my family and future Conference participants.

My words cannot begin to truly convey my utmost appreciation and gratitude for the contribution CSC has made to my life, and for the visionary contribution your leadership has made over a remarkable 61 years.

Yours faithfully

Robert Goh OBE

The Conference was a truly remarkable and eye-opening experience for a young accountant from Solomon Islands. Travelling with participants from many countries and varied career backgrounds, the world seemed both infinitely larger than I had ever imagined but at the same time it was so apparent that people are inherently the same no matter what their origins.



The Fifth Commonwealth Study Conference – 1980 – Canada

BY THE TIME I ARRIVED IN KINGSTON ONTARIO FOR THE OPENING IN OF THE '80 CONFERENCE, I had become increasingly curious as to what to expect. This was a high profile event – after all it was sanctioned by the Duke of Edinburgh, which put it in a unique category. I was nominated to chair Group Five. Bringing 300 global leaders from the Commonwealth was a serious undertaking. The captains of enterprise were well represented, as was Canadian labour. Even the firebrand Dennis McDermott, leader of auto workers – who often claimed he was Irish but was actually born in England – served on the Conference Council. All part of a formula that served the Conference participants and society well for over a half a century.

With all of this horsepower you could not help but be impressed. Sir, as you have often said, the Conference serves as a laboratory. For me, the greatest value was what the leaders learned from each other. Watching business and labour leaders interacting, with holsters and iron parked at the door, is an opportunity not matched anywhere. The key sectors of society must communicate and compromise to make our communities better to benefit global citizens. By the time we reached the closing ceremonies in Quebec City this understanding became more evident. Many leaders, it seemed, had switched their sector roles albeit for a short time – which confirms my observation that discussion creates compromise and promise.

And so, Sir, I offer a heartfelt thank-you for whipping the horses to get the job done. When the phoenix rises, wherever that may be, we will once again see leaders soaring.

Hemi Mitic MVO

Chair, Group Five 1980, Canada



AT THE TIME OF MY APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE FIFTH STUDY CONFERENCE IN 1980, I was located in Whitehorse, Yukon in Northwest Canada. I was assigned to Study Group 7 and we undertook a tour and discussions with various businesses and people in the Canadian Maritime areas. It was a unique experience to be mixed in with members from the academia, labour unions, management and candidates from other Commonwealth countries to discuss the economic situation of various businesses, cities and provinces. Sharing the perspective of others was a mind-expanding experience, for me it was a career-changing and stimulating growth opportunity.

The role of HRH as a guiding force and his personal views on the subjects discussed considerably changed my outlook as I went on to a management career in Canada and then in later in Australia, where I currently live. I was brought into a major company in Australia, Telstra Corporation, and had to turn this government-owned corporation of over 100,000 employees into a modern, efficient private enterprise group able to compete with many new telephone companies. The experience and views I picked up in 1980 were essential to my success in this challenge and I was recognized as a Member of the Order of Australia in 2008 for my services to Australia.

I wish to thank HRH for the effort and energy he put into providing young people like me with the experience and expansion of views and outlook in order to help make my career successful and to contribute to the Commonwealth in both Canada and Australia.

I was also strongly taken with his great sense of humour and his down to earth approach to people. A great man of his time.

Douglas C. Campbell, 1980, Study Group 17

Alumnus from Canada



It was a unique experience to be mixed in with members from the academia, labour unions, management and candidates from other Commonwealth countries to discuss the economic situation of various businesses, cities and provinces. Sharing the perspective of others was a mind-expanding experience, for me it was a career-changing and stimulating growth opportunity.

OUR HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS, bless to long live, great appreciation to HRH - the founder of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Youth Awards and the Emerging Leaders' Dialogues. I am proud to wish this as a Gold Award Holder of NYAA-SRI LANKA, representative of HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee Services Parade 2002, and an alumnus of ELDA 2016.

Sanath Rohana Wickramasinghe, 2016 Alumnus from Sri Lanka

IN 1986 I HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE to be selected to be an Australian member of the HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Sixth Commonwealth Study Conference. It proved to be an unforgettable experience. The original idea of providing a conference opportunity for meeting and working with people from diverse backgrounds was a marvellous concept and it has worked brilliantly.

During the Conference my Group 7 travelled an area of Australia (the Pilbara), even today not visited by many, and met with Aboriginal people, farmers and miners. I remember our final presentation highlighting the **VULNERABILITY!** of the people and the environment in 'Managing Change in an Industrial Society' was well received and complimented by HRH Prince Philip.

One of the features of the Conference was the direct involvement of HRH Prince Philip; being very knowledgeable and displaying much good humour. I was fortunate to have a couple of opportunities to share our experiences of the Conference during the plenary sessions and at the dining table on the final day following the closing ceremony.

Participation in the Conference may have helped in making me more able to empathise and be more tolerant of others with divergent views; so useful in the public service senior roles I was to go on to attain later in my career. It certainly enabled me to form friendships that last to this day.

I would like to sincerely thank HRH Prince Philip for giving me the opportunity to take part in such a wonderful and memorable experience. So thank you Sir.

Jacqueline (Jacqui) Hamer, 1986 Alumnus from Australia



One of the features of the Conference was the direct involvement of HRH Prince Philip; being very knowledgeable and displaying much good humour.

December 5, 2017

Your Royal Highness,

Thank you most sincerely for your incredible dedication, determination, vision, wisdom, foresight and contributions for the benefit of all mankind.

Personally I am sure you will never know just how significant all of your leadership and gifts to the whole world truly are. However I sincerely hope you are satisfied and at peace for a life very, very well lived. Congratulations on all of your life's many accomplishments and contributions to make this world a better place.

This letter is submitted with the greatest respect, admiration, appreciation and gratitude for my own life changing education and experience meeting you on the 1986 Commonwealth Study Conference to India/Australia where I learned so much.

Thank you and congratulations again. May the Good Lord care for you well for the rest of your life.

Most sincerely,

R.N. Mannix

Chairman

Coril Holdings Ltd.

Calgary, Canada

(Yes, Brother to Fred and the polo players)

I am sure you will never know just how significant all of your leadership and gifts to the whole world truly are.

I WAS ACCEPTED INTO AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN WITH MY PEERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

I never expected the experience to be so fulfilling. It gave me an insight into cultural, social and racial challenges that I had not appreciated in my mainly business-focussed existence. Our team captured the phrase 'community leadership' as the descriptor of our learning experience. As a result I changed careers, went into private practice and governance, and now employ fifty staff in what I hope is valued-based technology development and services for humanity. For me it was a rounding, comprehensive and rewarding experience - thank you.

Christopher Boyle, 2003 Alumnus from New Zealand

1956 Alumnus

IN 1956 I WAS CHOSEN TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FIRST DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE BASED IN OXFORD. The three weeks proved to be a life-changing experience and after its completion I felt determined to actively assist in the promotion of future Conferences, if any, (as at the time Oxford was seen as a one-off) so that others in the Commonwealth could benefit from the experience I had been fortunate to receive. Consequently when the Central Committee of Study Groups was formed I was happy to become the Chairman. The central committee coordinated the studies of over 20 groups established in the U.K. on a particular theme - the Redundancy Agreement devised by the Midlands Group was the basis for future Government legislation. Prince Philip always attended these annual events at a wide variety of venues. As a result of this appointment I became a member of Sir Harold Hartley's Trustee Council. In the early 1970s I took over as Chairman of the U.K. Trustees from Sir Michael (later Lord) Clapham on his appointment of President of the Confederation of British Industries. We promoted Mini-Conferences within the U.K. and assisted in the preparatory work for further Conferences.



Following the Australian Conference in 1986, with Prince Philip's agreement, I stood down from the Chairmanship to make way for HRH Duke of Kent. I was a member of Sir Peter Parker's Committee organising the 1992 Conferences again based in Oxford. I have remained in close contact with Bob Taylor and Hemi Mitic in regard to the setting up of the Emerging Leaders' Dialogue and on April 12th this year I was presented with the ELD Diamond Medallion by HRH The Princess Royal at the St James's Palace Banquet following my election to that bodies President's Council. As I am now in my 94th year and still active, my involvement with the Conferences amounts to 61 years.

I feel immense gratitude to Prince Philip firstly for providing the opportunity to participate in the Inaugurating 1956 Conference and the incentive to pursue such a worthwhile objective.

Edward Guinness CVO, 1956 Alumnus from Great Britain



Your Royal Highness...

JULY 1992 WAS INDEED VERY SPECIAL, I had taken up a new appointment as General Manager/CEO of the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau and was one of two selected from Sri Lanka to attend HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Seventh Commonwealth Conference in Oxford. A privilege of a lifetime to be among 250 members of the Commonwealth. The theme being "International Issues: Individual Initiatives." To be based at Oxford University was the other uniqueness. After the opening ceremony at the Sheldonian Theatre, where I first met with Your Royal Highness very briefly, we took off on the assigned project area of South Yorkshire and Humberside as Group F. We were sixteen members led by Matt Smith with Sandra Aylward as the Group Secretary.

Looking back some 25 years, one can only reminisce on the gracious hospitality of our hosts, the camaraderie of different nationalities, and above all the educational value of each project. If I were to identify two significant projects that touched me, one would be the visit underground to the Maltby Collier, I am told it is the deepest coal mine in the United Kingdom (standing sixth from left in photo); and the visit to HM Prison in Wakefield where I had the distinction of sharing our findings with the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire.

The experience is far too long to comment on except for appreciating the invaluable contribution it made to making me what I am; something all future attendees and participants will realize. A highlight of that experience was the closing presentations; our group's presentation was based on a "pub scene" where I played the City Councillor. Your Royal

Highness commented on our presentation stating, "splendid idea, as it illustrates the importance of this kind of informal communication." Subsequently at the banquet at Blenheim Palace I had the distinction of speaking with you (second from left in photo), about your visit to Sri Lanka along with Her Majesty The Queen.

Since the Study Conference in 1992, I have headed Sri Lanka's Tourism and thereafter its national airline, Sri-Lankan Airlines, in different countries across Europe, US and Canada to Far East. Today, as a consultant and marketing specialist (Sri Lanka & the United Kingdom), I am proud to say, thanks very much to Your Royal Highness for giving me the opportunity to be a member of the 1992 Study Conference, an experience of a lifetime. Associating with and discovering different nationalities and cultures under the Commonwealth umbrella furthered my international relations and diplomacy, and what I saw, heard and learnt during my time in Oxford, South Yorkshire and Humberside contributed to my management career.

I did grasp all I could and made the best.

Sincerely,

A B Ranjit De Silva, 1992 Alumnus from Sri Lanka



I did grasp all I could and made the best.

THESE CONFERENCES BRING TOGETHER THE MOST REMARKABLE PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD; I have now developed an international network of contacts and friends that would not have been possible without attending some of these dialogues. All I can say is it was an inspired idea at the time and still is relevant today to discuss world issues in a Chatham house environment with your peers. Thank You HRH for making this possible.

Ian Govendir, 2015 Alumnus from the United Kingdom

WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO THE HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH for his vision to spread the emblem of great leadership across all continents of the world. Whilst I didn't have the opportunity to meet the Duke, I did meet Princess Anne when she attended the closing ceremony in Tonga. The 2010 EPLD Conference reaffirmed my desire to be a role model in servant leadership and I realized that leadership was not a pinnacle but a platform to find a deeper meaning when dealing with human beings. At 39, I have been in formal and informal leadership roles since the age of 10.

The best part of life is that I still learn something new about leadership through reading life stories of great leaders, listening to people and finding myself in challenging situations in the workplace. I attribute my success to my experience in the 2010 EPLD Conference and I believe that I've forged some long lasting relationships, some of which will awaken giants and I'm very excited about the future. As an executive in Fiji's national airline, I'm still exploring greater heights in terms of being a leader to the people that I serve and I fear that I will run out of time before I can say that I've done all that I can in any form of leadership. I feel that corporate life is boxing me and I need to get out into the world of challenges and be in the uncomfortable zone that I love to call, the leaders zone.

Thank you Prince Philip, you've lived the life of a great leader and I'm honoured to be a product of your vision in my part of the world. I would greatly love to meet you in person if I ever had the opportunity. God Bless you with many more wonderful years ahead of you. Love and best wishes from Edwin, Maureen and my three lovely kids (Alison, Ethan & Daniel) from Fiji Islands. I can assure you that I'm grooming three young leaders right from the comfort of our home.

Edwin Mua Aisake, 2010 Alumnus from Fiji



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, PRINCE PHILIP, founder and patron of the Commonwealth Study Conferences, for the opportunity to be a member and study group chair in 1980.

I was fortunate to have been selected to be one of 20 study group chairs. We met Prince Philip when he attended our first Conference briefing meeting in Calgary in 1979. This was six months before the 1980 Conference and we arrived at the meeting knowing little about what to expect as Conference members let alone the responsibility of being a group chair. By the end of three days and thanks to the briefings received from alumni from previous Conferences and the challenge set out by Prince Philip, we had bonded for life.



Jack Armstrong, an alumnus of the 1956 founding Conference had arranged for Prince Philip to meet with the group. It was a not to be forgotten experience to hear from the founder and understand first hand the purpose of the Conferences and the leadership outcomes he expected from CSC members. The Conference organizers and group chairs did their utmost to provide an important leadership learning experience for the 300 Commonwealth members who attended in 1980. Prince Philip returned to Canada for the closing report sessions, responded to each of the 20 reports and inspired all of us.

The Canadian group chairs went on to become "serial networkers" banding together for good times, succeeding in our chosen careers, and taking on the opportunity to pay forward for our experience; by receiving the support of Prince Philip to found the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conferences in 1983, by organizing the Eighth Commonwealth Study Conference in Canada in 1998, by presenting the 50th Anniversary Book Leadership in the Making to Prince Philip in 2006 and by founding the Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Canada in 2010.

Thank you, Prince Philip!

Robert F. Taylor LVO, 1980 Alumnus from Canada



THANK YOU FOR PLANTING A SEED OF INVESTMENT IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD, bearing fruit in nations and people whose eyes were open after participating in your vision. I am a thankful product of the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue 2011, and my most memorable experience was the ability to witness evidence-based leadership within corporations and associations and meet with people of all walks of life, who inspired me to dream and achieve greatness in my sphere of influence. It was during this Conference I truly believed that all things are possible, and that teamwork makes the dream work! Sincere thanks and gratitude to you for your investment in me and for your selflessness in promoting regional integration, development and sustainable leadership!

Jewel Crawford, 2011 Alumnus from Belize

I AM GRATEFUL TO HRH for making us realise inclusiveness through this study tour. I came to my own country better, courtesy leadership of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

Dr. Shyama Nagarajan,
2007 Alumnus from India



I ATTENDED THE 1986 COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE HELD IN AUSTRALIA. It was a tremendous experience, one that contributed to my entire professional career in the trade union movement.

Our Study Group toured Southern Australia wine growing regions and Your Royal Highness was able to join us for an afternoon during which we discussed the particulars of our group along with global issues.

We did not know at that time that momentous change would occur in Eastern Europe in just three short years. Nor did we anticipate the technology revolution that was ahead of us and has so fundamentally altered our world.

What I, and I suspect many others, came to appreciate was that our own views on work and the world were important, so were those of others who saw the world through a different lens. This ability to work through issues and to learn to both defend one's own turf, so to speak, and to appreciate where others are coming from was the most lasting takeaway that I had from this wonderful opportunity.

Bringing together emerging leaders took foresight and wisdom and as one alumnus I offer my sincere thanks.

I moved on from the 1986 Conference to a 33-year career within the trade union movement including 12 years as National President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Canada's largest trade union. The Commonwealth Study Conference was a learning experience that assisted me throughout my career. May it long continue for future leaders.

Yours truly,

Paul Moist, 1986 Alumnus from Canada

I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN SUCH AN IMPACTFUL EXPERIENCE, which has changed my life and my career forever. Since that time I've been able to successfully implement many changes, based on the Dialogue learnings, that will help to shape our company moving forward. A month after our tour I took my entire Canadian team and union leadership to Terrebonne, Quebec to visit the Sobeys facility so they could experience exactly the same learning that I was exposed to. This helped them to form and develop relationships, to look beyond the walls of our own facility, and it lead our team to develop a new culture-change strategy. Our team then collected toys from across Canada and shipped them down to all the students at the school I visited in the Dominican Republic. Our intention was to give those under-privileged kids, an opportunity to be kids, as most of them were forced to grow up way too fast...we filled an entire airplane. Thank you for allowing me to grow and develop with these programs, they are all-inspiring!

Jay Barker, 2015 Alumnus from Canada

MY SINCERE GRATITUDE AND THANKS TO HRH PRINCE PHILIP for providing the valuable opportunities for me to grow to a better version of myself. Have an enjoyable and meaningful time in privacy.

TEOH Choo Huat (Billy),
1998 Alumnus from Malaysia



THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE in the wonderful setting of Australia in 1986. The participation with the wide variety of young leaders with such diverse careers and views assisted me in approaching issues in my work career from a much wider perspective. Subsequently I was able to help our Canadian company successfully expand operations into both England and Australia. This was a direct result of the Commonwealth exposure gained at the Conference.

The contact to you at a couple of the social events and the astute observations you provided at the closing presentations in Sydney always reminds me of the leadership approach and overall class we all should aspire towards in all aspects of our lives.

Gary Bauer, 1986 Alumnus from Canada



ATTENDING THE MOST ENLIGHTENING CONFERENCE HAS GIVEN THIS TRADE UNIONIST CREDIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY, as I have been able to serve on many organisations over the years.

I want to thank you for your leadership in organising the Conferences with the labour participation. My wish to you on behalf of my family, is that you and the Queen enjoy your retirement as you have served the Commonwealth well.

I would like to add, my wife Laura and I have been married 61 years and had five girls and one boy. Laura has always supported me in all of my activities.

My career with Canadian National Railways as a carman was 34 years retiring in 1993. Some of my activities included the following:

- 1969-1972 elected full time secretary-treasurer, NB Federation of Labour
- 1972-1978 labour representative for the Canadian Labour Congress serving the Atlantic Provinces
- 1974 NDP candidate in Provincial election
- 1979, 1980 and 1984 candidate in Federal elections
- 1973-2007 labour representative on NB Public Service Labour Relations Board
- 1981-1990 member of Board of Trustees The Moncton Hospital Board
- 1994-2001 member Board of Directors of the Greater Moncton Airport Authority
- 1999-2014 Chaired committee to build Transportation Discovery Centre addition to the Moncton Museum

You could look at page 40 in "Leadership in the Making: 50 Years of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences" for pictures and story.

Gregory F. P. Murphy, Canada. 1968 Group P

I WAS A CONFERENCE GROUP LEADER IN 1980, SO I HAD THE HONOUR OF MEETING THE HRH PRINCE PHILIP SEVERAL TIMES. Each time I was amazed at how personable, thoughtful and down to earth he was. The most memorable meeting was when we had broken down into small groups, to prepare our final presentation. Somehow Prince Philip found two of us in a small back room, whereupon the we spent 10 minutes exchanging ideas and philosophies.

This Conference was the most significant growth event in my professional life. I started life in a prairie farmhouse, near a village of 300, with no central heat or indoor plumbing. I had learned how to work hard, but had no familiarity with corporations, unions, or leadership! I was 30 years old when I attended and this experience brought me out my youthful philosophies and inward focus. I saw how distinguished leaders made decisions and how these actually affected real people, communities, the economy, and the environment; as well as their corporation or union.

I met participants from all over the world, with different ideas, cultures and values. I developed life-long friendships and found my first mentors. All these helping me to develop better acceptance and a much broader perspective! The Conference was so worthwhile, that I volunteered on subsequent CSC and Governor General's Conferences, so others could have this experience.

Thank you HRH Prince Philip for your foresight and commitment to this invaluable Conference; you have helped make the Commonwealth, indeed the World, a better place!!!

Bill Kennedy, 1980 Alumnus from Canada

IT WAS INDEED AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE LEADERSHIP TRAINING ON THE GROUND. Beyond expectations, the quality and content of the programme took me leaps and bounds in both my personal and professional endeavours. Thank you Your Royal Highness for, if it was not for your vision and wisdom 61 years ago, the Conference continues to sustain and attract leaders across the globe.



Rasamalar (Mala) Gnanasundram, 2003 Alumnus from Malaysia



I WISH TO EXPRESS MY PROFOUND APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO HRH PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH for the opportunity to be part of the Commonwealth Study Conference 2003, which was held in Australia and New Zealand.

As a result of my participation at the Study Conference, not only did I meet some of the most wonderful people in my tour, but also my exposure crafted my future and life in the most remarkable way. I was able to use the experience in a positive manner to the benefit of my organisation, family and profession. The decision I made as a leader was based on my experiences with the various community and people we encountered as part of our group visits.

I truly believed that I am a truly knowledgeable, humane and astute leader, thanks to this remarkable study tour. I wish on behalf of my country, family and organisation to express my gratitude to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh for this opportunity and I will forever be indebted to you Sir for the great initiative in starting this Study Conference. May God continue to bless yourself and family and keep you in best of health, strength and prosperity.

Dale Anthony Beresford, 2003 Alumnus from Guyana

... my exposure crafted my future and life in the most remarkable way.



MR. RANDOLPH KIRTON, OUR FATHER NOW DECEASED [2012], PARTICIPATED IN HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S SECOND COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE (CSC) IN 1962 IN CANADA, at the age of 27. Based on his reflections over the years the study tour significantly impacted his worldview and strengthened his resolve for the development of his country Guyana (then British Guiana). He shared with us as children how he had occasion to first meet HRH the Duke as a young Civil Servant and Trade Unionist just a few months prior to the CSC. To my father's delight he would meet HRH Prince Philip again in 1994 during the Prince's visit to Guyana.

In February 1962 HRH Prince Philip visited then British Guiana, just prior to the CSC which was held in May 1962. According to our father's account, of their first meeting he declared to the Duke that a strike was imminent in the Civil Service of British Guiana, to which the Duke responded that such an occurrence was not in line with histories of British colonial civil services. My father recollected that on their following encounter during the CSC, while on the Vancouver leg of the journey, he had occasion to be on a ferry ride with HRH the Duke who engaged with him to discuss details of the strike that had in fact started in British Guiana.

HRH Prince Philip seemed to not have forgotten his encounters with the young trade unionist; so on his imminent return to Guyana in 1994 Mr. Kirton was contacted by the British High Commissioner His Excellency David Johnson to inform him that the HRH had specifically requested through the Foreign Office that he be invited to the reception that the High Commissioner was hosting in his honour. At this event HRH Prince Philip engaged with him, no doubt reflecting on how the Conference impacted the path my father's life had taken.

Mr. Kirton enjoyed an illustrious career as a civil servant and Attorney at Law. He served as an economic advisor and as special advisor to the then Head of State, and represented Guyana as a diplomatic envoy travelling widely to negotiate bilateral agreements aimed at developing Guyana. He would later serve as Director of Higher Education and as an Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions. In the 1990s he returned to his trade union roots where he served as a General Secretary of the Guyana Public Service Union and was later appointed by the then Head of State to serve as a Judge on the Public Service Appellate Tribunal.

It is without doubt that the experience of the Duke of Edinburgh Commonwealth Study Conference helped to shape the man our father became, through what he observed and his interactions with fellow Conference participants as he travelled across Canada, particularly witnessing the conditions of the working class and the economically impoverished.

On behalf of our father Randolph Kirton we wish to thank HRH Prince Philip on his vision for establishment of Commonwealth Study Conference Tour, which no doubt helped to shape the minds and ideas of its alumni as it did for our father.

On behalf of Mr. Randolph Kirton, 1962 Commonwealth Study Conference (CSC) Alumnus,

Best Regards,

Rolinda and Randinda Kirton

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip

Sir,

I WRITE TO EXPRESS MY PROFOUND THANKS FOR YOUR LIFETIME OF SERVICE, and in particular for the foresight and vision you had in establishing the Commonwealth Study Conference some 62 years ago.

As a recent alumnus, I can attest to the power that these dialogues continue to have all of these years later. My experience has been of immense value in equipping me to more effectively 'realise' opportunities and manage challenges while making a difference both vocationally and in the communities that I serve. I now also have a growing network of alumni peers which together with their networks and contacts reaches right across the globe.

Your legacy is most certainly secure with HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne assuming the role of President.

We, as the Commonwealth and the broader global community, are richer for having this unique, inspirational and truly important initiative in place.

Wishing you good health and a wonderful retirement.

Gratefully,

Michael Wright

2016 Alumnus from Australia



Chronology of the Conferences

I ATTENDED AND PARTICIPATED IN THE EMERGING LEADERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, which was very engaging and had a very thought-provoking element each day from the speakers, delegates and the business tours. I really appreciated the different perspectives, insights and dialogue that were had. Coming from an Indigenous perspective, the discussions were very empowering, culturally and intellectually stimulating and being heard. The ELSD space promoted the differing opinions and dialogue in a respectful learning environment.

Paula Amos, 2017 Alumnus from Canada

I really appreciated the different perspectives, insights and dialogue that were had.

Commonwealth Study Conferences

1962 | Canada

The Human Consequences of the Changing Industrial Environment in the Commonwealth and Empire

1968 | Australia

Human Problems of Industrial Development and Re-development in Commonwealth Countries

1974 | United Kingdom

Industry in Society

1980 | Canada

People in an Industrial Society

1986 | Australia and India

Managing Change in an Industrial Society

1992 | United Kingdom

International Issues: Individual Initiatives

1998 | Canada

The Impact of Technology in an 'Infodustrial' Society

2003 | Australia

People First in the Global Community

2007 | India and Malaysia

Working Together for Inclusive Growth and Development

UK Leadership Forum

1958 | United Kingdom

1961 | United Kingdom

A Study of Work and Leisure

1977 | United Kingdom

New Patterns of Enterprise for a Thriving Society

1983 | United Kingdom

1984 | United Kingdom

1989 | United Kingdom

1995 | United Kingdom

Visions for Britain

Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conferences

1983 to present | Canada — 10 Conferences, 2500 participants

Emerging Pacific Leaders' Dialogue

2006 | Australia and New Zealand

Navigating Our Future Together

2010 | Samoa and Tonga

Navigating Our Future Together

2014 | New Caledonia and Vanuatu

Navigating Our Future Together

Emerging Leaders' Dialogue Asia

2016 | Malaysia

Creating Globally Connected Leaders

Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue

2011 | Canada and The Caribbean

Growth Through Connections: Enabling Sustainable Progress

2015 | Canada and The Caribbean

Leading Through Innovation and Transformation

Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Canada

2017 | Canada

Emerging Leaders for Sustainable Community Development

2018 | Canada

Emerging Leaders for Sustainable Community Development

CSCLeaders

2013 | UK, Johannesburg and Mumbai

How do people from communities who have spread across the world become bridge-builders in the global networks of the future?

2014 | UK, New Delhi, Singapore and Toronto

How do you get societal - as well as economic - value out of technological innovation?

2015 | UK, Ahmedabad, Nairobi, and Singapore

What makes a city smart?

2016 | UK, Accra and Singapore

What would produce a step change in how the public, private and not for profit sectors work together?

2017 | London and Mumbai

What could be the future of energy in Commonwealth cities?

2018 | London, Manchester and Kuala Lumpur

What makes a city resilient?

1956 | UK

The Human Problems of Industrial Communities within the Commonwealth and Empire





Afterword



HRH PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH HAS TOUCHED MANY OF OUR LIVES. On his 96th birthday it was announced he would no longer carry out public engagements. To celebrate and honour The Duke of Edinburgh's remarkable legacy as founder and patron of the Commonwealth Study Conferences, Emerging Leaders' Dialogues and CSCLeaders, the alumni of the aforementioned programs created this collection of tributes.

As noted by 1956 Alumnus Edward Guinness in his tribute, The Duke of Edinburgh saw the Commonwealth Study Conference (CSC) as a one-time event. To quote His Royal Highness: "When the first conference came to an end, I imagined that the whole thing would be over and done with. That is not what happened. It seems members of the first conference were sufficiently impressed by the experience to wish to give the next generation the chance to take part in a similar experience."

Immediately following the 1956 CSC the British attendees formed the UK Leadership Forum. The Canadian Conference participants departed the United Kingdom in 1956 with a vision - they would go on to host the second Conference in 1962. The Australians then followed suit, and in total there were ten Commonwealth Study Conferences, the most recent one hosted by India and Malaysia in 2007.

With The Duke of Edinburgh's input and the approval, Canadian alumni formed a national version of the CSC, called The Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference in 1983. The program continues today, running every two years, and using the tried and true formula set out by the 1956 Conference.

The Alumni in the Pacific Region were the first to expand beyond the Commonwealth, launching the Emerging Pacific Leaders' Dialogue in 2006 – focused on the entire region, while following the long-standing CSC format. The Canadians embraced the regional format, launching the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue in 2011.

The UK trustees opted to focus on senior executives, rather than mid-level executives, while visiting cities in the UK and another Commonwealth countries. However, due to a number of factors, and unlike the other study conferences, the actual operation was sub-contracted to the charitable organisation Common Purpose.

Over 6,000 leaders, throughout the Commonwealth and beyond, have participated in and benefitted from the CSC and related programs since 1956.

I first met The Duke of Edinburgh during the Royal tour to Barbados in 1978. I was a member of the First Barbados Sea Scout troop undertaking the Bronze level of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. Little did I know that in ten years I would attain my Gold Award, run a successful International Gold Award event in the Caribbean and become one of the first international employees of the newly established Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation. I could not have anticipated the significant impact The Award would have in charting the course of my career and personal life over the last forty years.

In 1988 I became the Caribbean Development Officer of the newly established Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation. Thirty years have rushed by, and for about fifteen of those years I was

able to work with, learn from, and observe His Royal Highness at Forums, Trustee meetings, International Council meetings, Award presentations, Commonwealth Legion Conferences and Royal tours.

Of all the Royal tours, meetings, and conferences that I have been involved with, the one where His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, to use a cricketing term, 'totally clean bowled me' was his presentation of my LVO 14th October 2003 in Barbados. I was appointed a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order in front of an audience of approximately 400 members of the Global Award family at the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Forum dinner.

The 2011 Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue fell into my path when I offered to assist the private secretary and personal protection officer to Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal with the planning and logistics for the Caribbean leg of the conference. Consequently I became a member of the board of Emerging Leaders' Dialogues Canada, and in November 2017 ascended to the chairmanship of the Association of Emerging Leaders' Dialogues (AELD).

The AELD, a Commonwealth Civil Society Organization, is an international network of leaders in business, labour, government, and civil society who are passionate about the importance of developing the capacity of future leaders to contribute to the success of their organizations, communities and countries. Today with HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne as President, AELD programmes continue to provide an experiential approach to leadership development. During one and two week programmes, young leaders from different

countries and regions, across all economic sectors, participate in a unique, non-formal educational experience. As chair, I hope to facilitate the development of an organisation that will be fit for purpose, with good governance, a sustainable funding model, and that offers leaders the same quality of experience across the Commonwealth.

The contribution by HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh to society is in his understanding of the value of non-formal education within human development. He was well ahead of the time. The fact that educators and employers now require students and employees to demonstrate involvement in extracurricular activities is a testimony to his visionary leadership. The Study Conferences, Emerging Leaders' Dialogues, and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards have all created a framework for non-formal education with very formal applications to life. The social impact has been enormous and incalculable.

Sir, I salute you for providing me with a most incredible life's journey over the last 40 years. You jokingly said to my wife, Shera, in Mauritius at The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Forum in 1994, two months after our marriage, 'Commiserations'. She could not have imagined the enormous positive impact your developmental frameworks would also have on our personal story. We can attest of this jocular prediction, that the reverse has been the case.

Maj. J. W. David L. G. Clarke
CVO, ADC

Director the Americas Region for The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation and Chair of The Association of Emerging Leaders' Dialogues

Acknowledgements

This collection of tributes was the brainchild of Robert F. Taylor, alumnus of the 1980 Commonwealth Study Conference (CSC). He is one of the founders of the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference, the 1998 CSC, and ELD Canada. It is difficult to imagine a greater champion of HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh's vision.

Ian Anderson and Malcolm Metcalfe have our gratitude for exemplifying how His Royal Highness and the conference experience can shift one's understanding of the world in their introductory pieces. Great appreciation goes to Major David Clarke for bringing this volume to a close, as well as for sharing his vision of our way forward.

Our thanks to the Alumni contributors for giving their time to set down recollections and thoughts, and for sharing their photographs. They are:

Edwin Mua Aisake	Nicole Dodd
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Teresa Veronica Ali	John L. Fryer, C.M.
Paula Amos	Jimmy-Clay GNAI
J. Christopher Astwood O.B.E., J.P.	Rasamalar (Mala) Gnanasundram
Rob Bain	Robert Goh OBE
Jay Barker	Ian Govendir
Gary Bauer	O'Neil W. Grant
Dale Anthony Beresford	Ian Gray
Matthew J. Bock	Edward Guinness CVO
Christopher Boyle	Jacqueline (Jacqui) Hamer
Douglas C. Campbell	Chris Hartley
Gord Campbell	Eddie HO
Teoh Choo Huat (Billy)	Charles Iha
Hon. Mary Collins, P.C.	David Jardim
Jewel Crawford	Sujeewa Jayawardana
Barb Crompton	Philip Jennings
A B Ranjit De Silva	Christie Jung PhD
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We are forever grateful for HRH The Princess Royal, Princess Anne, who took up her father's baton and is gracefully running with it.

We are indebted to HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, without his vision the Alumni would not exist.

