

QCAA Toronto Tribute to the late Dr. Robert (Bobby) Moore

In the 1990's and early years of the last decade, Bobby was always willing to contribute to the efforts of our Chapter in its quest to assist in maintaining the standards of excellence of Queen's College at which he taught from 1955 to 1965, and in which he made a lasting impact and was proud to be involved.

We got underway as an alumni association in 1991. Bobby himself was not a QC alumnus, having graduated from Central High in Georgetown, but he was so well respected and held in such high esteem by his QC students for his intellectual prowess and academic achievements that he was considered part of the QC family and fraternity. In addition to his teaching skills, primarily as a historian, he was always approachable and was a mentor to his students. Calling on Bobby to address our alumni members in Toronto at some of our events was therefore most desirable and fitting.

As the guest speaker at our annual business meeting in 1999, Bobby, in recollecting his life at QC and, after admitting to his own biases, went on to admit that after coming in 1955 to teach at QC "I came, I saw, I concurred." He continued "I concurred because I was very taken with the Principal and with the unmistakable life force of the school that hit me as soon as I entered its portals." The principal was V.J. Sanger-Davies.

That speech was followed up by several others in later years and here are some memorable gems from addresses to the International Committee of the QC Alumni Association at its business meetings in Toronto in August 1999 and September 2001.

In his 1999 address entitled "*Celebrating our Heritage, Devising our Future*" -

"I'm among you not as one who was raised at Queen's but as one in whom Queen's refined the delicate balance between feeling and reflection, authority and audacity, perspicacity and play. And my gratitude to the school grows with the years, I am equally grateful to you (its alumni) for making me part of this occasion, and, by implication, adopting me in the convivial fraternity of Queen's "old students".

In his 2001 address he touched on some aspects of the school and its teachings during the Colonial era, observing with dry humour "the Colonial era where students, given the tools to preserve the Empire, used them to dismantle it".

Equally memorable and attesting to his excellent writing skills are his thoughtful and well-received articles for our Association's newsletters such as his tributes to the late QC alumni – teacher Sheikh "Bandit" Insanally, the late Sir John Carter, former High Commissioner to the U.K.; and the late Q.C. headmaster Clement "Balance" Yhap.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to QCAA Toronto, he was accorded an Honorary Membership Award which was presented to him at his 80th birthday celebration in Ottawa on November 26, 2011. Here's a bit from his award "Thank You" message which was published in our Scribbler newsletter of March 2012 - "*My teaching days at Q.C. stand out as a pivotal point in my various careers.*"

We of QCAA Toronto and all those who knew him have lost in Robert (Bobby) Moore, an individual of multi-faceted talents- scholar, former QC master, educator, orator, consummate story-teller, author, diplomat, broadcaster, - and most of all a gentleman, a kind and caring human being who, by his

professional accomplishments and exemplary life, undoubtedly gave credence to the motto of our alma mater – *Fideles Ubique Utiles (Loyal and Useful Everywhere)*.

Bobby, you have shuffled off this mortal coil, but you have certainly left us many cherished and everlasting memories.

QCAA Toronto Chapter

November 21, 2015