



*Order of Vitéz
Established 1920*



Canadian
Broadcasting
Corporation

Societe
Radio-
Canada

“HUNGARIAN ORDER OF VITÉZ”

Head Office Budapest:



*Canadian Chapter of Vitéz Represented by
Captain Vitéz Géza Sóti, Calgary*



Prayer narrated by Chief Dan George (1899-1991),
Man Alive program (Fall 1979 on CBC-TV)
"The Great Yes to Life"

Oh, great Spirit whose voice I hear in the wind,
whose breath gives life to the world, hear me!

I come to you as one of your many children. I am small
and weak. I need your strength and wisdom.

May I walk in your beauty. Make my eyes ever behold
the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the
things that you have made and my ears sharp to your
voice.

Make me wise so that I may know the things that you
have taught your children, the lessons you have hidden in
every leaf and rock.

Make me strong, not to be superior to my brothers, but
to be able to fight my greatest enemy; myself.

Make me ever ready to come to you with straight eyes,
so that when my life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit
will come to you without shame.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew v. Zsigmond de Lemheny".

Dr Andrew v. ZSIGMOND de Lemheny

Deputy Grand Captain (external) of the Order of Vitéz





László Beöthy Jr., captain of the Royal Canadian Air Force,

was born on August 23, 1969 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. His parents, esquire László Beöthy and Marianna were Hungarian immigrants. Beöthy Jr. attended elementary and high school in Calgary and graduated in 1987 from St. Mary's high school. Early on he developed a keen interest in flying. During the year after his graduation, while working in the construction industry, he received his licence to fly small private planes. He resumed his studies in 1988 at the Mount Royal College, where he graduated in 1990, with a licence to pilot commercial aircrafts. Immediately after his high school graduation he applied to become a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and he was accepted in 1989. During the last year of his studies at the College he received a scholarship from the Air Force.

Following this graduation from College he studied French and received officer training, as well as further training in flying airplanes and helicopters. Subsequently, he received additional training and was promoted to the rank of Captain. At present, he is stationed at Petawaka, as Chief pilot of a helicopter squadron. In 1995 Beöthy Jr. Served six months in Haiti, as part of a UN military contingent. Over the years he volunteered on weekends helping the Hungarian Scouts of Ottawa. Beöthy Jr. is fluent in Hungarian and he is well versed in Hungarian history, for which he gained additional respect from his comrades. He is of noble birth after his father and a candidate of the Order of Vitéz after both of his grandfathers. Beöthy Jr.'s investiture to the order of Vitéz. Conducted by a genuine "old" Vitéz took place on December 23, 1997.





Captain Jason Leek

In 2011 a former Sergeant Major approached several young officers including Captain Jason Leek to inform them that the Hungarian Veterans' Association was looking for young escorts for the Debutants for the annually held Hungaria Gala Ball and also to dance the waltz. Captain Jason Leek was interested and has been a participant of the Hungaria Ball since then. This year will be his 3rd time and he is looking forward to it. Additionally, Captain Jason Leek has taken upon himself to learn the traditional Hungarian Palotás dance from the 1800's that were danced in the royal courts.

Captain Leek also has a distinguished military career.



The Hungarian Order of Vitéz

Established in 1920 by

His Excellency Miklós Horthy Rear Admiral
Commander in Chief of the Royal Hungarian Army
Regent of Hungary (1919-1944)

- Our Hungarian Heritage is a part of Canadian Culture-

When establishing the Order of Vitéz, the former Regent of Hungary, wished the organization to stand for PATRIOTISM, LOYALTY and DEVOTION. All these traits are acquired over time and with unreserved commitment to one's country.

Canada is a country that opened its borders and has shown generosity towards its many immigrants. As Hungarians we are safe to practice and acknowledge our extensive traditions and histories; for this we are truly thankful and indeed, now, we hold in high esteem our adopted country as the former regent of Hungary instructed us.

So this ceremony is conducted freely and without reservation, as we know that we honour Hungarian history and tradition as we respect and stand tall for Canada and its citizens.



A Brief History of the Vitézi Rend

(Order of Valiant)

The Hun-Magyar recognition of valiant behaviour predates written documentation of historical events. It started during the nomadic life of the Magyars, which required the development of military forces in defense of their territories and in the conquest of new lands. Hun-Magyar expansion finished in the settling of the Carpathian Basin in the 9th & 10th centuries AD. In 1001, Prince Árpád's great-grandson Vajk was crowned as István (Stephen), the first Hungarian Christian King. For over 900 years, between 1001 and 1918, Hungary was a monarchy, ruled by a succession of kings. Throughout this long period of time, deserving "valiant" military acts were regularly recognized by rewarding individuals with nobility status and tracts of land. After the First World War, from 1920-1944, Admiral Miklós Horthy was Regent and Head of State of Hungary, during which time its government resembled a western-style parliamentary republic. Admiral Horthy created the Order of Valiant. Initially it was meant to recognize military heroism during the Great War. Later, membership was expanded to include ex-servicemen who were deemed to have given distinguished service to Hungary. In essence, it was a state-sponsored Order of Merit for First World War veterans, inspired by numerous orders of chivalry throughout Hungarian history. Members of the Order of Valiant were granted various tracts of land, the size dependent on military rank; but unlike the ancient chivalric orders, titles of nobility could not be granted, as that right was reserved only for kings. Family members could inherit the title of Vitéz, also a tradition of historical knightly orders. Membership in the order grew steadily during the inter-war years, exceeding 33,000 by 1941. However, at the end of The Second World War, when Hungary fell under communist rule, a number of national organizations, including the Order of Valiant, were banned by the Soviet regime.

During the years of the Cold War, thousands of members of the Order of Valiant either escaped or were deported to the West. Veterans' groups began to form in several Western countries. The Order is a part of Hungarian communities around the world including Canada, the United States, South America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, where it strives to promote collective pride in Hungary's long and distinguished history. Hungarians who fought against Soviet invasion and occupation in the 1956 revolution have attained by legitimate succession of relatives to the title, and by recognition of commendable service new memberships in the post-war era. In more recent times, the Order also awards membership to individuals who work, often in a volunteer capacity, to uphold Hungarian traditions and culture.





Investiture Ceremony

I, captain Jason Leek, promise to respect the spirit of the Hungarian Saint Crown by conducting myself with respect and honouring its historic reputation. I promise to report any potential harm to its honour to the Order of Valiants.

I am aware of the rules and regulations of the Order and will strive to conduct myself accordingly and with respect towards its membership and leadership.

So help me God.

Captain Jason Leek, I accept your pledge to honour and respect the spirit of the Hungarian Saint Crown, and as the captain of the local Order, I induct you as a Valiant and welcome you into its membership.

Now go bravely and remain with honour.



Devin Smith



CONGRATULATIONS
VITÉZ CAPTAIN
JASON LEEK



AND
WELCOME





The Ceremony Participants

Vitéz, Captain Jason Leek, vitéz Sóti Géza törzskapitány,
vitéz Szabó József székkapitány, vitéz Szabó Attila törzsőrmester,
Devin Smith (friend), Göttli László hadnagy,
Várvizi József MHBK elnök, vitéz Biró György főhadnagy.



Regrets sent and good wishes are conveyed by; vitéz Göttli Mihály zászlós.



NEWS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

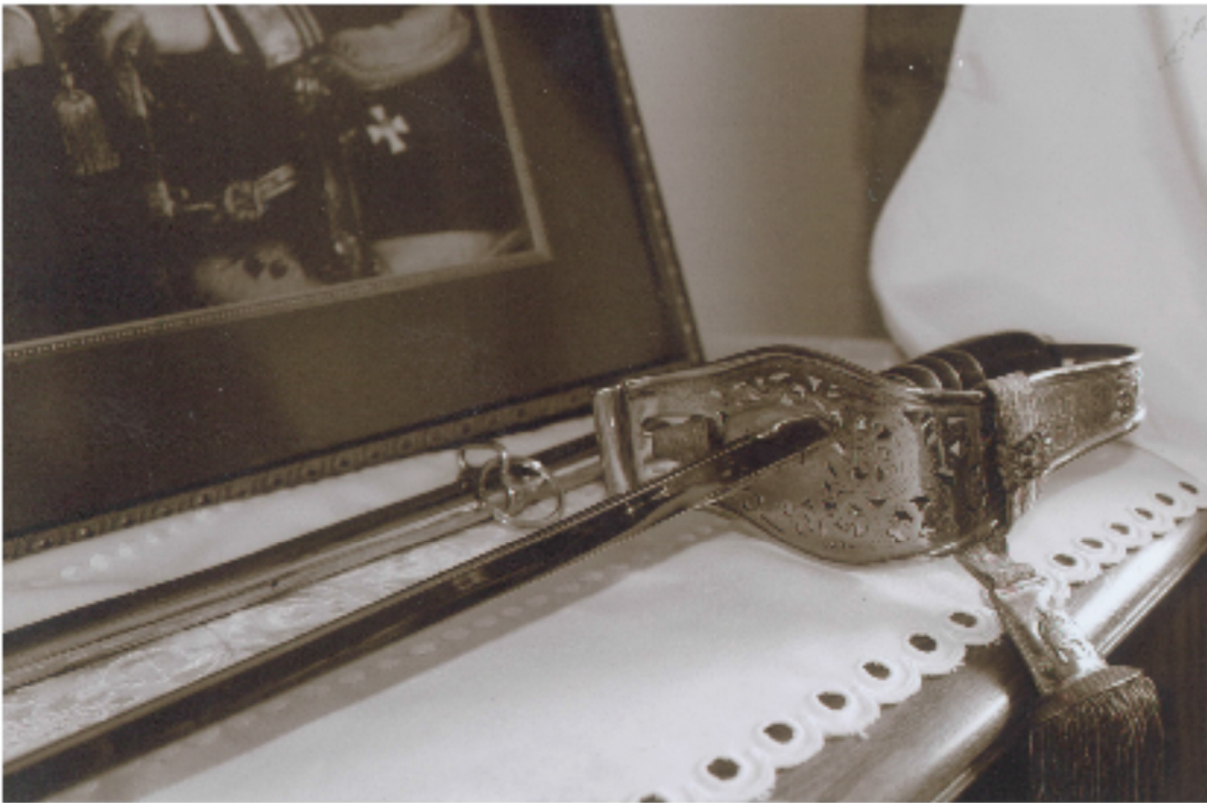


Miss Veronika Sztopa's investiture to the Order of Vitéz took place on December 6, 2012 at the Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church in Vitoria, British Columbia



Reverend John Domotor, VRNT, Lieutenant of the Order of Vitéz in British Columbia conducted the ceremony, by the authority of Grant Captain of Order of Vitéz, and assisted by Veronika's proud father, Dr. vitéz Emil Sztopa, acting Lieutenant of the Order of Vitéz, Western Canada.





MAGYAR KIRÁLYI CSENDŐR BAJTÁRSI KÖZÖSSÉG



HÍVEN, BECSÜLETTEL, VITÉZÜL



