



CLAN SINCLAIR CANADA



Patron: The Right Honourable Malcolm Ian Sinclair P.C.
The Earl of Caithness, The Hereditary Chief of Clan Sinclair

NOTE: This document has been prepared by CSAC to feature a list of Distinguished, Notable or Famous Sinclairs both in Canada and Worldwide and is not intended to be complete and may be amended and/or updated infrequently by Clan Members.

CSAC Members who have contributed selflessly to the success of Clan endeavours:

CSAC Honourary Life Members (HLM)

Glenn & Virginia Sinclair, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada
**Lois Carson Boyce, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada*
Ian Sinclair, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada
Lawrence "Lorn" Sinclair, Oakville, Ontario, Canada

CSAC Past-Presidents (PP)

**Dr. Edward G. Sinclair, Norwood, Ontario, Canada*
**Robert Malcolm "Mac" Sinclair, Kingston, Ontario, Canada*
**John George "Jack" Sinclair, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*
**Gordon Sinclair, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*
**William E. "Bill" Sinclair, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*
Rory A.P. "Gus" Sinclair, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
James C. "Jim" Sinclair, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada
Current President, *Roger Sinclair, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

CSAC Honourary Presidents (HP)

**Allan Gordon Sinclair, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*
**Robert Malcolm "Mac" Sinclair, Kingston, Ontario, Canada*
**John George "Jack" Sinclair, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*
Rory A.P. "Gus" Sinclair, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

The prestigious Clan Sinclair Service Medals are presented by Malcolm Caithness to recognize Clan Members' outstanding selfless contributions to furthering Clan endeavours.

The Recipients include;

2000:

Gloria Sinclair Bouschor USA;
**Margaret Thurso UK;*
**Niven Sinclair UK;*
Ruby Sinclair;

2005:

Gary Sinclair USA;
**Mac Sinclair CAN;*

2010:

**Jack Sinclair CAN;*
Mary Selver USA;

2015:

Dr. Malcolm Sinclair CAN;
Rory Sinclair CAN;
Tom Robinson USA;
Toni Sinclair CAN;
Wayne Sinclair AUS;

2017: **Ward Ginn USA;*

*Denotes Deceased

Clan Sinclair Association (Canada) 2019
Prepared by Clan Secretary George D. Sinclair

"Distinguished Sinclairs"

Distinguished, Notable or Famous Sinclairs

Arthur St. Clair II (1737-1818)

Major General; Military Veteran; Politician;

During the Colonial Wars, then Lieutenant Arthur St. Clair served in the British Army with General Amherst when the English troops routed the French from their stronghold settlement at Louisbourg, Cape Breton Island, now a part of the Canadian Province of Nova Scotia. He also carried the Colours for General Wolfe at the Battle of the Heights of Abraham near Quebec City, Quebec. He served in the Continental Army under General George Washington as his trusted advisor during the American War of Independence, rising to the rank of Major General while serving with distinction. He later became an American politician and was appointed President of the Continental Congress for one term and under the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, became the Governor of the North-Western Territory, an area now recognized as the Mid-Western United States of America.

Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster 1st Baronet (1754-1835)

Lawyer; Scottish Politician;

Born at Thurso Castle, Sir John was the eldest son of George Sinclair of Ulbster and a member of the family of the Earls of Caithness. He was educated at the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow and at Trinity College in Oxford. He was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland and called to the English Bar although he never practiced law. Sir John was the first President of the Scottish Board of Agriculture, of which he had been instrumental in creating and became the Compiler and Editor of the First Statistical Account of Scotland. He introduced the use of the word "*statistics*" following a trip to Northern Europe to examine agricultural techniques thereby adopting the use of the word in a slightly different context. Sinclair was returned to the House of Commons for Caithness in 1780 his parliamentary career extending to 1811 with few interruptions. His reputation as a financier and economist had been established by the publication of his *History of the Public Revenue of the British Empire*. Widespread ruin was prevented by the adoption of his plan for the issue of Exchequer Bills and on his advice, Pitt issued the "loyalty loan" of eighteen millions for the prosecution of war.

William Sinclair (1766-1818)

Fur Trader; Chief Factor; Governor; Hudson's Bay Company;

William was born in Harray Parish in the Orkney Isles and is a descendant of William of Rosslyn, the 3rd Earl of Orkney and the 1st Earl of Caithness. William joined the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) in 1782 to travel to Rupert's Land (Manitoba) at York Factory on Hudson's Bay as an Account Writer and later a Fur Trader and Chief Factor. After living there, William married (c1791) Nahoway (Margaret) a young Cree Maiden (daughter of a Scottish father and Cree mother) and they raised 10 children, all of whom participated in one way or another in the pioneering effort of Manitoba, Western Canada and the Oregon Coastline. William and Nahoway formed the first Sinclair union of mixed origins in Canada. William died on April 20, 1818 and is buried at York Factory.

Nahoway (Margaret) Sinclair (c1777-1857)

Married to William Sinclair 1791;

Nahoway (her Cree name) was born near York Factory about 1768 and is believed to be the daughter of Moses Norton and Cree mother called Margaret Holden. She married William Sinclair and raised 10 children while helping William operate HBC's trading posts at various locations where he was sent in Manitoba's northern wilderness. Their children included *Phoebe* 1792-1848; *William* 1794-1868; *Anne* 1796-1861; *Catherine* 1798-1881; *Jane* 1801-1861; *Mary* 1804-1892; *Elizabeth* 1805-1878; *James* 1806-1856; *John* 1807- ?; *Thomas* 1810-1870; and, *Colin* 1816-1901. After William's death, Nahoway moved to the Selkirk Settlement area (near Winnipeg) likely with her son Thomas and other children who also moved to where she died many years later at their home at Seven Oaks. She is buried near there at St. John's Church Cemetery.

Arthur Sinclair II (1780-1831)

American Commodore; Naval Officer;

An early American Naval Hero, Arthur Sinclair II served in the United States Navy during the Quasi War with France, the 1st Barbary War and the War of 1812. While serving as a mid-shipman, he was involved in the capture of the French frigate “*L. Insurgente*” during 1789 and later was serving on the “*Essex*” with the Mediterranean Squadron participating in the attacks on Tripoli in the early 1800’s. Commanding the “*Argus*” in late 1812, his superior ship handling allowed him to escape an enemy squadron. During the War of 1812, he also successfully commanded the “*General Pike*” in engagements on Lake Ontario; the “*Niagara*” in several engagements on Lake Huron and Lake Superior as well as directing a naval squadron in the Battle of Mackinac Island.

Harry Ford Sinclair (1876-1956)

American Entrepreneur

Mr. Sinclair was an Oilman who acquired the assets of 11 small petroleum companies and by the end of the 1920’s, had parlayed these into Sinclair Oil Refineries, a single large producer with the capability of producing over 80,000 barrels of oil per day. During this period of acceleration, the Company was ranked as the 7th largest oil company in the United States with nearly 900 miles of oil pipe lines. In 1922, Sinclair Oil was granted an oil lease without competitive bidding. Sinclair was later convicted of “Contempt of Court” and served a short prison term.

Upton Beall Sinclair Jr. (1878-1968)

American Journalist; Writer; Novelist; Political activist; Politician;

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Upton Sinclair moved to Queen’s with his family and was educated at the College of New York graduating in 1897 and then studied law at Columbia University although he was more interested in writing. He learned several languages here including French, German and Spanish. He supported himself and paid his tuitions by selling his writing of boy’s adventure stories and jokes for cartoonists. He was an outspoken American Socialist who wrote over 100 books winning the “Pulitzer Prize” for Fiction in 1943 for his muck-raking novel “*The Jungle*”. This book exposed deplorable conditions in the meat packing industry which contributed in part to the later passage of the “Pure Food and Drug Act” as well as other protective legislation. He wrote additional exposes on working conditions in the automobile industry, in the coal mining fields, the oil industry and his favourite, journalism. He eventually ran unsuccessfully for Congress as a nominee from the Socialist Party and also ran as the Democratic Party candidate for Governor of California during the Great Depression, running under the banner of End Poverty in California, but was defeated.

Archibald Sinclair (1890-1970)

1st Viscount Thurso

British Military Veteran; Politician;

Archibald Sinclair trained at Sandhurst and served in the British Army during World War I. He was briefly second in command to Sir Winston Churchill when Churchill commanded the 6th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers’. He became a Scottish Politician and Leader of the British Liberal Party (later the Liberal-Democratic Party) and during World War II, 1940 to 1945, was the Secretary of State for Air. He also served as Rector of the University of Glasgow from 1938 to 1945. He resided at Thurso Castle near Thurso, Caithness on the north shore of Scotland, although now largely in a ruinous state, is still in Family hands in 2019.

Sister Margaret Sinclair (1900-1925)

Scottish Roman Catholic Nun;

Margaret endured many hardships during her youth, working at several jobs to help her Family cope with the daily cost of living. Her Mother became seriously ill necessitating Margaret to leave school to care for her. Later, she joined the “*Celettine Poor Clares*” taking up convent life and adopting the name of Sister Mary Francis of the Five Wounds. She worked hard to encourage giving and helping the poor while establishing a devout following as many saw her life to be like their own.

Allan Gordon Sinclair OC, FRGS (1900-1984)

Canadian Journalist; Writer; Broadcaster; and Commentator;

Sinclair was born in [Toronto Ontario Canada](#) and held various jobs after dropping out of High School. During [World War I](#), Sinclair served as a part-time soldier in a militia unit of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. After the War, he took a bookkeeping job and met co-worker Gladys Prewett who he married. About this time, Sinclair began reporting for the Toronto Star and after an assignment in India, wrote his first book, "*Foot-loose In India*." His second book, "*Cannibal Quest*", about his experiences in Southeast Asia firmly established Sinclair as a writer with several more books to follow throughout his career. During World War II, Sinclair wrote and narrated stories on radio station CFRB about Canadians in battle. This would become a 40-year association between Sinclair and CFRB. In 1957, Sinclair also began a career in television as a panelist on the CBC Television series "Front Page Challenge." Often controversial, Sinclair was an outspoken critic of water fluoridation, the singing of God Save the Queen, Medicare and Taxation. He invested wisely in the stock market and became independently wealthy. He was appointed an Honourary President of Clan Sinclair Association (Canada) and was made an Officer of the Order of Canada by the Governor General.

The Honourable James Sinclair PC MP (1908-1984)

Canadian Teacher; Businessman; Canadian Politician; Minister of Fisheries;

"Jimmy" Sinclair was a Canadian businessman and politician. He was the maternal Grandfather of the 23rd and current Canadian Prime Minister [Justin Trudeau](#), through his fourth daughter Margaret Joan Sinclair who was married to the 15th Prime Minister of Canada Pierre Elliot Trudeau. Sinclair was born in Crossroads, The Grange, Banffshire, Scotland, the son of James George Sinclair of [Wick, Scotland](#) and Betsy Sinclair née Ross of [Evanton, Scotland](#). The family moved to Vancouver in 1911 where he eventually would become the second Principal of the [Vancouver Technical Secondary School](#). Sinclair studied engineering at the [University of British Columbia](#) and was awarded a [Rhodes scholarship](#) to study mathematics at St John's College, in the [University of Oxford](#). He also studied mathematical physics at [Princeton University](#). During [World War II](#), he served with the [Royal Canadian Air Force](#) in North Africa, [Malta](#), and [Sicily](#). He also served the [Canadian House of Commons](#) representing the riding of [Vancouver North](#) from 1940 and was re-elected in 1945, 1949, 1953, and 1957 in the riding of [Coast-Capilano](#) but was defeated in the [1958 Federal Election](#). From 1960 to 1970, he was President and Chairman of [Lafarge Cement](#) of North America and was a director of the Bank of Montreal and of Canadian Industries Limited.

Ian David Sinclair OC, QC (1913-2006)

Canadian Lawyer; Businessman; Senator;

He was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in economics from the University of Manitoba, as well as a Bachelor of Law degree from the Manitoba Law School. Sinclair was then called to the Bar of Manitoba and from 1942 to 1943, he was a lecturer in Torts at the University of Manitoba. He then joined Canadian Pacific Ltd., in the Law Department as an Assistant Solicitor and eventually rose to become President and CEO. He was also Chairman and CEO from 1972 to 1981. In 1983, he was summoned to the Senate of Canada representing the Senatorial Division of Halton, Ontario. A Liberal, he retired on September 27, 1988. In 1979, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada "for his contribution to the commercial development of Canada". He was also inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame. He was also the subject of a television documentary called "Best Job in Canada". In that program, he disclosed that his weekly salary was \$10,700. One of his more colourful quotes was "I don't have heart attacks, I give them."

Lister Sheddon Sinclair OC (1921-2006)

Canadian Broadcaster; Playwright; Polymath;

Born in India, Liston was sent to live with an aunt in London and did not see his parents again until he was seven. He began his formal education at Colet Court and being gifted at mathematics, won a scholarship to St Paul's School in London. He and his Mother were visiting Niagara Falls when World War II broke out and subsequently, they settled in Vancouver. He enrolled at the University of British Columbia where he earned a Bachelor of Arts

in mathematics and physics and began a lifelong friendship with classmate Pierre Berton. Moving to Toronto, he earned a Master of Arts from the University of Toronto supporting himself by lecturing in mathematics to undergraduates. Sinclair found employment as an actor with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) performing in a variety of radio plays. He began writing for the network writing more than 400 plays. Following radio, Sinclair appeared on several CBC Television programs such as *Front Page Challenge*, *Assignment* and the *Wayne & Shuster Comedy Show*. Sinclair would spend over six decades with the CBC in various capacities including actor, playwright, writer, panelist, producer, lecturer, commentator and network executive. Sinclair was either a panelist or host on the *Court of Opinion*, *Man at the Centre*, *The Nature of Things*, *Morningside* and *Ideas*. He was awarded the Order of Canada in 1985.

Duncan Gordon Sinclair DVM MSc PhD (1933-)

First non-Medical Doctor to become Dean of Medicine;

Dr. Sinclair is an American-born Canadian academic. Born in Rochester, New York, he received a DVM from the Ontario Veterinary College at Guelph, a MSc from the University of Toronto and a PhD in physiology from Queen's University. From 1963 to 1965, he pursued post-doctoral medical research at St John's College, Cambridge. From 1974 to 1983, Sinclair was Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Queen's. He later served as Vice-Principal of Institutional Relations, Vice-Principal of Services, Vice-Principal of Health Sciences and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. Sinclair was the first non-medical doctor to be chosen as Head of a Faculty of Medicine in Canada. He retired from Queen's in 1996 but continues to be a guest lecturer at the University. In 1997, Queen's established the Dr. Duncan G. Sinclair Lectureship in Health Services and Policy Research. In 1989, he was named an Honorary Fellow in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Sinclair was Chair of the Ontario Health Services Restructuring Commission and Founding Chair of Canada Health Infoway. He also served on the Steering Committee for the review by the Ontario Ministry of Health of the Public Hospitals Act.

Sir Clive Marles Sinclair (1940-)

British Inventor and Entrepreneur;

Sir Clive was best known for his work inventing various consumer electronic products during the 1960's, 70's and 80's. He founded Sinclair Radionics in 1961, where he produced the first slimline pocket calculator and later the ZX 80, the United Kingdom's first and highly successful mass marketed home computer costing less than £ 100. He also formed Sinclair Research producing the TV80, a flatscreen portable mini television utilising an ingenious cathode ray tube. LCD television technology was in advanced development however, and the Sinclair FTV1 (TV80) was a commercial flop, only producing 15,000 units. Sinclair also formed Sinclair Vehicles and released the Sinclair C5, a battery operated electric vehicle that was also a commercial failure. Since then Sinclair has concentrated on personal transport, including the A-bike, a folding bicycle for commuters that weighs 5.5 kilograms (12 lb) and folds down small enough to be carried on public transport. Due to his prowess as an inventor, Sinclair was Knighted in 1983.

The Right Honourable Malcolm Ian Sinclair P.C. (1948-)

20th Earl of Caithness; 20th Lord Berridale; 15th Baronet Sinclair of Canisbay, Caithness; and, Hereditary Chief of Clan Sinclair;

Referred to as Lord Caithness, he is a Hereditary Peer and a Member of the House of Lords. Previously, he was a Minister of State in the United Kingdom Governments of Margaret Thatcher and John Major and is currently a Member of the United Kingdom's Privy Council, a group of advisors involving senior politicians who provide advice to the Sovereign. As Hereditary Chief of Clan Sinclair, he maintains a consultancy role on "*all things Sinclair*" coordinating his activities across a spectrum of Clan Sinclair Associations representing Clan Members in several countries including Australia, Canada, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Scotland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Another main responsibility includes being the Chief Officer of the Clan Sinclair Trust whose purposes include the conservation and preservation of the Sinclair Castle Girnigoe located on Sinclair Bay near Wick, Caithness, Scotland.

Senator Murray Sinclair MSC (1951-)

*First Nations Lawyer; Judge; Canadian Politician; Senator;
Chair – Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission;*

Sinclair was born and raised in the Selkirk area north of Winnipeg, Manitoba, graduating from his high school as class Valedictorian and Athlete of the Year. Justice Sinclair was an Air Cadet with 6 Jim Whitecross Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron for several years. After serving as Special Assistant to the Attorney General of Manitoba, Justice Sinclair continued his academic career at University of Winnipeg, studying sociology with a history minor and later at the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba, graduating in 1979. He was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1980. Justice Sinclair practiced primarily in the fields of Civil and Criminal Litigation Human Rights and Aboriginal Law. He represented a cross section of clients but by the time of his judicial appointment, was known for his representation of Aboriginal people and his knowledge of Aboriginal legal issues. When he was appointed as Associate Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Manitoba, Sinclair was the first Aboriginal Judge in the Province. Justice Sinclair was appointed Co-Commissioner, along with Court of Queen's Bench Associate Chief Justice A. C. Hamilton, of Manitoba's Public Inquiry into the Administration of Justice and Aboriginal People (The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry). He has served on numerous community Boards and was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba in 2001. Senator Sinclair has received numerous awards including the prestigious Meritorious Service Cross for his service on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Reverend Dr. George Malcolm Sinclair (1945-)

Canadian Preacher; Lecturer;

The Rev. Dr. George Malcolm Sinclair was called to the pulpit of the Metropolitan Toronto United Church in 1988. In 1998, the congregation invited him to serve further in an Intentional Long-Term Ministry. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Laurentian University, a Master of Divinity Degree from Emmanuel College, Toronto. In 1986, he received the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University in the United States, and in 1997 was awarded the Doctor of Divinity Degree (Honoris Causa) from Emmanuel College. Dr. Sinclair has served four Toronto congregations over forty years, and is widely invited to preach across Canada and beyond. He has been a theme speaker at home and in the United States, and has lectured on "Imagination in Preaching" at the Toronto School of Theology. In recent years Dr. Sinclair has been a contributor to "Feasting on the Word", a multi-volume lectionary resource for preachers, published by Westminster John Knox Press in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a Past-President of the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto, a member of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Clan Sinclair Association of Canada, and is Padre to the 78th Fraser Highlanders, York Garrison.

Christine Margaret Sinclair OC (1983-)

Canadian Athlete; Olympian; Women's Soccer;

Born in Burnaby, British Columbia to Bill and Sandra Sinclair, Christine began playing soccer at the age of four and played basketball and baseball as well. Playing in a Burnaby boys baseball league, she made the local under-11 all-star team as a second baseman and selected her now legendary number 12 as a tribute to Toronto Blue Jays second baseman Hall of Famer, Roberto Alomar. Sinclair was selected to British Columbia's under-14 girl's all-star soccer team at age 11 and led the Burnaby Girls Soccer Club to six league titles, five provincial titles, and two top-five national finishes. She attended Burnaby South Secondary School where she led the soccer team to three league championships. She played for Canada's under-18 national team before making her debut at the senior level at age 16 at the 2000 Algarve Cup where she was the tournament's leading scorer. Having played over 15 years with the senior national team, now Captain, Sinclair has played in four FIFA Women's World Cups (USA 2003, China 2007, Germany 2011, Canada 2015) and three Olympic Football Tournaments (Beijing 2008, London 2012, Rio 2016). She has been shortlisted for FIFA World Player of the Year seven times in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2016. A two-time Olympic bronze medalist and twelve-time recipient of the Canada Soccer Player of the Year Award, Sinclair is Canada's all-time leading scorer and currently is second worldwide in all-time international goals scored with 168. She has also won Championships with three different professional teams. In September 2013, Sinclair was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame and in June 2017, she was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada by Governor General David Johnston.

Additional biographic modules are being prepared for additional distinguished Sinclairs and will be added following our Clan Gathering scheduled for this summer from June 19th – 23rd, 2019 to be held at the Fort Garry Hotel in downtown Winnipeg Manitoba. At this time additional modules and/or listings will include among others;

Annette Arlene Sinclair	Haines Junction Yukon Territory
Gordon Vaughan Sinclair Holmes	Chilliwack British Columbia
Neil Philip Ray	Goulais River Ontario
Norman David Inkster	Toronto Ontario
Shelagh Rogers	Vancouver British Columbia
Dr. Niigaan Sinclair	Winnipeg Manitoba

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