

No. R-9. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Canadian Club Inc. of Barre on its 75th anniversary.

(S.C.R.2)

By Senator Doyle,

S.C.R. 2. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Canadian Club Inc. of Barre on its 75th anniversary.

Whereas, in the 1930s, the French Canadian community in Barre saw the need for a social organization to promote and retain the French Canadian culture in Barre, and

Whereas, to meet this objective, in 1939 a group of individuals gathered in Barre and created the French Canadian Club, and

Whereas, the Club began with 21 French Canadians, and its programs and administrative affairs were conducted in French, and

Whereas, the first officers were President Lucien Beaudoin, Vice President Raoul Maurice, Secretary Wilfred Langevin, and Auditor Antonio Pinard, and they had the assistance of Reverends Cray and Maloney, and

Whereas, some members sought to affiliate with other French Canadian clubs, but those wishing to remain independent prevailed, and

Whereas, in November 1940, the Club moved to larger space in the Blanchard Block that could accommodate social functions for 150 people, and

Whereas, on May 10, 1954, the Club was incorporated, and in 1955 it moved to temporary headquarters in the Paramount Theater Building, and

Whereas, in 1957 the now Canadian Club purchased the former Vermont Veterans Cooperative Workshop on East Montpelier Road and refurbished the facility as its permanent home, and

Whereas, the Club eventually opened its membership rolls to the broader public, beyond French speakers, although this was not an easy transition, and

Whereas, although a fire destroyed the building in January 1968, in just nine months a new structure was dedicated, and

Whereas, today the Canadian Club offers academic scholarships, social events, and a host of enjoyable activities, and

Whereas, the organization now has a membership of 1,200 and commemorated its 75th anniversary on September 27, 2014, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Canadian Club on its 75th anniversary, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Canadian Club in Barre.