

LETTER FROM IN FOCUS



There is a stretch of Highway 401 between Trenton and Toronto known as the Highway of Heroes. It's the route taken by the convoy carrying the bodies of fallen Canadian soldiers from CFB Trenton to the coroner's office in Toronto. Since 2002, people have lined the overpasses between Trenton and Toronto to pay their respects to the fallen soldiers as the convoy passes by.

I had heard about the Highway of Heroes. I had seen the pictures. But nothing can compare to experiencing it first-hand.

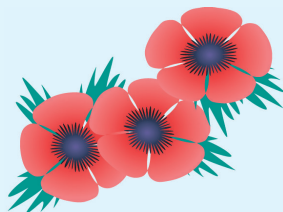
I was driving home from Ottawa shortly after New Years. It was a fairly uneventful drive: the sun was shining, the temperature was freezing and I was entertaining myself by belting out show tunes. Then, way off in the distance, I noticed flashing lights. I groaned at first, thinking I was about to get stuck behind an accident. As I got closer, I saw that the lights were coming from firetrucks and police cruisers on the overpass. Then I noticed the flags hanging from the pass and, finally, I saw the people. Not quite understanding what was going on, I continued driving. Then I saw the same thing on the next overpass. And the next. Then it dawned on me: I had just passed Trenton and I must be just ahead of the convoy carrying the bodies of the Canadian journalist and four soldiers that had been killed in Afghanistan a few days before. All of a sudden, singing along to Broadway's greatest hits didn't seem quite so entertaining, so I switched off my radio and soaked in the partly solemn, partly celebratory and completely inspirational atmosphere created by the hundreds and hundreds of people lining the overpasses to pay their respects.

This November 11, please take a moment to stop and remember all of the brave men and women who have fought – and who are currently fighting – in wars around the world.

And please sit back and enjoy this issue of In Focus.

Andrea Lefebvre

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HeyRay Customer Appreciation Barbecue



Ray Chesher greets clients Begona and Alexis.



The crowd is wowed by Daring Derek's tricks!



Everyone enjoyed a sweet treat from Hey Ray.

After a busy summer, the Hey Ray real estate team decided to say thanks to their customers with their first annual Client Appreciation Barbecue. Dozens of people dropped by to enjoy a day of family fun that included a delicious barbecue, live music by the Strumcats, and magic and balloon animals from Daring Derek, as well as face painting, games and prizes.

Photos submitted by Karen Pedersen

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