

Poppies and fallen sol-

diers have a long history

together. The origins of

the flower can be traced

back to the Napoleonic

wars in France. During

these times of unrest and

battle, many soldiers went

on to final resting places

in graves in Flanders,

France. Ensuing literature

describing how poppies

grew so thickly and vi-

brantly over these graves

-- in soil that once could

not produce much vegeta-

tion. Years later, a soldier

would be instrumental in

bringing the symbol of the

poppy to the hearts and

When John McCrae

served in World War I

as a Lieutenant-Colonel,

he was stationed near

Ypres, Belgium, the area

traditionally called

Flanders. McCrae ob-

served how poppies

grew so well among

lost a fellow soldier and

poppy flower visual.

minds of Canadians.

A symbol of wartime Remembrance

The poppy has stood reminder of all those who flower is used to represent as the official symbol of made the ultimate sacrithe fallen soldier. Canada's Remembrance fice for war. Some may Day since 1921, a visual wonder why this small

Michael Chong

Please take time this November 11th to remember the sacrifice of those that died defending our country. We owe these heroes our deepest thanks and gratitude.



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"Remember those who served"

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"In Flanders Fields"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2012

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow Between the crosses row

That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely

singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw

sunset glow, Loved and were loved. and now we lie

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands

In Flanders fields.

The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us

we throw

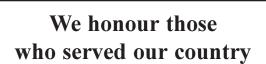
who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields. To this day McCrae's poem remains among the most memorable war poems ever written. It also paved the way for the makeshift graves the poppy flower to be of the solders, which one of the most recogwere marked by wooden nized symbols of wartime crosses. When McCrae remembrance. Thousands of poppies are placed on close friend, he penned a the Tomb of the Unknown poem called "In Flanders Soldier, and Remem-Fields" and portrayed the brance Day participants picture of war and the wear poppies on their

On Remembrance Day, we pay tribute to all who have defended Canada, and all who serve today.

Thanks to the Royal Canadian Legion, we shall never forget.

Ted Arnott, MPP **Wellington-Halton Hills**





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At public gatherings in the First World War. Ottawa and around the country, Canadians pay Vimy Ridge, Hill 70, and land campaigns. tribute with two minutes Passchendaele and Ypres of silence to the country's fallen soldiers from for atrocious conditions the First World War, the and Canadian valour. In Second World War, the Ypres, Canadian soldiers army, air force and navy. Korean War, the Afghanistan conflict and peacekeeping missions.

Also known as Veterans Day in the U.S., Remembrance Day was first held throughout the Commonwealth in 1919. It marks the armistice to end the First World War, which came into effect at 11 a.m. on November 11, a year earlier.

It isn't a national holiday across Canada, but employees in federally regulated employees do get the day off. Several the conflict — John Babprovinces and territories — including Alberta, 2010 at the age of 109. British Columbia, New Brunswick, Newfound-Nunavut, Prince Edward al commemorative Island, Saskatchewan, ceremony on April and Yukon — do observe 9 to honour all a statutory holiday.

Two minutes before Newfoundlanders who the armistice went into effect, at 10:58 a.m. on November 11, 1918, Pte. George Lawrence Price was felled by a bullet. Price would become the and the conflict's end in final Commonwealth 1945, Canadians fought soldier — and the last of in Dieppe, Normandy, more than 66,000 Can- the North Atlantic, Hong

— battles remembered were exposed to German gas attacks, yet continued to fight, showing amazin the face of danger.

those bloody battlefields. About 650,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders (the province then still a colony of Britain) had served during the war, beginning in 1914. The last Canadian veteran of cock — died in February

After Babcock's passing, the federal govland and Labrador, ernment announced that Northwest Territories, it would hold a nation-Canadians and

World War. Between the declaration of the Second World War in September 1939 adians - to be killed in Kong, during the libera-

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served during the First

tion of Italy, and in many They died fighting at other important air, sea tic campaign. More than

> In total, more than one million men and women from Canada and Newfoundland served in the More than 47,000 did not come home.

In many ways, the the 1944 D-Day invasion as well. identity of the young and the Battle of Norcountry was forged on mandy, a major turning

5.000 were killed in the land invasion in France.

Since the end of the Second World War, Canadians have taken part in dozens of United Nations peacekeeping missions around the globe, from Canadian troops played Cyprus and Haiti to Bosing tenacity and courage a crucial role — and made nia and Somalia. Troops a mighty sacrifice — in have seen active combat

Lest We Forget



Mayor Rick Bonnette and Members of Council convey heir respect and appreciation for the sacrifices made by our Canadian men and women, at home and overseas, who served their country in times of war.

Their service will never be forgotten.



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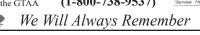


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