

Honour veterans on Remembrance Day

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, World War I fighting ceased. The war, which had raged on throughout Europe for a little more than four years, claimed the lives of more than nine million combatants and seven million civilians. The Allies squared off against the Central Powers of Germany and Austria-Hungary, and the conflict involved nations from all over the world.

World War II was even more devastating. Ultimately, 100,000 Canadian soldiers lost their lives in these two wars combined. It is in their honour — and in the name of all the servicemen and women who continue to risk their lives in service of their country — that Remembrance Day was established.

Remembrance Day, sometimes referred to as Armistice Day or Poppy Day, is celebrated each year on November 11. It is a federal statutory holiday in much of Canada. During the holiday, people pause for two minutes at 11

a.m. to remember the many Canadian soldiers who lost their lives.

In addition to the moments of silence and the wearing of poppies, individuals can commemorate Remembrance Day in the following ways.

- Treat a veteran. Take a soldier out for a meal or pay the restaurant bill anonymously. If a family member or friend is presently in the military or retired from the service, learn his or her interests and plan a special, stress-free day.
- Share a servicemember's story. Speak with a service person who served in World War II about his or her military service, and chronicle this per-



A message pro Canadian veterans at the Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11, 2011 in Toronto. ValeStock / Shutterstock.com.

son's story into a living history. Encourage children to take part in learning about this person's history and experiences.

- Volunteer at a veteran's association. Find a department of veteran's affairs and see what you can do to assist veterans. If you have specialized skills, offer your services free of charge

- to former soldiers.
- Show your patriotism. Be proud of your heritage and the rich history of the country. Fly the flag participate in the voting process and teach children about the country's founding principles and how much the nation has evolved. Read up

on current events and take an interest in domestic and foreign affairs.

- Establish your own traditions. Create your own way to celebrate Remembrance Day. This may include a day of contemplation, spending time with family, visiting historical sites,

or watching documentaries on the life-changing wars that transformed the world.

Remembrance Day is a time to honour the patriotism of selfless soldiers who sacrificed their lives to make Canada — and the world — a safer place.

— MS

Our Veterans, Our Heroes

The Lions Club of Stouffville

WE REMEMBER THEIR SACRIFICE

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Stouffville Legion Branch 459

IN HONOUR OF OUR VETERANS

Lest We Forget
Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 11 • 10:45 am
Stouffville Legion
Complimentary Lunch offered by the Ladies Auxiliary in the Banquet Hall following the ceremony

Saturday Highlights
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

- KARAOKE November 12
- FAMILY FEUD November 19
- Travis Tribute November 26

Weekly Activities
Sunday: Pool - 12:30 pm
Monday: Euchre - 7:00 pm
Thursday: Darts - 7:00 pm
Saturday: Shuffleboard - 12:30 pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE
December 31 8:00 pm
Southern Fried Tribute Band

Regular Lunches Wed - Fri, Dinners Thurs & Fri
Hall Rentals Available • All Welcome

150 Mostar St., Stouffville • 905-640-1714
www.stouffvillelegion.ca