



THE MEMORY PROJECT

AN INITIATIVE OF THE DOMINION INSTITUTE



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Newsletter

Memory Project Update

The Memory Project is happy to announce another successful season of veteran visits across Canada. Between September and December 2007, the project organized over 500 school visits and reached more than 130,000 young people. We also renewed our partnership with Labatt Breweries of Canada and invited more than 40 Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament to accompany a veteran speaker at a school visit in their constituency. These events help introduce students to their elected officials, but also illustrate to MPPs the value of having veterans share their first hand accounts of Canada's military history. The Memory Project continues to be very popular with teachers. A few highlights from across the country include a great partnership with the Edmonton Public Libraries, where we arranged a veteran speaker for each of their library branches. This past November in Montreal,

we held our final Memory Project Conference. Through a partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada we were able to hold seven Memory Project Conferences across Canada over the past three years. Each event was well attended by veterans of the Second World War, the Korean War, as well as, Peacekeeping and Cold War conflicts. Currently serving Canadian Forces personnel were also invited to attend to ensure the torch of remembrance



be passed from one generation to the next. The conferences attracted some high profile keynote speakers, such as retired General Romeo Dallaire (Senator), Lieutenant Governors of both Nova Scotia and Manitoba, and Dr. Jack Granatstein, noted historian and former Director of the Canadian War Museum.

◀ *Memory Project speaker Mr. John Feeley received this thoughtful thank you card from the students at Bayview Secondary School after his visit this Fall.*

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“It is our duty as patriotic Canadians to remember and hold fast to the memories of those such as Ken Newell, who gave so much of themselves, who sacrificed their own safety to defend the innocent, to liberate the oppressed, and to uphold the rights we must cherish. In doing so, we etch the names of these brave men and women into history itself. This is one thing we can do for the people we owe so much to.”

- **MEMORY PROJECT ESSAY COMPETITION WINNER, ADAM SIPKEMA, REFLECTING ON HIS VISIT WITH VETERAN SPEAKER MR. KEN NEWELL IN SPRINGFIELD, NEW BRUNSWICK.**

PROGRAM SPONSORS



MEDIA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS



1-866-701-1867

Introducing Veteran Appreciation Days



Veteran Appreciation Days are a new initiative sponsored by the Province of Ontario. These events provide Ontarians with a unique opportunity to honour and commemorate the service and sacrifice of our Second World War, Korean War, Peacekeeping and Canadian Forces veterans outside of Remembrance Week. The ceremonies will take place between May and September this year in ten small to mid-sized towns and cities across Ontario. At each event, veterans, community members, students and educators will be invited to join public officials and Dominion Institute staff at the local cenotaph for a short ceremony

at which Veteran Appreciation Day will be proclaimed. Following the ceremony, veterans will attend a small reception and informal training session to be held at a community centre or Legion hall. These events will provide veterans and community members with an opportunity to meet and speak with each other and learn about The Memory Project. We plan to visit the following towns and regions:

- Barrie
- Cornwall
- Elliot Lake
- Waterloo
- Dryden
- Markham
- Brampton
- St. Catharines
- Sarnia
- Timmins



"Mary was inspiring because she showed how even during

WWII women were involved and contributing. It made what we were studying more "real" as Mary had been there and experienced what we only get to read about."



- MEMORY PROJECT ESSAY COMPETITION WINNER – HILLARY WIEBE WRITING ABOUT HER VISIT WITH VETERAN SPEAKER MS. MARY KELLIOR IN SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

Passchendaele: The Movie

The Dominion Institute is proud to announce its involvement in *Passchendaele*, a true Canadian epic film that will hit theatres during fall 2008. Written and directed by Paul Gross (Due South, Men With Brooms, Slings and Arrows) the film is solely financed by Canadian sources and was shot entirely in Alberta. "The Battle of Passchendaele was one of the great crucibles of the First World War in which thousands of Canadians took part. My grandfather was one of them,"

commented Gross. "His stories about the war have resonated throughout my life and it's our hope that *Passchendaele* will ignite a similar interest in all Canadians." The Dominion Institute will produce an educational guide and launch a letters contest to help educators and youth connect with the film and commemorate this important chapter of Canadian history. For more information on the film you can visit their website at: www.passchendaelethemovie.com



Memory Project Achievement Awards - 2008

The Memory Project is pleased to present our second annual Memory Project Achievement Awards to veterans across the country who have volunteered their time to visit students in their community and have 'gone above and beyond' in supporting our initiative. We would first like to congratulate **Mr. Don Allen (Army/Korean War)** in Halifax, Nova Scotia who has volunteered with the Project since 2005 and is always eager to get out

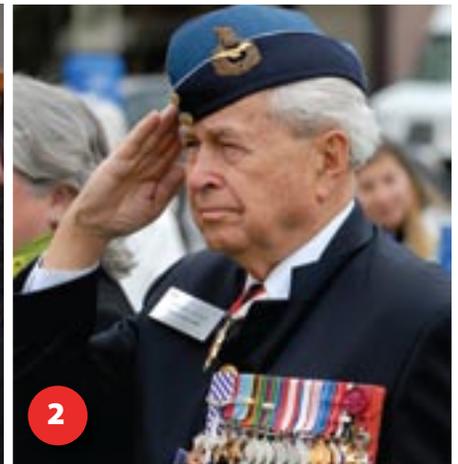
to speak to students. Our second winner is **Mr. Peter Buote (Army/Second World War)** in Moncton, New Brunswick. Mr. Buote participates in numerous school visits each year and coordinates his own group of local veterans who handle the requests from teachers in the Moncton area. We are happy to recognize the outstanding contribution of **Mr. John Franken (Navy/ Second World War)** in Montreal. Mr. Franken has

been with the Memory Project, basically, since its inception and is almost always booked solid during Remembrance week. In Ontario, our decision was much harder as we have so many veteran volunteers who are deserving of this award. We finally agreed on a tie between two of our most active and engaged speakers. **Mr. Leonard Levy (Air Force/ Second World War)** from North York, visits countless schools

and community groups throughout the year and is always on a campaign to recruit more speakers for the program. Even as he marches in Remembrance Day ceremonies he often wears his Memory Project cap with pride. We are also happy to award **Mr. Harry Watts (Army/Second World War)** from Kitchener, Ontario. Mr. Watts not only volunteers his time to speak to students but is always finding ways to promote the Memory Project. On a recent trip to Yellowknife, Mr. Watts made appointments to speak to school principals and school board superintendents to encourage them to participate in the Memory Project. Manitoba is lucky to have **Mr. Paul Martin (Army/Second World War)** as a citizen. We would like to award Mr. Martin for volunteering his time for numerous visits each year. In past years, Mr. Martin participated in more than 15 school visits per Remembrance week. We had another tie in Alberta, brothers **George Stout (Navy/Second World War)** and **Monty Stout (Air Force/Second World War)** are always willing to visit with Edmonton area students, and were a great support to us in organizing our Memory Project Conference in Edmonton this past June. Last but certainly not least, we are happy to recognize the contribution of **Mr. Sven Hansen (Navy/Second World War)** from Port Moody, BC. In 2007, Mr. Hansen participated in more visits than any other volunteer in British Columbia. These gentlemen have all become Memory Project ambassadors in their communities. These awards represent a token of our gratitude for their tireless efforts.

PHOTO GALLERY

1. Students of Humberview Secondary School in Bolton, Ontario welcomed LCol Susan Beharrell into their classroom. She discussed the history of women in Canada's military and described many of her own experiences throughout her long career.
2. Honorary Patron Major Richard Rohmer OC, CMM, DFC, O.Ont., K.STJ, CD, QC, ADEC at Veteran Appreciation Day in Barrie.
3. Michael Prue, Ontario Member of Provincial Parliament chats with Memory Project veteran Ms. Margaret Haliburton at our MPP Appreciation Event held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute.



Rudyard's Fond Farewell

As some of you may have heard, I am stepping down as Executive Director of the Dominion Institute, effective July 1, 2008. The Memory Project and its volunteer speakers have always been close to my heart. The program has helped to define the Institute and allowed us to keep the stories of our veterans alive in schools across Canada.

What started out as a small group in Toronto in 2001 (led by Memory Project speakers Grant

McCrae and John Kilpatrick) has grown, in just seven years, to include 1,500 veterans. In that time, we have ensured that veterans were provided with a venue to share their unique experience of war with upwards of three-quarters of a million young people. This unique partnership between students, teachers and veteran has proven to be a successful model to teach military history to young Canadians. I am looking forward to being an active member

of the Dominion Institute's board of Governors. I also am looking forward to keeping in touch with everyone associated with the Memory Project through its conferences, public events and informal get-togethers. I want to thank you for the enthusiasm and passion you exhibit each time you visit a classroom, helping to make sure that our young people never forget.

All the best,
Rudyard

Thank you to our Partners

The Dominion Institute would like to acknowledge the generous partners of The Memory Project for their important contributions.

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA has recently sponsored Memory Project Conferences and outreach events to engage the veterans in Canada encouraging them to share their stories with young people.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO is the lead sponsor for Veteran Appreciation Days, an initiative that will honour the service and sacrifice of veterans in 10 communities across Ontario during 2008

LABATT BREWERIES OF CANADA Has renewed its funding of the Memory Project which will be dedicated to engaging Ontario MPPs by inviting them to classrooms during Remembrance Week.

SUMMER 2008 UPCOMING EVENTS

VETERAN APPRECIATION DAY EVENT (Date)		VETERAN APPRECIATION DAY EVENT (Date)	
Barrie	May, 2008	Waterloo	July, 2008
Elliot Lake	May, 2008	St. Catharines	August, 2008
Dryden	June, 2008	Timmins	August, 2008
Markham	June, 2008	Cornwall	August, 2008
Sarnia	July, 2008	Brampton	August, 2008

Stay Involved

You, the veterans and CF personnel who participate in The Memory Project, are making a difference to the lives of young people across the country. On behalf of all the staff at The Memory Project, we thank you for sharing your experiences in your community. We frequently hear back from teachers, students and community groups and know how much it means to them!

Please contact us at 1-866-701-1867 or memory@dominion.ca to tell us about your school and community group visits.



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