

The Memory Project's Busy Fall Season!



Margaret Haliburton and Lt. Cdr. Nancy Setchell visit with students at the Bishop Strachan School in Toronto.

This past Fall The Memory Project Speakers Bureau experienced a hugely successful 'Remembrance Season' with hundreds of requests for speakers coming in from across Canada. With more than 625 visits booked, The Memory Project team coordinated requests from schools, churches, boy

scout and girl guide groups and various other community organizations throughout each province making Fall 2010 one of the program's busiest seasons to date. We were thrilled with the response from teachers who were interested in bringing a veteran or serving soldier into their schools, exposing their students to the

experiences of our servicemen and women. The Memory Project team was particularly happy with the amount of requests that came from schools in Quebec and Saskatchewan as we saw huge increases in participation in both of these provinces. This year we have also seen an increase in requests from teachers to have a serving

soldier address their classes. As we have worked to encourage more speakers from this demographic to volunteer with the program we are happy to see so many of them welcomed into Canadian schools. Following Remembrance Week we have received lots of great feedback from teachers which describes the impact the program has had on their students. Mr. Nelson from Ottawa Montessori Schools commented that "Our students really enjoy seeing (Mr. Polowin) and benefit from the energy he brings to his talks" and Ms. Lavigueur stated that "(Father Green)'s story telling skills bring history alive for the students and we count ourselves most fortunate to have spent time with him." To all of our speakers who have helped to make this year such a success, thank you! ■

PROGRAM SPONSORS



Memory Project Launches New Learning Tool



This Fall The Memory Project released its newest learning tool, *Canada in Afghanistan*. The piece was written by Canadian high school

teacher and member of the reserves, Scott Moody, whose time both in the classroom and through multiple tours in Afghanistan was the

perfect combination of experiences to create this informative and accessible piece. The learning tool features a section of background reading which

discusses the history of the conflict, Canada's role, and goals for the future of Afghanistan. With a comprehensive question section and other classroom activities, *Canada in Afghanistan* will help teachers introduce their students to the complexity of the conflict and hopefully encourage them to bring a speaker into their classes to complement their curriculum. The learning tool is provided free to teachers and is available through our website www.thememoryproject.com ■

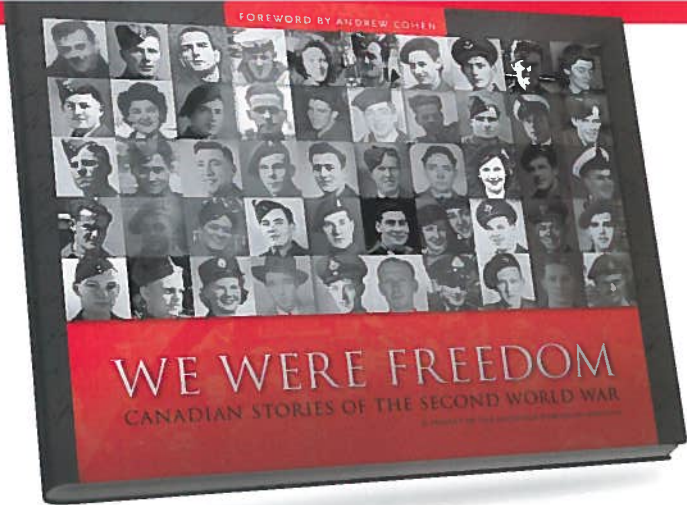
Canada Battlefields Study Tour Participants Return!



Teachers from the English language Battlefields tour at the Vimy Ridge monument in France.

This summer twenty high school teachers from across Canada participated in the Canadian Battlefields Study Tour, an 11 day tour of prominent Canadian battlefields in France and Belgium. The Tour brought the teachers, 12 English speaking and 8

French speaking, to Europe for an intensive look into Canada's military history as well as an opportunity to explore ways in which they could better engage their students back home. On returning, Leanna Darling commented that "The tour itself was intense and filled to

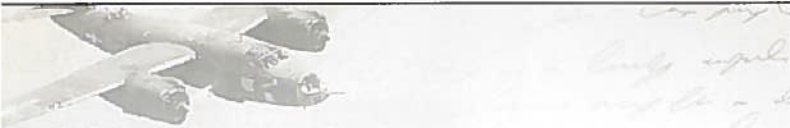


We Were Freedom

In October, The Memory Project: Stories of the Second World War launched *We Were Freedom: Canadian Stories of the Second World War*. The book, published by Key Porter of Toronto, features a foreword by Andrew Cohen, founding President of The Historica-Dominion Institute, and an introduction by noted military historian Tim Cook. *We Were Freedom* is an extraordinary collection of oral histories from **The Memory Project Archive**. Fraser Muir remembers Bomber Command operations over Germany; Helen Jean Crawley recalls her service as a searchlight operator

in London; Joseph Friedman recounts his plight as a prisoner of war.

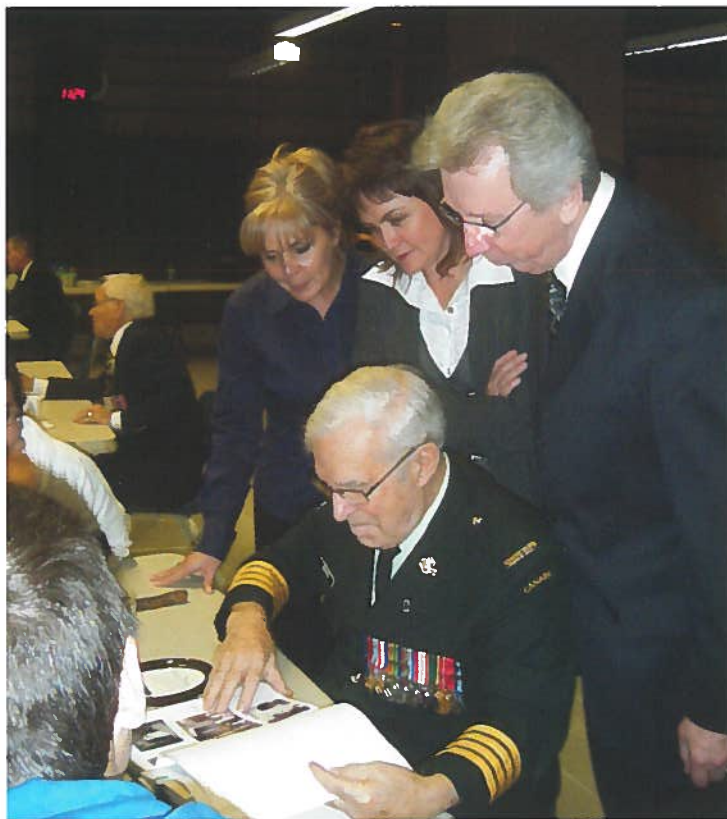
Accompanying these most personal of stories are the veterans' own memorabilia — photographs, medals, letters, newspaper clippings, identity cards and more. *We Were Freedom* is an exceptional piece of Canadian history that illustrates the horrors and heartbreaks caused by war and proudly evokes The Memory Project's central goal of creating a legacy for future generations. Copies of *We Were Freedom* can be purchased at all fine book sellers, Chapters and Indigo locations or online. ■



the brim with activities that not only expanded my knowledge base about the First and Second World Wars but also forced me to consider how best to deliver this material to my students. I came away from the tour with a much deeper understanding of, and greater

respect for, our country's veterans and look forward to sharing this with the developing minds I help shape every day." The Tour program will be held again in 2011 and interested teachers are asked to visit www.historica-dominion.ca for information on the application process. ■

Minister of Veterans Affairs Visits with Students and Veterans in Quebec



Minister of Veterans Affairs, the Hon. Jean-Pierre Blackburn looks over the memorabilia Korean War veteran Harry Surette brought to share with students.

On October 22 students from L'École secondaire Kénogamie in Jonquière, Quebec had the opportunity to visit with The Hon. Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Minister of Veterans Affairs at a special event held at their school. The event brought together six veterans from various conflicts as well as a serving soldier who had recently returned from Afghanistan.

The event, highlighted by remarks from the Minister, was a rare opportunity to bring together multiple generations to learn about Quebec's proud military service and complement the students' history lessons. Grade 10 student Tania Cote commented that "I found that this was a interesting and enriching experience and let us see the human side to what we have learned about in our classes." ■

Veteran Appreciation Days Head to Winnipeg!

Veteran Appreciation Days, a successful program which hosted events in 21 Ontario communities over three summers, is moving to Manitoba where it will hold an inaugural event in Winnipeg this May. Veteran Appreciation Days was designed to help communities honour and

recognize local veterans outside of Remembrance Week. As a part of the program, we created and distributed “do-it-yourself” guides to Ontario communities to encourage them to host their own event in the following years. Since the distribution of the toolkit, more than 17 communities within the

province expressed interest in planning or have planned their Appreciation Days. Due to the success in Ontario and with generous funding from The Winnipeg Foundation, the program will move onto Manitoba where the launch event will be preceded by the distribution of a guide throughout the province. ■

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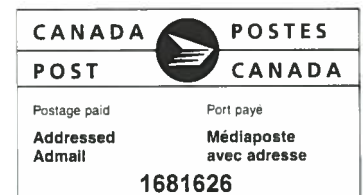
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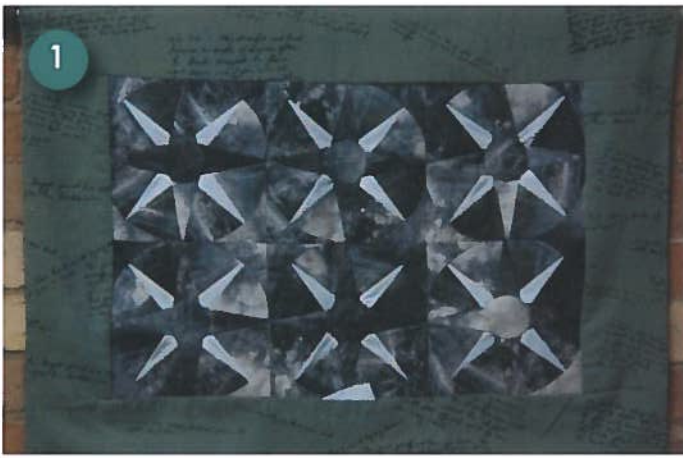


PHOTO GALLERY 1. Security Blanket by Rachel MacGillivray. 2. Students listen to Jean Paul Dufour speak about his experiences in the Second World War. 3. Second World War veterans Margaret Haliburton and Jack Aldred share a toast with Davida Aronovitch at the Toronto book launch for We Were Freedom. 4. English Tour leader Blake Seward and participant Cindy Brown do a grave rubbing at burial site of a fallen Canadian at the Somme Cemetery. 5. Battlefields Tour participant from the French language group, Pierre Camaraire, looks over the names of thousands of fallen Commonwealth soldiers listed on the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium.

The Memory Project Thanks The McLean Foundation

The Memory Project would like to thank The McLean Foundation for acting as supporting sponsor of The Memory Project

Speakers Bureau this school year. The McLean Foundation was established in 1945 by the late Mr. J.S. McLean and since that time has contributed

to the success of hundreds of organizations from the Canadian Opera Company to the Daily Bread Food Bank of Toronto. The Memory

Project is honoured by the Foundation's interest in the program and their contribution to our successes this Fall. ■

The Memory Project Reaches out to Young Artists!

The Memory Project: Stories of the Second World War launched the Art from Memory Challenge in June, 2010 to support emerging Canadian artists while celebrating the remarkable stories of Canadian veterans. Winners were officially announced November 25. New Brunswick College of Art and Design student

Rachel MacGillivray created an original fabric art piece entitled Security Blanket, inspired by 86-year-old Nova Scotia native Fraser Muir. She is the winner of The Historical-Dominion Institute's Art from Memory Challenge which carries a cash prize of \$5000. The Art from Memory runner up and winner of \$1500 is Quebec

artist Natacha Mercure for her untitled animation video inspired by the theme of Memory.

Ms. MacGillivray explains her inspiration and creative process, "This piece started with an aerial photo taken during a sortie. It was digitized, transferred to fabric, cut, then quilted. The same image is used in differing compositions six times, in order to symbolize the ceaselessness of the act and the moment of facing that fear. The quilt pattern

used is called "North Star Compass" which I felt was fitting not only for the navigational implications, but also because I feel the selflessness and bravery of that generation should stand as a guiding point on the moral compass of our society." Visit www.thememoryproject.com/ArtChallenge to view all the finalists and explore how these young people transformed the memories of Second World War veterans into works of art. ■



Second World War veterans gather at the Stories of the Second World War event held at Pier 21 in Halifax.

The Memory Project: *Stories of the Second World War* has been busy criss-crossing the country in search of veterans who are interested in sharing their personal service experiences. Over the summer, we travelled as far west as Whitehorse, YT and as far east as St. John's, NL. We have now interviewed over 2000 veterans of the Second World War and digitized over 8000 photographs,

documents and artifacts for the website. In the next few months, we will be working diligently to add every participant to our online archive to share their important contribution with the country.

The Stories of the Second World War team have also been working to find different and exciting ways of sharing these personal testimonials with new audiences. We were

The Memory Project: Stories of the Second World War Update

fortunate to connect with the producers of the television program, *Storming Juno* which aired Remembrance Day on History Television. We helped to create a companion program entitled, *Remembering Juno* which brought together veterans who landed at Juno Beach in 1944. Their emotional and riveting firsthand accounts made a powerful impact on the audience and gave context to the dramatized *Storming Juno*. A special website was also created to further explore Canada's role in the D-Day landings. Visit: www.stormingjuno.com,

to learn more.

Though we are very proud of the work we have accomplished and eternally grateful to the veterans who have participated, our work is not yet done. We will continue to reach out to veterans across the country in hopes of adding hundreds more to the website. If you are a veteran who is interested in participating or know a veteran that you'd like to nominate to be interviewed please contact us at 1-866-701-1867 or email memory@historica-dominion.ca. ■