

# The Pioneer

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Photo by Caleb Seguin

Veterans and other attendees have a moment of silence during the 11th hour as the trumpet sounds at the Belleville War Cenotaph on Nov 11.

## Taking time to remember

**By Caleb Seguin**

Despite the cold, hearts appeared warm from the spirit of Remembrance Day.

Residents of the city of Belleville held their Remembrance Day procession at the Belleville Cenotaph, on November 11, 2019. With -8°C weather as brisk as it was, there were still an astounding number of members from the community who attended the service.

From elementary students, and active mem-

bers of the military, to veterans, a vast display of citizens came to pay their respects and remember all of those who have paved the way and continue to lay the foundations for this country. A light blanket of snow covered the city the night before, but that did not deter over 1,000 residents from showing up with their support.

Stephen Shirk, chair of Belleville's Veterans Council, led the open address. Next, the Royal Canadian Air and Sea Cadets of Quinte executed the national anthem. Even though hands and feet

were cold and numb, the support and hearts grew warmer throughout the procession.

Remembrance Day and the bearing it brings will always affect everyone differently, regardless of how you take in the weight of the day.

Mitch Panciuk Mayor of Belleville said, "I think it went really well. I think considering the fact we haven't had cold weather for quite some time, this is a tremendous turnout. I think it shows that we still appreciate and we recognize the sacrifices of those that came before us and we feel that it is

important to come and show that."

Whether you are an active member of the military, a veteran, have a close family member who has served or is currently serving, Remembrance Day lives on, allowing a moment of silence to honour those past and present.

So let us not think of it as another day, but reflect on what we have and what has been sacrificed. We should cherish every moment in the country.

Lest we forget.



Photo by Damon MacLean

Cadets take a rotation at the Trenton cenotaph over a 24-hour period every year for Remembrance Day. Despite the cold weather, the cadets stand in honour of all the lives sacrificed.

## Tulips also part of remembering

**By Matthew Syriac Elias**

As we hold on to our poppies this Remembrance Day, the Dutch hold on to the tulip, remembering the service of Canadian soldiers who liberated their country from the Nazis at the end of the Second World War.

A tradition that began in 1945, the Dutch royal family sent 100,000 tulip bulbs to Ottawa in gratitude for Canadians sheltering the future Queen Juliana and her family for the previous three years during Nazi occupation.

An important moment during their stay in Canada was the birth of Princess Margriet in 1943 at the Ottawa Civic Hospital. The maternity ward was temporarily declared to be 'extraterritorial' by the Canadian government, thereby allowing Princess Margriet's citizenship to be solely influenced by her mother's Dutch citizenship. In 1946, Queen Juliana sent another 20,500 bulbs, requesting that a display be created for the hospital, and promised to send 10,000 more bulbs each year.

Over 75 years ago, a brutal war came to an end, and Netherlands was liberated with the help of Canadian soldiers. On May 4, 1945 at Luneburg Heath, east of Hamburg, Field Marshal Sir Bernard Law Montgomery (nicknamed "Monty" by the British Forces) accepted unconditional surrender of the German forces, including in northwest Germany, Denmark and all naval ships in those areas. The surrender preceded the end of the Second World War in Europe.

Former Brigadier-General David Patterson held a session at Signal Brewery, Corbyville, where he explained the various events and decisions during the war that led to the Liberation of the Netherlands in 1945. Patterson uses his extensive knowledge and understanding of battle plans, machinery, ammunition and personnel of the Second World War to conduct such



**Brigadier-General David Patterson**

classes and teach important history, attended by both military families and others.

Patterson has been part of the Army Reserve for over 30 years. Joining as a gunner in the Royal Canadian Artillery in Montreal in 1979, he has

served multiple commander and advisor positions. Some notable operations Patterson has participated in include Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Now retired, Patterson runs Fields Of Fire, a tour company that helps people to travel, learn and explore Canadian battlefields in Europe from the war. This includes locations in countries such as Italy, Netherlands, Germany and Spain, from the Spanish civil war. People from all over Canada sign up for these tours, Patterson says.

"If they have a particular person they're looking for, a family member, someone they would like to track down, we try our best to do so, find out their gravesite. A lot of these tourists come on board to explore family connections. Half the people who come are former military too," explains Patterson.

Patterson was part of the artillery and planned to spend Remembrance Day at the Artillery Memorial in Kingston. "I got this medal, well, someone thought I did a good job. So attaboy," Patterson says pointing to his Meritorious Service Medal, among other medals he has received throughout his service.



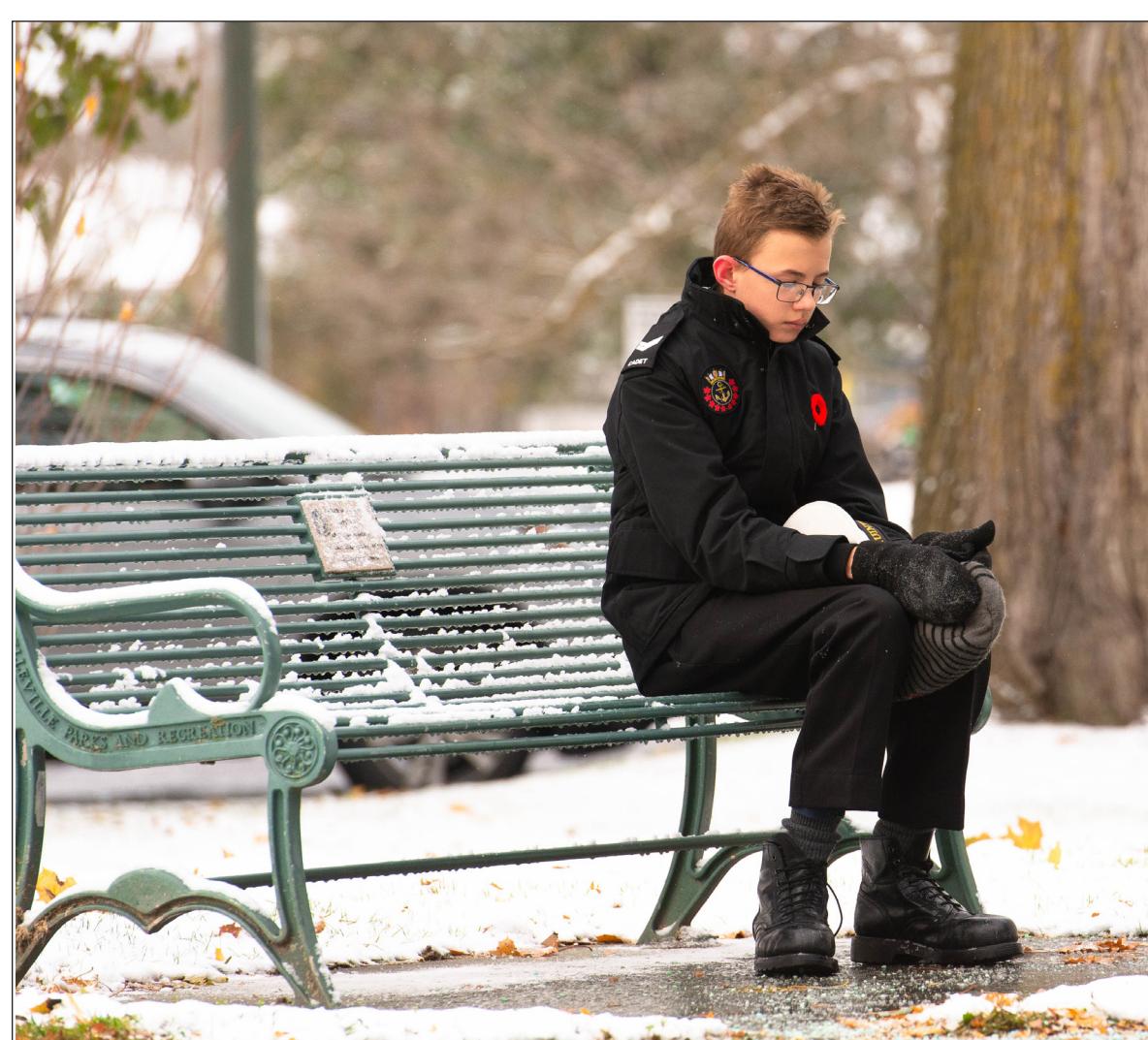
The Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment was well represented at their home cenotaph in Belleville at the Remembrance Day ceremony on Nov. 11.

Photo by Jessica Munro



Neil Ellis, MP for Bay of Quinte, attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Belleville Cenotaph.

Photo by Gagandeep Sarangal



A sea cadet has a contemplative moment before the Remembrance Day ceremony in Belleville.



Major Wil Brown-Ratcliffe from the Salvation Army leads a Remembrance Day event at Hastings Manor long-term care facility.

Photo by Caleb Seguin



Gregory Scott, a home inspector and marine surveyor for over 35 years, stands near the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in front of the Cross of Sacrifice Cenotaph during the Kingston's Remembrance Day.

Photo by Jonathan Matthe



Lieutenant Colonel Brian Tang (right) helps a veteran up to sing the national anthem at the Belleville Remembrance Day ceremony.

Photo by Jessica Munro



A man pays his respect during the Kingston Remembrance Day ceremony, framed through a hole of a First World War artillery tanker.

Photo by Damon MacLean



(Above) Veterans take part in the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Belleville Cenotaph.

Photo by Gagandeep Sarangal



(Left) Loyalist College students gathered at the Remembrance Day ceremony in Alumni Hall to pay tribute to Canadian veterans. Shown is Loyalist College President Ann Marie Vaughan.

Photo by Deepak Sharma