



# Time to remember



Paying homage to the fallen Indigenous veterans who contributed to Canada's war effort, MP Cathy McLeod visits the National Aboriginal Veterans Monument on Friday in Ottawa.

## Honouring Indigenous veterans

As many as 12,000 Indigenous people served in the Canadian military, in both times of war and peace-keeping missions during the 20th century, with 500 lives lost.

National Aboriginal Veterans Day is Nov. 8, an important time to reflect on the contributions of our Indigenous veterans.

Please take the time to remember.

This Remembrance Day, which marks 75 years since the end of the Second World War, will be very different due to the global pandemic.

There won't be the usual public events, just invite-only gatherings for veterans. But I encourage you to tune into virtual ceremonies offered by local Royal Canadian Legions.

While we can't attend services, it doesn't mean there aren't ways to honour the sacrifices made by the brave Canadians who served in the First and Second World Wars, in Korea, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and other military efforts over the years. Please take the time to remember them.

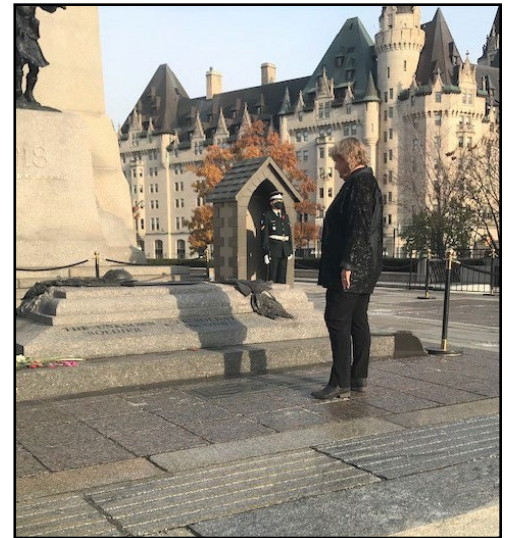
It is without question that we enjoy the lifestyle, freedom and peace we experience today because of our veterans. The easiest way we can express our appreciation is by wearing a poppy, making a donation or sharing a family story about those who served.

People who choose a poppy at a Royal Canadian Legion donation box are being asked to follow public health safety protocols this year by using hand sanitizer before and after making their donation.

There are other ways to take the time to pay tribute to our veterans and remember them.

In Ottawa, the Poppy Drop is a beautiful virtual display of falling poppies being projected in a light show on the Peace Tower every night until Remembrance Day.

Each of the 117,000 falling poppies represents a life lost in service to our



MP Cathy McLeod visits the National War Memorial to honour Canada's war dead.

country. It can be viewed on the Legion's Facebook page.

Also in Ottawa, the eight Books of Remembrance contain the names of those whose lives were lost, and can be seen in Parliament's West Block. The pages are turned each morning in a solemn ceremony, which allows the names of our fallen veterans to appear at least once each year.

It is possible to view the soldiers' names that appear each day, and to search for specific names, on the Veterans Affairs website at <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/books/search>

And, of course, we can take a moment to remember on Nov. 11 by observing two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. to honour those who have so bravely served our country, and all of us.

We will remember them.