

PETER JULIAN

Member of Parliament • Burnaby–New Westminster

“One of the region’s hardest working politicians,
Peter Julian” ~ The Georgia Straight Newspaper



Veterans’ Week November 5 to 11



NOVEMBER 11, 2012 - REMEMBRANCE DAY

I encourage everyone to participate in the Remembrance Day Services in our community. In this way, we pay tribute to those who served and are serving Canada proudly. Please come out on Sunday November 11, 2012 -either to the ceremonies in Burnaby or in New Westminster to honour and remember all those who served Canada in times of war, military conflict and peace.

Burnaby Remembers

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #148 (North Burnaby)

Ceremony at Confederation Park Cenotaph - Mayor Derek Corrigan will be attending. Marchers gather at 10:00AM - Safeway parking lot 4440 East Hastings Street. The parade will begin at 10:30AM. The ceremony will commence at 10:45AM.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #83 (South Burnaby)

Ceremony at Bonsor Park Cenotaph - Acting Mayor Councillor Paul McDonell will be attending. The parade will begin at 10:30AM from Legion# 83 on Grimmer. The ceremony will commence at 10:45AM.

New Westminster Remembers

At the Armoury, located at the corner of Sixth Street and Queen’s Avenue.

Master of Ceremonies, Mayor Wayne Wright. The Royal Westminster Regiment Band will play music at 9:30AM. The memorial service will commence at 10:00AM. Following the assembly at the armoury, the parade leading to the Cenotaph will begin at 10:40AM.

Hope to see you there,



Our Veterans are ordinary men and women who did extraordinary things to protect our freedom and build a safer world to live in. They have helped shape the future of our country, and their service is a point of national pride.

By remembering the sacrifice and service of our Veterans, we recognize the tradition of freedom they fought to preserve. There are many ways you can show that you remember and honour our Canadian Veterans:

- Wear a poppy to honour those in

uniform who have served Canada and also those who have died in service to our country.

- Attend Remembrance Day ceremonies or if you can’t go, watch them on television.

- You can talk to a friend or relative who just returned home from Afghanistan or who fought in other wars about their experiences.

- Help plan and participate in a commemorative ceremony at school or with a community group.

- Listen to Veterans talk about their experiences.

- Plant tulips, a tree or an entire memorial garden in memory of local citizens who died during their military service and/or Veterans from your community who have passed on.

- Blog, tweet or update your facebook status about the importance of remembrance.

Together, it is our duty to pass on the legacy and keep the memories of our Canadian Veterans alive.

Canadians commemorate several milestones this year: the bicentennial of the War of 1812, the 110th anniversary of the end of the South African War, the 95th anniversary of the Battles of the Vimy Ridge and Passchendale, and the 70th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid.

95th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge

The Canadians moved to the front lines across from Vimy Ridge in late autumn 1916. The Battle of Vimy Ridge would be the first time all four divisions of the Canadian Corps worked together as one formation.

Carved on the walls of the monument are the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers who were killed in France and whose final resting place was then unknown. Standing on the monument's wide stone terrace overlooking the broad fields and rolling hills of Northern France, one can see other places where Canadians fought and died. More than 7,000 are buried in 30 war cemeteries within a 20-kilometre radius of the Vimy Memorial. Altogether, more than 66,000 Canadian service personnel died in the First World War. Designed by Canadian sculptor and architect Walter Seymour Allward, the monument took eleven years to build. It rests on a bed of 11,000 tonnes of concrete, reinforced with hundreds of tonnes of steel. The towering pylons and sculptured figures contain almost 6,000 tonnes

of limestone brought to the site from an abandoned Roman quarry on the Adriatic Sea (in present day Croatia). The figures were carved where they now stand from huge blocks of this stone. A cloaked figure



stands at the front, or east side, of the monument overlooking the Douai Plain. This sorrowing figure of a woman represents Canada—a young nation mourning her dead. Below is a tomb, draped in laurel branches and bearing a helmet and sword.

(Veterans Affairs Canada)

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Please call, write or visit our community office. We're here to help you with: **COMMUNITY OFFICE**

- issues related to federal government services such as Citizenship and Immigration, Employment Insurance, Revenue Canada and Canada Student Loans.
- arranging special messages for important occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries.
- providing referrals to other services offered in the community.

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War Letters, by Megan Barr

I have in my possession an old letter written by my uncle to his sister (my mother) some two months before he was killed at Vimy Ridge in April 1917. Recently I dug it out to show my grand-daughter. She was so touched by it that she penned the following poem. Reg P. Barr

I find it disturbing to think that a life has been reduced to lines of faded ink and tattered battalion paper.

Breath in a shoe box a heartbeat in an attic.

Eighty three years pass and a soldier's memory is revisited by a group no younger than he, himself.

Would he have once sat in a high school, had some faith in the belief that tomorrow will greet him at sunrise,

Or ever wondered what the future would hold,
Only to be lifted out of familiarity to be placed across
an ocean alone.

France would no doubt be a wonderful adventure
even in the time of great battle.

Is this not the stencil of innocence?

It is my only hope that this small tribute to the grandeur exhibited by this soldier will do him some form of justice to the outstanding service he performed.

(Veterans Affairs Canada)