



For Immediate Release

Reading and Remembrance 2009: Medals and Memories is ready

Ten new lessons are on-line for the fourth edition of this provincial project for Remembrance Day. They join free archived materials on "In Flanders Fields", *Women and War*, *Holocaust and Anti-Racism Education* and *the Art of Dissent*. Classes, schools or boards may sign up to be part of the Honour Roll that celebrates participation. Teachers are free to use the 2009 or any of the archived materials. The only requirement to register is to plan to read with young people on Remembrance Day.

www.readingandremembrance.ca

Toronto—They are all medal recipients: The Inuit woman who serves in the Arctic Rangers, the pigeons that saved lives, the men from Canada and Allied countries who demonstrated extraordinary valour, Canada's brave, long-serving First Nations soldiers, the young Cadets and Junior Rangers developing strong characters and the mothers who lost children. Their inspirational stories demonstrate a diversity that makes Remembrance Day accessible to all young people.

Felix Eboue governor of Chad during WWII, Captain Thain Macdowell of Brockville, Sepoy Bhandari Ram, a Hindu from the Simla Hills and Alice Taylor from Ottawa are some of the fascinating characters who spring out of history to tempt young people into further reading and research. There is even an on-line template to encourage students to research and submit a story on a local hero.

The "Medal and Memories Minutes", "Facts" and "Before the Reading" sections draw in reluctant readers and "After the Reading" and "Extensions" provide follow up suggestions for the eager.

According to project director, Angie Littlefield, "Although we gear the Reading and Remembrance materials to November 11th, these lessons could be used throughout the year. They are resources for Character Education and slide seamlessly into English, Civics, Arts, Native Studies and Canadian and World Studies curricula. I picture teachers printing these lessons for Remembrance Day and keeping them in a binder for back-up use."

The Ontario Historical Society and the Ontario Library Association join founding sponsor Ontario Power Generation to promote the project provincially. *Reading and Remembrance*, started by the Durham West Arts Centre in 2005, is fully bilingual in 2009 thanks to M.P. Mark Holland. Since its inception, over 100,000 students have participated.

Don Terry of Public Affairs, Pickering Nuclear, concludes, "This project provides excellence in public education on values held dear by our organization. We are proud to be the founding and continuing sponsor of a project that will now reach even further into Ontario communities to support veterans, reading, history and equity."

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Contact Angie Littlefield angie.littlefield@yahoo.ca, 416-282-0646
 Mary Cook mary.cook@sympatico.ca, 905-839-1734
 or Andrea Izzo, Ontario Historical Society izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca, 416-226-9011