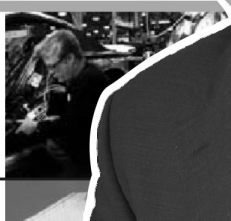
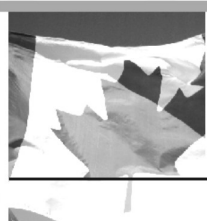


# Brian MASSE

M.P. Windsor West



WINDSOR WEST UPDATE

November 2009



Dear Friends,

Veterans' Week, November 5 to 11, is a time for all Canadians to honour the selfless dedication of those who have served in times of war, military conflict and peace. We also honour those who continue to serve our country around the world. These men and women are upholding a noble Canadian tradition by taking an active role in bringing stability and peace to parts of the world that have seen turmoil and upheaval.

During Veterans' Week 2009, Canadians from coast to coast to coast will show pride and gratitude for our Veterans as events and activities take place across the country in their honour. All Canadians, especially youth, are urged to take an active role in remembrance. There are many ways to get involved. Talk to a Veteran. Visit our cenotaph. Read a book on our Veterans' great sacrifices and achievements. **Attend the Remembrance Day ceremony in Windsor and bring a family member, friend or neighbour.**

When Canadians participate in commemorative events, we take up the torch of remembrance. As a result, we can rest assured that future generations will continue to commemorate those who helped shape Canada as a nation.

Yours truly,

**Right: Brian Masse M.P. remembers at the Windsor cenotaph.**



Teachers and parents, did you know that there are educational resources available to help you and your children learn about and remember Canada's role in the world?

There are postcards to send to our soldiers in Afghanistan, interactive games, recipes, and more! You can download information online at: [www.vac.gc.ca](http://www.vac.gc.ca) or call my constituency office at (519) 255-1631 and we will get this information to you at your request.

**Lest we forget.**

**You're invited!**  
**Join our local veterans to remember at Windsor City Hall Square Cenotaph this Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.**

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# REMEMBERING OUR HEROES



## 90th Anniversary of the First World War

Last year marked the 90th Anniversary of the end of WWI. Canadians contributed in many ways to our country's great efforts in the First World War.

The struggle involved virtually the whole country and made enormous demands on the Canadian people, whether they were involved in the actual fighting or remained on the home front to work in industry or farming to support the war effort.

When Britain went to war in Europe in August 1914, Canada – as a member of the British Empire – was automatically at war as well. On the "Western Front," the First World War soon turned into a stalemate of trench fighting, with a 1,000 km system of trenches stretching across Belgium and France from the English Channel to the border of Switzerland. On one side were the forces of France and Britain (along with other allies such as Canada) and on the other were the Germans. From their opposing trenches they faced one another across a deadly "No Man's Land" of barbed wire, exploding artillery shells and machine-gun fire.

The armistice of November 11, 1918, brought relief to the whole world. The horrible struggle with its death, destruction and misery was at last halted. It had truly been a world war. Sixty-five million men from 30 nations were involved in it; at least ten million men were killed; twenty-nine million more were wounded, captured or missing; and the financial cost was measured in hundreds of billions of dollars. Never before had there been such a conflict.

The Great War was also a landmark in Canadian national development. In 1914, Canada entered the war as a colony, a mere extension of Britain overseas; in 1918 she was forging visibly ahead to nationhood. Canada began the war with one division of citizen soldiers under the command of a British general, and ended with a superb fighting force under the command of one of her own sons.

For a nation of eight million people Canada's war effort was remarkable. A total of 619,636 men and women served in the Canadian forces in the First World War, and of these 66,655 gave their lives and another 172,950 were wounded. Nearly one of every ten Canadians who fought in the war did not return.

It was this Canadian war record that won for Canada a separate signature on the Peace Treaty signifying that national status had been achieved. Nationhood was purchased for Canada by the gallant men who stood fast at Ypres, stormed Regina Trench, climbed the heights of Vimy Ridge, captured Passchendaele, and entered Mons on November 11, 1918.

