

# BRIAN MASSE

Member of Parliament



REMEMBRANCE DAY

November 2017



“Without freedom  
there can be no  
ensuring peace and  
without peace no  
enduring freedom.”

~King George VI at the  
dedication of the National  
War Memorial  
(Ottawa, May 21, 1939)

## Contact

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Dear Friends,

As in the past, I am sending this special Remembrance Day mailing to help our community in remembrance. This year marks the 100 year anniversary of both the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the Battle of Passchendaele, and the 75th Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid..

Further, there are several ways that we can ensure that we pay special tribute to our Canadian war heroes by, for instance, wearing a poppy which has been a clear symbol of commemoration since the immediate aftermath of the WWI. Reflection in silence for two minutes is also a common way of remembering on November 11th of every year. These minutes, although short, provide us opportunity to think about the past, our heroes lost and returned, and those who serve today. Another way to remember is to visit the numerous war memorials that have been erected in the city, country and worldwide that are in many instances the only memory that we have of many soldiers.

And as you will see, below I have included a mail back card that I will be presenting to the local veterans at our legions. Please take the time to thank our veterans, and remember them and our lost heroes not only on Remembrance Day, but every day.

Ultimately, I encourage everyone who can, to participate in this year's **Remembrance Day ceremony held at the cenotaph in City Hall Square at 11.00 a.m., on November 11, 2017.** I hope to see you there.

**Thank you veterans—your sacrifices and service to Canada will not be forgotten.**

Yours truly,

On the back side of this newsletter you will find the story of one of our local war memorials. This story is just one of many located in our community. I send these flyers with different information to ten different neighbourhoods in Windsor West. If you are interested in seeing more, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (519) 255-1631 or by email at: [brian.masse@parl.gc.ca](mailto:brian.masse@parl.gc.ca) and we will get you copies of all of the mailings you are interested in..

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Brian Masse, MP**  
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No Postage  
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# BOER WAR MONUMENT

This tablet at Jackson Park lists the names of the volunteers, residents of Essex County, who served in the British Army during the war in South Africa 1899—1902. Also known as the Boer War.



PHOTO CREDIT: City of Windsor Monuments <http://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/Culture/Monuments/Pages/Monuments.aspx>

## The Boer War 1899-1902

As the 19th century drew to a close, the British Empire was nearing its height. With colonies, dominions and territories stretching around the world, the British first gained control of territory in the region from the Dutch in the early 1800s. The original Dutch settlers (known as the "Boers") resisted British rule, however, migrating away from the centres of British control along the coasts and establishing the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic in the mid-1800s.

Tensions in southern Africa escalated as the years went by, but an uneasy peace was soon established until finally boiling over with the outbreak of the South African War on October 11, 1899.

Prime Minister Wilfred Laurier offered to send soldiers who volunteered for the conflict plus military equipment, as well as arranging for transportation to South Africa. In turn, the British would pay the Canadian soldiers' wages and arrange for their return home upon completion of their service. A thousand men were then quickly recruited to form the First Contingent that sailed from Québec City on October 30, 1899.

The Boers were tough fighters, familiar with the African terrain that was their home and expert marksmen. The British suffered serious setbacks in the opening battles of the war and made an urgent request for Canada to supply more horse-mounted troops. In response, a second contingent was soon brought together, made up of two regiments and three artillery batteries. Troop trains loaded with these volunteers and their horses were greeted with thunderous welcomes at stations across Canada as they headed to Halifax to set sail for South Africa. More units from Canada would follow as the war progressed, including a field hospital. In total, more than 7,000 Canadians would volunteer for service during the conflict.

Canada's contributions in the South African War came at a cost. Approximately 280 Canadians lost their lives (most due to injury or illness brought on by the harsh conditions) and more than 250 were wounded.

The war also marked the first time Canadian women served with the military overseas, with 12 Nursing Sisters helping the sick and wounded in South Africa. In fact, Prince Edward Island's Georgina Pope, who led the Canadian Nursing Sisters in South Africa, was awarded the Royal Red Cross for her impressive service under difficult conditions—the first time a Canadian ever received this prestigious award. (Source: [www.veterans.gc.ca](http://www.veterans.gc.ca))



THANK YOU VETERAN!

Thank you for sharing your message to a local veteran. I will be bringing these to the Legion where they will be distributed.

Address

City/Town

Postal Code

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E-mail

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