

Winnipeg Public Library Partners in Lest We Forget



Winnipeg Public Library has been chosen as one of the inaugural partner sites in the **Lest We Forget program** of Library and Archives Canada. **Lest We Forget** is aimed at grade 8-12 classes and offers students the chance to learn about Canada's military history, and more specifically, the people who were involved.

This unique workshop has students, led by a facilitator, conduct primary research using one of over 40 complete service files of Winnipeg-based World War I veterans – giving flesh and blood to what previously had been only a name - through their service, pay, medical and casualty records. Students build their skills in writing and in using computers to access archival sources and databases. From this initial research, the students then fill in the context of the life and experiences that the veteran lived through.

January 3, 2012

Winnipeg Public Library would like to invite history teachers from your school to participate in the Lest We Forget project which explores Canadian military history.

Lest We Forget is an educational project developed by Library and Archives Canada. It provides students with a hands-on learning experience that highlights the role of the Canadian military and its personnel during the First and Second World Wars. The Lest We Forget workshops conducted at the Millennium Library provide students with the opportunity to conduct primary research, to sharpen their skills in writing essays, complete with footnotes and bibliographies, and to access archival sources and databases.

The Library is partnering with Library and Archives Canada for the first time to offer **Lest We Forget** workshops to grade 8-12 students in Winnipeg schools. Your school's participation in a workshop will provide students with a valuable learning experience.

During the workshop we will provide printed copies of the complete service files for veterans from Winnipeg and other towns in Manitoba. Students will be able to read the documents and use them to conduct their research. A Librarian will facilitate the workshops and instruct students in how to locate the important historical information contained in the documents. The primary sources provide the foundation with service, pay, medical and casualty records giving flesh and blood to a person who had been only a name on a piece of paper. From there, students will be able to do further research to put the life experiences of their assigned veteran into the larger historical context. During the workshop we will also highlight what other resources are available online and in print to help students continue their research after the workshop.

The workshops are free and if your school needs assistance with transportation we can discuss subsidizing your visit to the Library at 251 Donald Street. We have started accepting registration for classes in January for workshops that will continue up to and including the month of May.

If you are interested in attending a workshop please contact me as soon as possible so we can work out a date and time.

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Funding for this project was provided by Library and Archives Canada and the Canadian Urban Libraries Council. More information on the Lest We Forget program can be found online at Library and Archives Canada
www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/cenotaph/index-e.html.

Media inquiries should be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at 986-6000 or via email at MediaInquiry@winnipeg.ca.