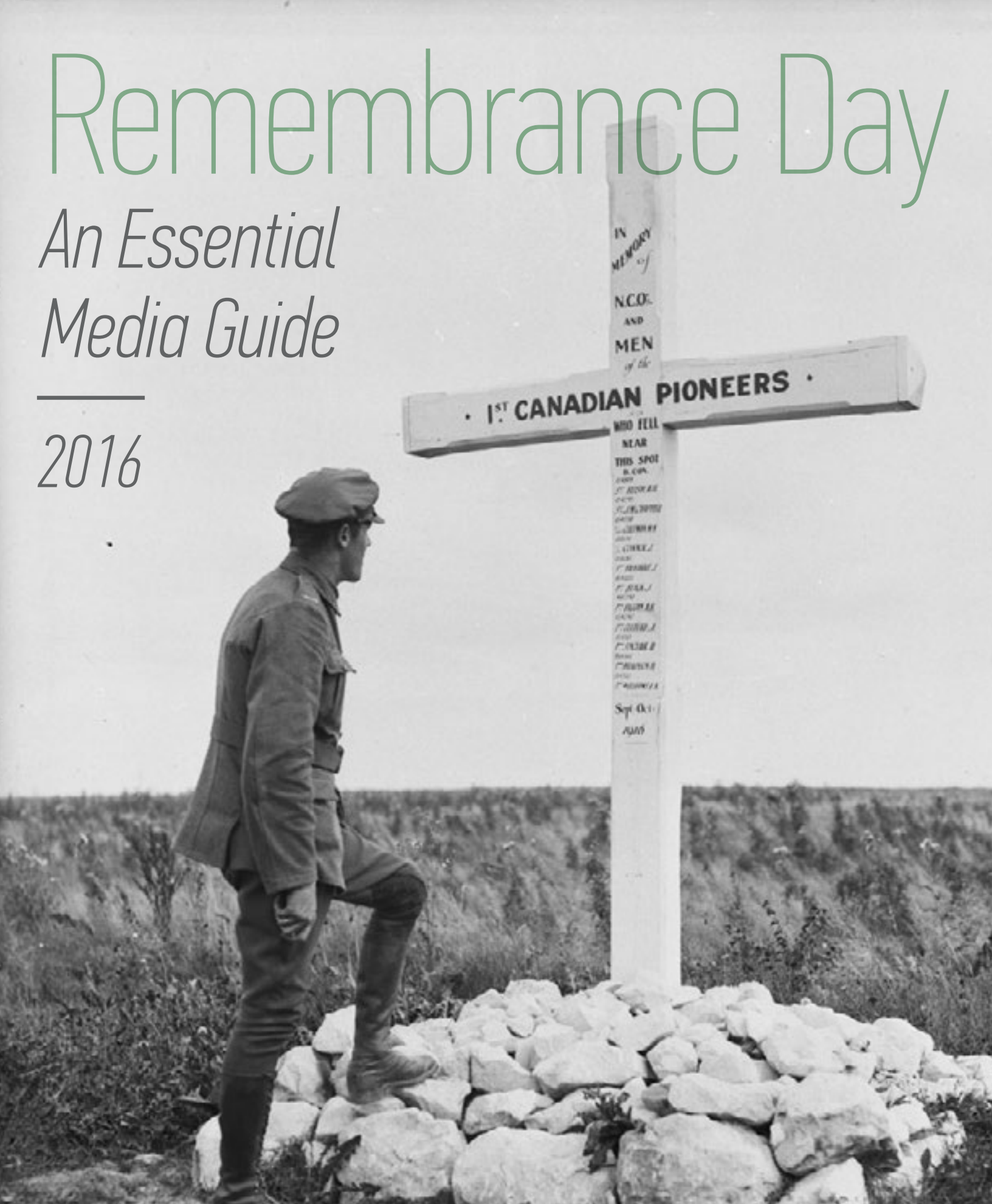


Remembrance Day

An Essential Media Guide

2016



Library and Archives
Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives
Canada

Canada

LAC : An indispensable resource for Canadian media on Remembrance Day



Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is one of the most-consulted memory institutions for Remembrance Day. For some, we may be the best-kept secret in Canada.

Did you know that LAC has, without a doubt, the largest archives on the First World War?

This media kit is intended to help reporters who cover Remembrance Day. We suggest original stories that could interest your audience or readers. We also offer resources that you could use to find photos, rare documents, period songs or archival films for your programs, news reports or feature articles.

Please contact media relations at 819-994-4589 for any inquiries.



Some original stories

Outstanding Canadians

To commemorate the centennial of the First World War, LAC has told the stories of 100 men and women who have experienced war: some famous (John Diefenbaker, Lester B. Pearson, Norman Bethune, Conn Smythe), others less so. Check them out on the next page of this document, then share their stories with others!

Is part of your personal history at LAC?

Some 640,000 men and women, members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), participated in the First World War. LAC preserves their records. More than half have been digitized and are already available online free of charge. Many Canadians have no idea that this resource exists:

- Did a relative fight in Europe?
- Among the fallen soldiers, are there Whites, Gagnons, Lees or Tremblays?
- Was a hero in your area decorated for an act of bravery?

You could bring new stories of [soldiers of the First World War](#) to life as you inform your readers, listeners and viewers about this online resource!

Ambitious digitization

The unique, fragile paper documents in the collection of CEF service records are a century old. If destroyed, they would be lost forever! LAC takes the measures needed to protect them. With November 11 approaching, LAC will provide media with the following opportunities: to see how staff carefully handle this important documentary heritage; to examine a few of the sometimes amazing discoveries hidden in these records; to visit the vaults where the documents are kept; and to meet archival experts ready to answer questions! Our innovative high-speed digitization of archives makes LAC a world leader, an example for other national and international institutions.

We will welcome interested media on the morning of November 1. For reservations, contact Richard Provencher at 819-994-4589 or bac.media.lac@canada.ca.



Outstanding Canadians



Over the past year, to commemorate the centennial of the First World War, LAC has told the stories of 100 men and women of the CEF. Here are a few of the stories, some well known, others unusual and remarkable.

Visit our website for a [complete list of the 100 stories](#).

Nobel laureate (Ontario): The research of [Dr. Frederick Grant Banting](#) (Allison) led to the discovery of insulin as a treatment for diabetes.

Bond! James Bond! (Manitoba): [William Samuel Stephenson](#) (Winnipeg) was a prisoner of war until his escape in 1918. Winston Churchill needed him to set up an intelligence network for the Allies during the Second World War. A close friend and colleague of Ian Fleming, Stephenson was one of the inspirations for Fleming's fictional James Bond.

Hockey Hall of Fame legend (Ontario): Founder of the Toronto Maple Leafs, [Constantine Falkland "Conn" Smythe](#) (Toronto) served as a soldier in both world wars.

Stanley Cup winner (Quebec): [Percival "Percy" Molson](#) (Montréal) was a member of the famous Canadian brewing family. He won the Stanley Cup at age 16 with the Montreal Victorias. Molson was killed in action by a shell near Vimy Ridge, France.

War and the arts (Quebec and Ontario): Wartime artists produced works that often conveyed helplessness, the unspeakable, the intangible. Two such artists were [Alexander Young Jackson](#), a landscape painter (Montréal), and [Peregrine Palmer Acland](#), a novelist (Toronto).

Canadian who downed the most famous German pilot (Ontario): [Arthur Roy Brown](#) (Derby Township), Canadian flying ace, is credited with shooting down Manfred von Richthofen, the "Red Baron," the most feared and deadly German pilot.

"Black Battalion" (Nova Scotia and New Brunswick): Prejudice prevented many Blacks from enlisting, but that all changed with the creation of the No. 2 Construction Battalion. The "Black Battalion" consisted mainly of Maritime soldiers, who worked in mines. Among its members were [Harry Brown](#) (Dartmouth) and [Frank Morris Claybourn](#) (Fredericton).

Famous Winnipeg street (Manitoba): What are the odds? Three recipients of the Victoria Cross—the highest military decoration in the British Empire—lived on the same street! [Leo Clarke](#), [Robert Shankland](#) and [Frederick William Hall](#) all lived on Pine Street in Winnipeg, since renamed Valour Road.

Dedicated women (Quebec and Nova Scotia): Enlisted as nurses, women tended to the sick and wounded, and witnessed the devastation of war. A few portraits: [Mabel Clint](#) (Québec) wrote a memoir; [Alexina Dussault](#) (St. Hyacinthe) travelled on a ship torpedoed by a German U-boat; [Charlotte "Lottie" Urquhart](#) (New Glasgow) cared for the sick despite the bombs falling around her.

Olympic athlete (Saskatchewan): The first Indigenous police officer in Canada, [Alexander Decoteau](#) (Battleford) was a Cree athlete who competed in the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm. While stationed in England during the war, he won two Allied sporting competitions and received a watch from King George V. He was killed in action at Passchendaele in 1917.

Calgary the inclusive (Alberta): About 222 Japanese Canadians joined the CEF. The Calgary recruiting station was the only one not to turn them away because of race. Records include those of [Tomasaburo Inohara](#) and [Hikogoro Inouye](#).

A peerless sniper (Ontario): [Francis Pegahmagabow](#), an Ojibwa from Parry Island, was the First Nations soldier most highly decorated for bravery and the most effective Canadian sniper of the First World War.

Military heritage resources



Smile . . . photos: To illustrate an article or report, check out the LAC collection. A few military heritage albums have already been created on [Flickr](#): 1st Canadian Division; William Redver Stark: The Soldier and the Artist; Canada at Ypres; Battle of the Somme; Nursing; “In Flanders Fields”: A Century of Poppies; etc. For a search in our collection, which includes nearly 30 million photographs, use keywords to find the perfect one! [Begin your search now.](#)

One-of-a-kind gramophone: [Virtual Gramophone](#) is a website dedicated to the early days of Canadian sound recording. If you are looking for a song to mark Remembrance Day, you may find one in the section on [songs of the First World War](#).

Lights, camera, action!: LAC’s collection contains over 90,000 films, including shorts, feature films, documentaries and silent films, some dating back to 1897. See our [YouTube](#) page.

Podcasts: Among LAC’s programs, consider these three: [“In Flanders Fields”: A Century of Poppies](#); [Sign Me Up: CEF Files, 1914-1918](#); [William Redver Stark: The Soldier and the Artist](#).

Soldiers’ personnel records: The most comprehensive [database about those who took part in the First World War](#), including those whose applications were rejected by the CEF.

Discoverblog: LAC adds to its [blog](#) of stories based on archives in the collection. Many discuss military heritage.

To view all of our resources, visit the [“Military Heritage” section](#) of the LAC website.



If you use our resources, feel free to tag us: [@LibraryArchives](#)

