

What Remembrance Day Means To Me

On November 11th, we remember. We take this day to remember our past veterans and why we are so grateful to be living in Canada where we are free. On this day it's not so much of a celebration, because we aren't celebrating war. We are remembering the brave people that fought for us and fought because they had hope for the future. Today, we thank you.

Remembrance Day has made me have more respect and gratitude for Canada and for the freedom we have here. People fought for our rights, so today we remember them. In Canada, we have freedom of speech. We are free to say what's on our mind without consequence. We don't realize how lucky we truly are. We wake up every morning and forget that in other countries, people don't have the same opportunities as we do. Women can go to school in Canada, something that in many other countries is illegal. We have this freedom because our warriors were brave enough to stand up and fight for them. I think that we need to show more appreciation for not only our rights, but the people that made them accessible.

Another thing that remembrance day has made me more aware of is world politics. Before this year, I hadn't known much about the world wars and wars in general. I knew the basic outline, but even that was a bit blurry. This year, I got to learn more about world war one and two, and I found it interesting. My class watched a video about world war one, and we were so intrigued, we watched another one about world war two. This inspired me to learn more about it, especially world war two because I'm jewish and I thought it would be beneficial for me to have a deeper understanding of what my ancestors went through. It was gripping, and obviously I couldn't imagine what not only the soldiers went through, but their families. Researching ww1 and ww2 really made me have a much more extensive respect for veterans.

Lastly, remembrance day has made me respect veterans more. With further research on remembrance day, I can't imagine how scary it would have been to be in combat. Having your friends and family worried, and meeting new people that could be taken from you within seconds. Veterans are taken for granted, and I think we need to start appreciating them more. Without them, the Canada we live in today would be immensely different. Sometimes we need a little bit of a reality check; a moment to appreciate and recognize that these lionhearted people shaped what Canada is today.

Today is a day of appreciation. We remember because some can't afford to forget. The legacy of our veterans must live on and we need to show more appreciation for the people that made Canada what it is today. "The living owe it to those who no longer can speak to tell their story for them,"- Czeslaw Milosz.