

## **Always Remember; Never Forget**

The 13th Prime Minister of Canada, John Diefenbaker once said, "There can be no dedication to Canada's future without a knowledge of its past." On the eleventh day of the eleventh month, at the eleventh hour, we drop everything to remember. We remember the pain, hardships, and sacrifices of those who fought for our land before us. One of the main reasons we live safe lives today is because of the brave soldiers who fought and died, so our country could thrive.

Let's turn the clock back to 1914. The sky was bright blue, and the grass was lush green. World War I had just broken out. Men marched to the battlefield, with hearts full of courage, longing for victory and freedom. The war lasted four dreadful years, and the 1918 Armistice Treaty finally marked the end of one of the deadliest conflicts in human history.

We now wear their respect close to our hearts, in the form of a Poppy. We remember not only the soldiers on the battlefield, but all the people who played their part to protect our country, and to ensure that the people of tomorrow have a safe and happy life. We acknowledge the fact that instead of war, blood, and misery, we see an education, we see freedom, and we see a future. It is our job to honor the efforts of those who gave us a better future and to remember the brave people who saved lives, without the fear of losing their own.

Those who risked their lives for our country once had a dream of peace, a dream which we are now living. Our job as Canadian citizens is to keep that dream alive in our hearts and pass it down through the generations yet to come. It is left in our hands to honor these heroes forever. Always remember; Never forget.