

Introduction

With Remembrance Day approaching, we would like schools to consider who is often forgotten or left out from our Remembrance Day programming. How do we acknowledge Canada's historical context of not recognizing Indigenous, Black, or other marginalized soldiers once they had returned from service? How can we address and include the contributions of these soldiers as we move forward? How can we commemorate the efforts of Canada's military without glamorizing war, and honour the lived experiences of families impacted and displaced by war? These are some of the challenges faced by educators committed to creating safe, inclusive and equitable schools.

This special resource is compiled by educators of the ATA Local 38 Antiracist Teachers Network. It is meant to help build educator understanding and capacity, with hopes that you will then use it to share your learnings with your school community. This is not to exclude our traditionally recognized veterans, but rather to share resources with schools in order to honour all those who served for Canada, including those who have been historically excluded in the past.

The Anti-Racist Teachers Network would like to acknowledge that while we try our best to compile as many resources and voices, we know we will inevitably miss something. We encourage Local 38 members to reach out with your resources, and we will be updating this resource yearly to ensure there are up to date diverse materials available for schools to work towards creating an inclusive commemoration of Remembrance Day.

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Considerations for Remembrance Day

While considering how we can create an inclusive recognition of Remembrance Day, we came across a blog post with considerations on how to create an equity-informed Remembrance Day.

This includes a list of considerations for schools, which includes:

- Including lessons and/or assignments on racialized soldiers, the
 women and racialized men who operated the factories that supported
 war efforts, and why they were not permitted to serve in battle
- Adding stories, poetry, and other forms of content from and by Black and Indigenous soldiers and their families
- Incorporating relevant cultural music such as African or Indigenous drumming along with traditional music such as the Last Post
- Intentionally discussing the overlap of Black and Indigenous history with Canadian War history
- Expanding Remembrance Day curricula to include critical conversations about the impact of WWI and WWII on racialized people in Canada—particularly the oppression of Black and Indigenous soldiers, the internment of Japanese Canadians, and Canada's refusal to accept European Jews as refugees during the Holocaust.
- Broadening conversations around Remembrance Day to consider the impact of war—namely violence and exploitation—on the civilians of countries where war takes place.
- Exploring alternate methods of conflict resolution that could limit or eliminate the need for violent intervention and war.

(Ojo-Thompson, 2020)

Reflective Questions for Educators and Schools to consider:

- 1. In what ways can we recognize the experiences of civilians who were/are impacted by war in their countries?
- 2. How can we recognize and include the contributions and service of racialized soldiers?
- 3. How can we use this opportunity to explore alternate methods of conflict resolution?

"The army let us join, but wouldn't let us fight. They gave us shovels, not rifles."





Resources for Educators

Resource - Indigenous War Heroes - Teacher's Guide - Wasuaksing First Nation

Resource - Defining Moments Canada - Indigenous Veterans Part 1 (Lesson Plan)

Resource - Defining Moments Canada - Indigenous Veterans Part 2 (Lesson Plan)

Resource - <u>The Memory Project - Indigenous Peoples & 20th Century Canadian Military</u> History

Resource - Remembrance Dog Tags - Fallen Indigenous Service Members

Resource - Canada's History Cree Code Talkers (Lesson Plan)

Resource - <u>Honoring Metis Veterans Activity</u>

Resource - <u>Putting it into Perspective: First Nations Soldiers in the First World War</u>

(Lesson Plan)

Resource - A Commemorative History of Aboriginal People in the Canadian Military

Resource - Native Women's Association of Canada - National Indigenous Veterans Day

Website - <u>Veteran Affairs Canada - Indigenous Veterans</u>

Website - Canadian War Museum - Indigenous Stories

Website - <u>Aboriginal Veterans Tribute Honour List</u>

Article - 14 Facts You May Not Know About Indigenous Veterans

Article - Indigenous War Heroes - More Than a Few Good Men

Article - Clifford George: Second World War Veteran, Korean Conflict Veterans, and

Indigenous Land Defender

Article - Edwin Victor Cook - Indigenous War Hero

Article - Canada's Indigenous Veterans - The Queen's Journal

Article - Mary Greyeyes Reid - The Canadian Encyclopedia

Article. - Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada - Veterans

Article - Remembering and Honouring Indigenous War Heroes: World War 1 & 2

Article - The Canadian Encyclopedia - Cree Code Talkers

Article - Fighting for Recognition

Article - Tommy Prince - Legion Magazine

Article - Dick Patrick: An Indigenous Veteran's Fight for Inclusion - CMHR

Indian Veterans by Solomon Ratt

We were the forgotten

of the 'lest we forget'

We were the invisible ghosts from The Rez

We had no obligation to join.

We had to give up our treaty status

We fought, we died,

our language was
used for secret
messages.
We stood side by side
with the other soldiers
in our victory.

We were cast aside when we came back home; we didn't get the benefits allotted other veterans; we didn't know where to live since we gave up our treaty status

We were the forgotten

of the 'lest we forget'

We were the invisible ghosts from The Rez.

Solomon Ratt is a Cree language professor at the First Nations University of Canada. This poem was written to honor and elevate the experiences of his relatives.



Resources for Educators

Video - Honouring First Nations Veterans

Video - <u>Cree Code Talker</u>

Video - <u>Indigenous War Heroes</u>

Video - <u>Edith Monture - The First Native Canadian Registered Nurse</u>

Video - Remembrance Moments: Canada's Indigenous Veterans

Video - <u>Honouring Indigenous Heroes: Tommy Prince Commemorative Project</u>

Video - <u>Hear the Untold Story of a Canadian Code Talker from World War II</u>

Video - The Best Sniper of World War 1 - Francis Pegahmagabow

Video - Indigenous war veterans served a 'country that didn't want them

Video - Indigenous Veterans Initiative - Finding Unmarked Graves

Video - GeoMinute: Honouring Indigenous veterans in the Canadian Armed Forces

Video - Remembering Metis Veterans

Video - Clifford Swain - WWII Metis Veterans Story

NFB Documentary - Forgotten Warriors

Podcast - The Secret Life of Canada - The truth behind this viral WWII pic

Podcast - CBC This Place - Francis "Peggy" Pegahmagabow

Podcast - CBC Unreserved with Rosanna Deerchild - Honoring our Indigenous Veterans

Podcast - Historica Canada - Episode 3: The Tomkins Brothers

Book - Grandpa's Girls by Nicola Campbell (Elementary)

Book - Chester Nez and the Unbreakable Code by Joseph Bruchac (Elementary)

Book - Meet Tom Longboat by Elizabeth MacLeod (Elementary)

Book - Indigenous Peoples in the World Wars by Simon Rose (Gr. 3-6)

Book - When the Spirits Dance by Larry Loyie (Gr. 5-9)

Book - What the Eagle Sees by Eldon Yellowhorn and Kathy Lowinger (Gr. 5-12)

Book - The Scout: Tommy Prince by David A. Robertson

Book - Sounding Thunder: The Stories of Francis Pegahmagabow

Book - Redpatch by Sean Harris and Raes Calvert

Book - From The Tundra To The Trenches - Eddy Weetaltuk

Book - Code Talker - Chester Nez

Book - A Commemorative History of Aboriginal People in the Canadian Military

Sergeant Tommy Prince of the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (right), MM, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion, with his brother, Private Morris Prince, at an investiture at Buckingham Palace, London, England, February 12, 1945.

"All my life I had wanted to do something to help my people recover their good name." - Tommy Prince

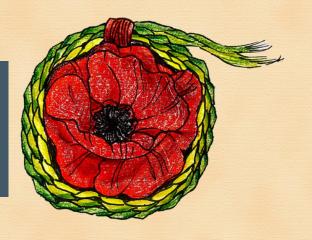


Kainai and Siksika recruits of the 191st Battalion.

"When duty called, we were there, and when we were called forth to fight for the cause of civilization, our people showed all the bravery of our warriors of old."

- Mike Mountain Horse

INDIGENOUS VETERANS



I Love This Land

by Chief R. Stacey LaForme of the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation

You were and always shall be my brother
We were all the same color wrapped in the flag of this nation
My blood flowed as freely as yours, mixed in the fields one could not be distinguished from the other

Yet when we came home, when the nation's colours were removed Difference became apparent, not between you and me, God willing never But in the eyes of those for whom we laid down our lives.

Oh, we still stood shoulder to shoulder in the parades, but the government thought that your life was more valuable than mine

So you were given land, property, while I waited and I waited, I know what you were given was not enough for what we endured Still it was much more than I.

I am not envious of you brother, I believe you deserve even more than you received But it hurt me very badly, I am not ashamed to say I cried and why not I bled, I died, I killed, why does my country think I am unworthy The enemy I fought could never be as cruel as the people I came back to embrace.

I gave so much, lived through so much and then you you who I would give all for, you pushed me aside as if I was inconsequential I feel as if I have been spit upon by one I honored.

Do I feel good, having to ask you for what should have been given long ago, no? In fact, I am a little ashamed to ask for justice in this For I never went to war for money, for glory, for reward, I went because it was the right thing to do and God forgive me, I would go again.

This may seem an old wound to you but it is a wound that never heals For it is a wound to my people's heart and soul and insult to our pride And we deserve so much better, especially from you



BLACK VETERANS

Resources for Educators

Website - Black Canadians Veterans Stories

Website - No. 2 Construction Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force

Website - Veteran Affairs Canada - Black Canadians in Uniform

Website - Canadian War Museum - Black Canadian Stories

Resource (Lesson Plan) - Stepping into the Boots of Black Canadians in Uniform

Interactive Map - No. 2 Construction Battalion Journey Map

Article - The Canadian Encyclopedia - No. 2 Construction Battalion

Article - Black Soldiers in 19th Century Canada

Article - How Black Canadians fought for liberty in the American Civil War

Article - Black Volunteers in the Canadian Expeditionary Force

Article - Black Canadian fought racism, discrimination to fight in Second World War

Article - George Morton and the Fight to Fight: Black Volunteers in the First World War

Article - <u>'She didn't hesitate': The untold story behind a Black Canadian woman's</u>

wartime portrait

Article - Missed interview turned into lifetime of logistics for this veteran

Article - Remembering a Black Solider in a 'White Man's War'

Article - Asian and Black Canadians at Vimy Ridge

Article - Black Canadians and Canada's Military

Article - How African Canadian Risked Their Lives to Fight in the American Civil War

Article - Black Battalion - Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia

Article - William Neilson Hall

Article - African American Poetry of WWI

Article - Jeremiah Jones, Samuel Watts, Rocky Jones, Henry Thomas Shepard

Article - Anderson Abbott

Video - Black Liberators WWII

Video - Canada's First Black Battalion

Video - Canada's Black Battalion Made History in WWI

Video - Remembering No. 2 Construction Battalion

Video - Black Heritage Matters: Black Canadian Veteran Stories with Kathy Grant

Video - The fight to fight: Canada's No. 2 Construction Battalion

Video - Black Canadians in the Second World War

Video - The Contribution of Black Soldiers in the Fight for Canada

Video - Owen Rowe: Black Canadian Veteran

Video - No.2 Construction Battalion Tribute - Reading of Black Soldier's Lament

Video - Beyond An Apology - The Future of Black Canadian Military History



No. 2 Construction Battalion marching band in Truro, Nova Scotia in 1916. Photo: Maritime Command Museum

The Crisis (We Return) by W.E.B. Du Bois

We return.
We return from fighting.
We return fighting.





BLACK VETERANS

Black Soldier's Lament George Borden

The bugle called and forth we went To serve the crown our backs far bent, And build what ere that must be done; But ne're to fire an angry gun No heroes we no nay not one.

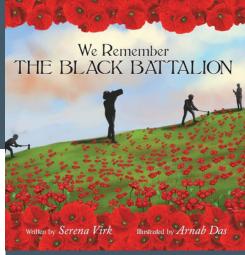
With deep lament we did our job
Despite the shame our manhood robbed.
We built and fixed and fixed again,
To prove our worth as proud black men
And hasten sure the Kaiser's end.

From Scotia port to Seaford Square Across to France the conflict there, At Ville La Joux and Place Peronne For God and King to right the wrong – The number two six hundred strong.

Stripped to the waist and sweated chest Mid-day's reprieve much needed rest. We dug and hauled and lifted high From trenches deep toward the sky – Non-fighting troops and yet we die.

The peace restored the battle won Black sweat and toil had beat the Hun. Black blood was spilled black bodies maimed For medals brave no black was named, Yet proud were we our pride unshamed.

But time will bring forth other wars, Then give to us more daring chores That we might prove our courage strong Preserve the right repel the wrong, And proud we'll sing the battle song.



Podcast - <u>Historica Canada - No.2</u>
<u>Construction Battalion and the</u>
<u>fight to fight.</u>

Podcast - <u>Black Canadian Veterans</u>
<u>with Kathy Grant</u>
Interviews - <u>Heroes Remember</u>
<u>Interviews</u>

Podcast <u>- Episode 58: African</u>
<u>Canadians in the U.S. Civil War - Active History</u>

Podcast - <u>The Black Canadian War</u>
<u>Experience Podcast - Defining</u>
<u>Moments Canada</u>

Book - We Remember the Black
Battalion by Serena Virk
Book - African Canadians in Union
Blue by Richard M. Reid
Book - My Brother's Keeper: African
Canadians and the American Civil
War by Bryan Prince
Book - The Black Battalion 19161920: Canada's Best Kept Military
Secret
by Calvin W. Ruck

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASIAN VETERANS



Website - Veteran Affairs Canada - Chinese Canadians

Website - Chinese Canadian Military Museum

Website - Operation Oblivion

Article - Victoria Chinese Canadian Veterans Association

Article - Chinese Canadians of Force 136

Article - Chinese Canadian Secret Warriors in the Pacific, 1944-46

Article - Force 136

Article - Chinese Canadian Women in the War

Article - Japanese-Canadian WWI veterans, once forgotten, remembered by new plaque

Article - Masumi Mitsui

Article - The Way of the Warrior

Article - Lest We Forget

Article - Remembering Japanese Efforts in the World Wards

Article - Japanese Canadians in the World Wards

Article - Masumi Mitsui - From Vimy to Juno

Article - Race politics whitewashed Canadian history. It is time to recognize India's contribution to the first World War

Article - Buckam Singh and Sikh Canadians in

the First World War

Article - Meet Private Buckam Singh, one of the

first Sikh soldiers to serve Canada

Article - Asian Canadians and Canada's Military

Article - The Story of Canada's Hong Kong Veterans

Article - Asian and Black Canadians at Vimy Ridge

Article - Canada's Racialized Soldiers - An Untold History

Article - RMC honours lone Muslim Canadian known to have died in WW1

Website - Sikh Museum Private Buckam Singh

Video - 100-year-old Japanese-Canadian war veteran, journalist recounts his remarkable life

Video - Nikkei Stories - Masumi Mitsui Video - Japanese Canadian War Memorial

100th Anniversary

Video - Japanese Canadian War Memorial. Vancouver, British Columbia

Documentary - National Film Board -**Unwanted Soldiers**

Video - Force 136 - Chinese Canadian Heroes

Video - Forgotten Chinese-Canadian fought in WWI

Video - Double Victory: Chinese Canadians in the Second World War

Video - WWII Chinese Canadians: The Unwanted Soldiers

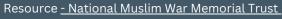
Podcast - History Slam 139: Canadians and the Chinese Labour Corps in WW1

Podcast - The Secret Life of Canada -Shout out to Private Buckam Singh

Video - Documentary - Canadian Soldier Sikhs - A Little Story in a Big

Video - Canadian Armed Forces & Gurdeep Pandheer - Celebrating Diversity

Interviews - Government of Canada <u>- Heroes Remember</u>



Resource - The Memory Project - The Contributions of Chinese Canadians in the Second World War

Resource - Louie Brothers (Lesson Plan) Resource - Sikh Canadian Military Service

Resource - Sikh Soldiers and the Western Front (Lesson Plan)

Book - Duty, Honour & Izzat: From Golden Fields to Crimson - Punjab's Brothers in Arms in Flanders



Jewish Canadian Veterans

Podcast - Double Threat with Ellin Bessner

Website - <u>Jewish Canadian service in the Second World</u> War

Website -Jewish War Veterans of Canada

Article - <u>War and Peace - Jewish Canadians in the Canadian Armed Forces</u>

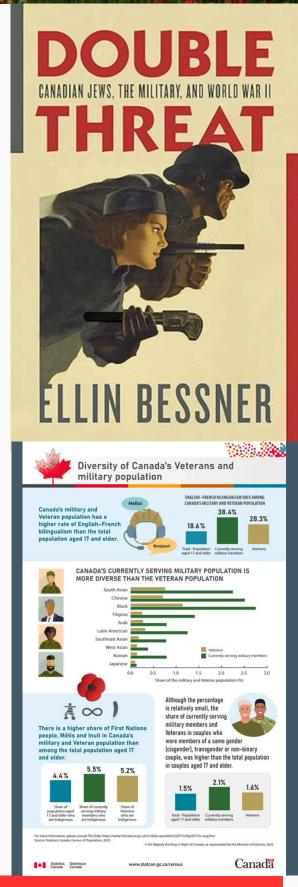
Article - <u>Jewish Canadian women in uniform in WWII</u>
<u>deserve a nod on International Women's Day</u>
Article - <u>She Also Served: Bringing to Light the</u>
<u>Contributions of the Canadian Jewish Servicewomen of</u>
the Second World War

Article - <u>She Also Served - Jewish Canadian</u>
<u>Servicewomen in the Second World War Art Exhibition</u>
Article - <u>The Futility of War: Jewish Soldiers of WW1</u>
Article - <u>Veterans Affairs Canada tells Alex Polowin's</u>
Story

Video - <u>Bringing new life to story of Jewish-Canadian war</u> <u>hero</u>

Book - Double Threat: Canadian Jews, The Military, and World War II by Ellin Bessner





2SLGBTQIAA+ VETERANS

Website - <u>Pride in service</u> - Veterans Affairs Canada Website - <u>LGBT Purge Class Action</u> Website - <u>Rainbow Veterans of Canada</u> Website - <u>LGBT Purge Fund</u>

Article - <u>The Untold Queer History of WW1</u>
Article - <u>The LGBT Purge from the Canadian Public Service</u>
Article - <u>Albert "Bert" Sutcliffe – From Soldier to Activist</u>
Article - <u>Michelle Douglas</u>

Article - <u>Hidden love of Havelock men documented in early 20th-century photographs</u>

Article - <u>Local soldier key figure in queer history study</u>

Article - <u>Canada's Cold War Purge of LGBTQ from the Military</u>

Article - <u>Len and Cub: A Secret Love</u>

Podcast - <u>The Secret Life of Canada: The Fruit Machine</u>
Podcast - <u>Quickie: The Only Known Queer Man on the Vimy Memorial</u>
Podcast - <u>2SLGBTQIA+ Soliders in the Canadian Expeditionary Force - The Vimy</u>
Foundation

Video - <u>Diane Pitre - LGBT Purge Survivor Part 1, Part 2</u>
Video - <u>Women in Canadian History: Michelle Douglas</u>
Video - <u>The Fruit Machine</u> Documentary by Sarah Fodey
Video - <u>The Fruit Machine - It Gets Better Canada</u>
Video - <u>The Bizarre Tale of Canada's Literal Gaydar</u>
Video - <u>Surviving Canada's 'LGBT Purge'</u>
Video Playlist - <u>LGBT Purge - Survivor Stories</u>





Resources for Educators

Resource - 25 Years Children in Armed Conflict

Resource - The Impacts and Effects of War on Children

Resource - War Childhood Museum (online)

Resource - "Boat People" Refugees

Resource - War | Poetry in Voice

Resource - Children in War & Conflict

Resource - Ododo Wa: Stories of Girls in War

Resource - The UN Refugee Agency

Resource - Over, Under, Sideways, Down - Ebrahim's

Story by Karrie Fransman (Online Graphic Novel)

Resource - The Boat (Online Graphic Novel)

Resource - CrisisWatch from International Crisis Group

Resource - War Victims | NFB

Article - Armed Conflict- Amnesty International

Article - Conflict and Climate

Article - Impact of War on Children

Article - What Happened To People Displaced in WW2

Organization - Center for Civilians in Conflict

Podcast - The Voices Of War

Books

For Students

- <u>Mustafa by Marie-Louise Gay</u> (K-4)
- **The Paper Boat** by Thao Lam (K-4)
- Saving the Butterfly: A Story About Refugees by Helen Cooper (K-4)
- I **Am Both: A Vietnamese Refugee Story** by Kerisa Greene (K-4)
- Tani's New Home: A Refugee Finds Hope And Kindness In America by Tonitoluwa Adewumi (K-4)
- Stealing Home by J. Torres (K-4)
- World In Between: Based On A True Refugee Story by Kenan Trebincevic & Susan Shapiro (Gr. 5-9)
- Finding Home: The Journey Of Immigrants And Refugees by Jen Sookfong Lee (Gr. 5-9)
- Alone: The Journeys of Three Young Refugees by Paul Tom (Gr. 5-9)
- **Stormy Seas: Stories of Young Boat Refugees** by Mary Beth Leatherdale (Gr. 5-9)
- Muzoon: A Syrian Refugee Speaks Out by Muzoon Almellehan & Wendy Pearlman (Gr. 5-9)
- We Are Displaced: My Journey And Stories From Refugee Girls Around The World by Malala Yousafzai (Gr. 10-12)
- A Grain of Rice by Nhung Tran-Davies (Gr.6-12)
- Ink Knows No Borders Poems Of The Immigrant And Refugee Experience - Edited by Patrice Vecchione & Alyssa Raymond (Gr.6-12)
- Homes by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah & Winnie Yeung (Gr. 6-12)

For Educators

- **Vi** by Kim Thúy, translated by Sheila Fischman
- <u>Too Young to Escape</u> by Van Ho and Marsha Forchuk <u>Skrypuch</u>
- The Naked Don't Fear the Water: An Underground Journey with Afghan Refugees by Matthieu Aikins
- A Thousand Farewells: A Reporter's Journey From Refugee Camp To The Arab Spring by Nahlah Ayed
- Finding Refuge in Canada: Narratives of Dislocation -
- Edited by George Melnyk, Christina Parker
 The Ungrateful Refugee: What Immigrants Never Tell You

by Dina Nayeri
What We Remember Will Be Saved: A Storyof Refugees and
the Things They Carry by Stephanie Saldana



Where There's a Wall

Joy Kogawa

Where there's a wall
there's a way through a
gate or door. There's even
a ladder perhaps and a
sentinel who sometimes sleeps.
There are secret passwords you
can overhear. There are methods
of torture for extracting clues
to maps of underground passages.
There are zeppelins, helicopters,
rockets, bombs, battering rams,
armies with trumpets whose
all at once blast shatters
the foundations.

Where there's a wall there are words to whisper by loose bricks, wailing prayers to utter, birds to carry messages taped to their feet.

There are letters to be written — poems even.

Faint as in a dream is the voice that calls from the belly of the wall.

Japanese Internment Camps

Book - The Emperor's Orphans by Sally Ito

Book - Forgiveness by Mark Sakamoto

Book - Obasan by Joy Kogawa

Book - After the Bloom by Leslie Shimotakahara

Book - The Three Pleasures by Terry Watada

Book - Mira and Baku by Sara Truuvert

Video - <u>Japanese Canadian Internment | Narrated by David</u> Suzuki

Video - <u>National Film Board - Japanese Internment Playlist</u>

Video - <u>Japanese Canadian seniors reflect on being forced</u> into WWII internment camps

Video - <u>Japanese Canadian Internment - Valour Canada</u>

Video - <u>Nikkei Stories - Internment</u>

Video - In Reflection: David Suzuki

Podcast - A Proud Benchwarmer - Historica Canada

Resource - Internment and Redress (Lesson Plan)

Resource - <u>Japanese Canadian Internment through two</u>

children's books (Unit Plan)

Resource - <u>Internment Era Timeline</u>

Resource - <u>Landscapes of Injustice</u> (Intermediate Grades)

Resource - <u>Voices in Action - WWII Japanese Internment</u>

Camps

Resource - <u>Educational Resources - National Association of</u>
<u>Japanese Canadians</u>

Resource - <u>Teaching Guide - Nikkei National Museum &</u> Cultural Centre

Resource - <u>Historical Perspectives: Japanese Internment</u>

Article - <u>Japanese Canadian Internment: Prisoners in their</u> <u>own Country</u>

Article - <u>Japanese Canadian Internment and the Struggle</u> <u>for Redress</u>

Article - <u>Japanese Canadian Timeline</u>