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Reading and Remembrance: a provincial project November 11 at 2:11 P.M.

Reading and Remembrance: a provincial project gets astounding response

Durham West Arts Centre website gets over 32,000 hits in September as schools gear up to participate in a project to honour veterans.

Schools from Ottawa to Omemee and Sturgeon Falls to Unionville are signing up for a provincial project to honour veterans by showing that young people are willing to take up the torch of remembrance mentioned in John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields". Students of White Woods, a new public school in Sturgeon Falls, will link hands around the perimeter of the halls as they recite "In Flanders Fields" in unison. Preparation and follow up will be done in individual classrooms. A large cast of students from Fisher Park Public School and Summit Alternative Public Schools in Ottawa will sing "In Flanders Fields" and act out a presentation that includes artifacts and uniforms borrowed from the new National War Museum. There will be parents and veterans in attendance as well as the 526 students of the two schools.

The Durham West Arts Centre's website has been a hive of activity with 5000 hits on one day as teachers sign up and download free resources to assist them with their planning. "We're adding new materials weekly," says Executive Director, Angie Littlefield. "We have a musical and French version of the poem as well as teaching resources for elementary and secondary students. And there's more coming: images, links, oral histories, arts and drama activities. Signed up schools receive a free poster and some bookmarks as a thank you." Reading and Remembrance is a special tribute to veterans in "The Year of the Veteran". The not-for-profit project has the support of Veterans Affairs Canada, the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command and Ontario Power Generation.

Check out www.dwac.ca

To find out more about the project or to become involved, please contact Angie Littlefield at 905-686-7697 or info@dwac.ca

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