



Chalk Talk

Greetings

Feature

News

Remembrance

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Educators,

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

— ‘For the Fallen’, Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)
recited at memorial services world wide

Democracy is a bit like crystal — while at its most beautiful when it is transparent and full of light, it can also be just as fragile. The fact that voting turnout was so low in the recent election has left me feeling out of sorts. It seems silly now that this year, to avoid the anticipated crowds, I decided to vote early in the advance polls. When on election day the hordes didn’t materialize, I found myself saying to a friend how disturbing it was to think that we take democracy for granted; that Canadian soldiers have sacrificed their lives for over a century to protect that most cherished right. I was ashamed to compare our growing apathy to the determination of those in emerging democracies who travel long distances and stand in line for hours to have their voices heard.

With the election over, all eyes turn to our newly elected government in Ottawa. With Canadian soldiers stationed in Afghanistan, the upcoming Remembrance Day is once again filled with great poignancy and even greater immediacy. The first Remembrance Day (originally called Armistice Day) was held in 1919, commemorating the end of the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m. — the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. It is believed that the remains of the Canadian soldier, buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier since May 2000 at the foot of the National War Memorial in Ottawa, were originally buried in a cemetery in the vicinity of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

This week’s **Chalk Talk** features information on resources and programs to help students learn more about Canada’s war history and a look at the many educational opportunities to be discovered in our Nation’s Capital. CoEd Communications is dedicated to supporting the important work of teachers by providing classroom resources on a range of topics. We invite you to visit our website at www.4edu.ca to view the many free teachers’ resources on offer.

[Let us know your thoughts.](#)

Mary Kovack

The Act of Remembrance in the Nation’s Capital



Many teachers and students across Canada are now in the process of planning their school outings. Whether it’s Autumn, Winter, or Spring, there is always lots for students to see, do and learn in Canada’s Capital Region.

Ottawa and Gatineau’s museums, public institutions, parklands, markets and natural beauty are second to none and the perfect place to make great class trip memories. Where else can students experience a 19th century Canadian village, sit in the gallery of the House of Commons, take a photo next to a dozen three-story high totem poles, be surrounded by First and Second World War military planes, feast on deliciously sweet Beaver Tails and see more tulips than anywhere else in Canada — all in one day? Canada’s Capital has truly got it all! For more information — www.canadacapital.gc.ca.

‘Remember November 2008’ Youth Programs in Canada’s Capital Region

Remembrance Day in the Capital is an especially meaningful time for Canadians and one that offers exceptional opportunities for student visitors. The National Capital Commission (NCC) and Ottawa Tourism work with the Canadian Legion, the Canadian War Museum, Parliament of Canada, Veterans Affairs Canada, Beechwood Cemetery (National Military Cemetery of the Canadian Forces) and Conference/Aide Tours to offer a dynamic programming package for educational groups on Remembrance Day Weekend.

Remembrance Day in the Capital offers young people dramatic insight into some of the most moving moments of our collective history. To download the Remembrance Day brochure, [click here](#). [Source: NCC online]



Educational Programs/Resources available through the National Capital Commission (NCC)

Get Ready for the Capital

This downloadable pre-visit kit is the perfect tool to excite students about an upcoming visit to Canada's Capital Region. The kit holds four self-contained activities, including a **Scavenger Hunt**, that are designed to prepare students for what they'll see and do in Canada's Capital. To view this kit, [click here](#).



The Making of the Capital — Walking Tour

The NCC's **free** guided walking tour, *The Making of the Capital*, offers an easy-paced, interactive guided tour. Beginning at the centrally located Capital Infocentre (across from Parliament Hill), an enthusiastic guide leads student groups on a 90-minute or 60-minute learning adventure that includes Parliament Hill, goes down to the Rideau Canal, past the National War Memorial and back to the Infocentre via the hustle and bustle of historic Sparks Street. Program runs from April 1 to November 30 annually.

The 90-minute tour features a visit to the Bytown Museum, where your group is greeted by a costumed guide who will help you discover the stories behind the engineering marvel of the Rideau Canal. Both the 60-minute and the 90-minute tour interpret the numerous landmarks, sites and symbols that showcase Canadian history and achievements, and provide a fun and enriching walking experience through the street-scapes, sights and sounds of the Capital. Visit www.canadascapital.gc.ca/education or call 1 800 461-8020 for more information and booking.



A Gathering Place: An Exploration of Canada's Capital

This wonderful teaching resource (pictured, left), ideal for use in **grades 5 to 8** Social Science and History, provides comprehensive information on Canadian culture, identity and symbols; Government, citizenship and democracy; Canadian stories, heroes and celebrations; and Canada's connection to the world. To download this resource, [click here](#). [Source: NCC online]



The Dominion Institute invites Educators to take part in their FREE educational programs this Fall!



Veterans from the Second World War, Korean War and Peacekeeping Missions as well as currently serving Canadian Forces personnel visit classrooms in their community to share experiences about their time in the service. Each year, The Dominion Institute facilitates more than 1,000 classroom visits across Canada.

Commemorate Remembrance Day by inviting a Veteran to speak to your class, assembly or community group. **Book now** and avoid disappointment! To organize a visit with a veteran or possibly with a currently serving CF member:

- ◆ Go to www.TheMemoryProject.com and click **Speakers' Bureau** and fill in the **Request a Speaker** form.
- ◆ Call toll-free at 1-866-701-1867.
- ◆ Email — memory@dominion.ca



Introducing Passchendaele 'In the Classroom'



For slightly over 100 days, beginning on the last day of July 1917, Canadian and Allied troops engaged the German forces in the Third Battle of Ypres in the West Flanders region, better known as Passchendaele.

Coinciding with release of the film, *Passchendaele*, written and directed by Paul Gross, which opened in theatres nationwide on October 17, the Dominion Institute invites teachers to [download the companion education guide](#) which includes timelines, maps, photos and samples of primary source archival documentation. A story of passion, courage and dedication, *Passchendaele* is set during the height of the First World War and shows

the heroism of those that fought in battle,
and of those that loved them.

To download the Dominion Institute's free '[Passchendaele in the Classroom' Education Guide](#). To access the [Passchendaele](#) movie website, [click here](#).

[Source: The Dominion Institute]



Education News & Related Articles

Student Vote

[Harper minority predicted by 400,000 under age voters. Greens capture 25% of popular Student Vote.](#) – **Student Vote** Results, October 14, 2008 Federal Election

“More than 400,000 students took part in **Student Vote** this fall; learning about the democratic process, political parties and local candidates before casting a ballot on the official candidates running in their schools' ridings.” [Read more](#).



THE DOMINION
INSTITUTE

[Youth Voter Turnout Expected to Drop. But Much Can Be Done To Improve Participation](#) — The Dominion Institute, October 1, 2008

“A Dominion Institute survey conducted by Innovative Resource Group found that the number of young voters (aged 18-25) who said they were definitely going to vote in this election is down 7% from the last election... ‘Less than 44% of voters under 24 actually cast a ballot in the last federal election and that number will probably go down, rather than up, on October 14, said Marc Chalifoux, Executive Director of the Dominion Institute.’ [Read more ...](#)”

[Fluent French is program's AIM](#) -- Tanya Talaga, Education, [parentcentral.ca](#), [TheStar.com](#), October 23, 2008

“An innovative way of teaching children French is gaining popularity across Canada, including in the Toronto area. Vancouver educator Wendy Maxwell created the Accelerative Integrated Method (AIM) to teach French because she did not believe her students responded to how French is traditionally taught, with students sitting in the class trying to memorize verb conjugation. AIM teaches the language with gestures, literature, music and dance. Children learn how to speak and communicate first, then reading and writing follows. “With gestures there is an immediate transfer. Every single word has to be understood,” Maxwell says.”

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We are the Company for Education Communications. We specialize in developing, producing and evaluating school resources and award programs. Working in conjunction with Departments/Ministries of Education, school district/boards, associations, teachers and subject specialists across the country; we provide free, curriculum-based educational resources to Canadian classrooms.

The opinions, conclusions and other information expressed in the preceding content do not necessarily reflect the views of and are not endorsed by CoEd Communications.

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