



MESSAGE FROM THE ONTARIO TEACHERS' FEDERATION

November 11, 2022

Today is Remembrance Day. Across the country, we will see red poppies commemorating the lives lost during World War 1 and World War 2. By the end of the first World War, it is estimated that 60,000 Canadian soldiers were killed over the four-year period. An additional 44,000 were killed by the end of the second World War. Those who returned home were forced to acclimatize to a quickly changing world, all while navigating the mental and physical health impacts from their duties. We honour the sacrifices of those who served.

We also acknowledge the countless sacrifices of war for civilians. We honour those whose homes and communities have become battlefields, those forced to flee their homes, and those displaced from their homelands due to state-sponsored wars. The impacts of war on civilians linger long after the last soldier has left: disease, famine, environmental catastrophes, and shattered homelands are frequently what civilians are left to contend with.

Today, we also recognize the importance of the white poppy, often worn in addition to or as a replacement for the red poppy, as a symbol representing peace. It is an acknowledgment that participating in war contributes to immediate harm and devastating aftermath.

This Remembrance Day, we honour those who have sacrificed and those who continue to fight for peace.

[#LestWeForget#RemembranceDay](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nathan Core', written in a cursive style.

Nathan Core
President