

From Queen's Park by Sylvia Jones MPP ? Remembrance Day is upon us ? Lest We Forget

Remembrance Day is a time to honour those who are currently serving and those who have served our country in uniform, both at home and abroad.

It is a time to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defence of Canada.

There are a variety of services taking place across Dufferin-Caledon which will give you an opportunity to take part in an act of remembrance and thank those who have served.

Caledon East hosted a ceremony Oct. 29 at the Caledon East Cenotaph at Caledon Town Hall. The Alton Legion is holding a Remembrance service Nov. 5 starting at 10:15 a.m. Later that same day in Bolton, there is a parade from the fire hall to the cenotaph beginning at 12:15 p.m. The service and wreath laying at the cenotaph will commence at 12:45 p.m. Caledon employees and students from Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School will be holding a ceremony Nov. 10 at 10:45 a.m. at the Town Hall in Caledon East.

There are a many services being conducted across Dufferin-Caledon Nov. 11.

The Orangeville Legion, Branch 233, will be on parade from the Legion to Alexandra Park at 10:30 a.m. The cenotaph service begins at 11 a.m. Members of Branch 233 will also conduct a sunset ceremony at Forest Lawn Cemetery at 2 p.m. In Shelburne, the Legion, Branch 220, will host an indoor service that begins at 9:45 a.m. and will be followed by a march from the Legion Hall to the Cenotaph. The Mansfield Women's Institute gather at the Mansfield Cenotaph at 10:30 a.m. In Grand Valley, the Town will be gathering at the Grand Valley Cenotaph at 10:30 a.m. for their service.

I hope you will have the opportunity to attend one of these services in Dufferin-Caledon, or find the time to observe a moment of silence. The service of the men and women in our armed forces is a sacrifice they make so that we can continue to enjoy the rights and freedoms of our great nation.

There are other ways to remember and say thank you to our veterans. For instance I was impressed by the story of Judy MacLeod from Orangeville who created the Dufferin County chapter of Quilts of Valour, where quilters create and donate quilts to local veterans. Quilts of Valour is run by volunteer quilters who want to thank a veteran for their service.

You can also honour those who serve by wearing a poppy and making a donation to the Poppy Fund. The Royal Canadian Legion uses the proceeds to provide financial assistance and support to veterans and their families who are in need.

A special addition to the tradition of remembrance in Ontario is the newly proclaimed Remembrance Week. Last year, the Ontario Legislative Assembly unanimously passed the Remembrance Week Act, which was proposed by my colleague MPP Jim Wilson of Simcoe-Grey. Remembrance runs for the week ahead of Remembrance Day.

Lest we forget.

