



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

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FROM: Chris Carter, CAO

SUBJECT: The Sarnia War Remembrance Project

The Sarnia War Remembrance Project is a comprehensive historical record of Sarnia's contributions and sacrifices made during times of war. Initiated in 2012, after years of research, revisions and updates, this third and final edition was completed in 2020.

The Sarnia War Remembrance Project was a volunteer, non-profit undertaking by its author, Mr. Tom Slater.

The Project was initiated when Mr. Slater discovered that no formal record existed of those individuals from Sarnia who had lost their lives while serving in the military during times of war. Sarnia, like thousands of other communities across Canada, had many of its sons and daughters answer the call of duty to serve their country during times of war. These "ordinary" local citizens left the comforts of their homes, as well as their schools, farms, jobs, trades and careers; and they left their loved ones, in response to a nation's call to fight in far off lands.

Mr. Slater's hope is that the courage, fortitude and sacrifices of the fallen and their families will be forever commemorated and remembered.

"I am extremely grateful to those who provided the support necessary to make this project possible: the many individuals that provided information, details and assistance; the generosity of the groups and individuals that provided funding to print copies of the project so that they could be donated throughout the community; editors Lou Giancarlo and Tom St. Amand for

sharing their expertise; and especially to the family members of the veterans and the fallen for sharing their memories of sacrifice and loss of their loved ones,” said author Tom Slater.

The City of Sarnia thanks Mr. Tom Slater for the generous donation of his time and dedication to preserving the history of our community.

As it was on this day in history, May 3, 1915, Lt-Col. John McCrea composed “In Flanders Fields” it is only fitting the final, updated version of The Sarnia War Remembrance Project is now available at no cost to the public on the City of Sarnia’s website under ‘History of Sarnia’ (<https://www.sarnia.ca/living-here/history-of-sarnia/>).

The following provided financial support for the printing of this two-volume project: The City of Sarnia, Bluewater Power, The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #62 Sarnia, the Sarnia Historical Society, and a number of individuals. The generosity of these donors has ensured that there is a lasting record of Sarnia's wartime contributions; and that the sacrifices made by those who served and those who have fallen, as well as the families of all servicemen and servicewomen, will always be remembered.

All printed copies have been donated to local groups and organizations including city and county government records, libraries, museums, archives, military service groups, schools, and retirement & long-term care residences.

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