

# THE JOHN MCKAY REPORT

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## HOW WILL YOU REMEMBER?

From November 5 to November 11, Canada will remember those men and women who put their lives on the line for our country in war and peace by serving in the Armed Forces.

2010 is especially important for two reasons. First, this year saw the passing of the last known Canadian World War One veteran, John Babcock, who died in February at the age of 109. He lied about his age to get into the Army (he was only 15), and outlived all the thousands of soldiers, sailors and airmen who endured the bloody trenches, high seas and dangerous air battles of that terrible conflict.

The second milestone this year is the hundredth anniversary of the Canadian Navy. A proud and gallant band, the navy has always been seen as the "senior service", in deference to Great Britain's naval history. Starting in 1910 with only two ships and 350 men, our navy has distinguished itself in every major naval exercise since that time. From the Battle of the Atlantic in World War Two until now, undertaking operations as part of the NATO Force, patrolling our Northern waters and responding as needed in other parts of the world, our navy continues its tradition of service. We salute them.



For an interesting and informative look at many aspects of Canada's wartime history, go to [www.vac-acc.gc.ca](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca) and see how our doctors, Norman Bethune, Frederick Banting and others cared for the wounded in WWI, what happened on the Murmansk Run, the role of women in wartime and how the Vanier Cup came to be. The theme of this year's Veterans' Week is "How will you remember?" Your memories may come from a different country; you may have served in a different armed body; you may be too young to have served at all; or you may be one of those many whose son or daughter is even now serving in Afghanistan or elsewhere.

Whoever you are, whatever your own personal memories – stop in silence for two minutes on November 11 and gratefully remember.

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