

November 8, 2010

Media release

For immediate release

Marjory Loveys asks “Future Generations” About Remembrance Day

Ask any veteran why they signed up and invariably the answer will be ‘for future generations’. Depending on what conflict we are talking about, I am one of those future generations, and so is every Canadian. How does one express their heartfelt appreciation to these brave men and women who laid down their lives for our freedom? Humbly.

Earlier this year I was invited to a veteran’s roundtable. It was a powerful day for me; I got to meet a true Canadian hero, Senator Romeo Dallaire, and I also listened to incredible stories from others who have been wounded in service of our country.

The event drew a ‘standing room only’ crowd on a cold winter’s day. Articulate and knowledgeable veterans, both from the current war in Afghanistan, and previous Canadian campaigns, bared their souls as they presented their stories. Brave veterans stepped up to the microphone time after time. The stories were unsettling as I listened to the discomfort and shame they needed to overcome when driven to ask for help, financial help, to survive in the country they fought to save. Canadians are failing some of our veterans.

But, having heard repeatedly that they served ‘for future generations’, last week, I made it my task to speak with young adults in Leeds-Grenville. Every one of them expressed their thanks for veterans. They understand the sacrifices made, not just by the men and women who served but by their families as well. They are proud that Canada has been able to contribute so much to world peace.

Monica Scrivens of Kemptville expressed it this way – “I am proud to wear a red poppy on November 11th because it reminds me of all the sacrifices made by the men and women who fought for the freedom that we all enjoy today”.

Maria Iligan from Prescott reflected on how we as a nation are able to stand together and work together in peace, and noted that people in many countries are still fighting for what we have right now.

The Liberal Party of Canada supports veterans and those serving. We believe that Canadians have the moral duty to take care of those who fought for us and now need our help.

The men and women who have served Canada and ended up wounded - physically and often psychologically - have already paid a high price. We owe them the best support available.

I urge all Canadians to wear a poppy and attend a memorial service near you on Thursday, November 11.

Marjory Loveys
Federal Liberal Candidate for Leeds-Grenville