

Media Advisory

Veteran Affairs Minister Greg Thompson to attend veteran visit in local classroom

The Memory Project event is one of 500 planned for Veterans Week 2007

November 6, 2007– The Honourable Greg Thompson, Minister of Veteran Affairs participated in a very special Memory Project event today when he met with Ottawa area veterans and students at a local high school.

The event was part of The Memory Project, an initiative of the Dominion Institute that facilitates more than 1000 veteran visits each year in classrooms across Canada.

“We are honoured to have the support of Veteran Affairs Canada and Minister Thompson”, said Jeremy Diamond, The Dominion Institute’s Director of Programs. “Each year these classroom visits benefit not only our students and educators but also the veterans themselves. It is helping to create an important legacy for our young people.”

Minister Thompson was joined by Second World War veteran Doug Meredith, Master Corporal Dan Matthews, both Memory Project volunteer speakers, and General Guy Thibault, Assistant Chief of the Land Staff, Canadian Forces. The speakers shared their experiences with, and then took questions from, about 75 students and teachers.

Since 2001, The Memory Project has reached over 500,000 youth in every province across Canada, digitized more than 5000 artifacts and recorded the stories of 1000 veterans of the Second World War, Korean War and modern day Peacekeeping and other military operations. The Institute has also organized special conferences to encourage our Canadian Forces personnel to join the Memory Project, held Veteran Appreciation Days across Ontario and recently launched the Memory Project Achievement Awards, given annually to a veteran and teacher in each province for their work with the program. Visit

www.thememoryproject.com

The Dominion Institute was founded in 1997 and has focused its efforts on conducting original research into Canadians' knowledge of the country's past and building innovative programs - such as The Memory Project - that broaden appreciation of the richness and complexity of the Canadian story. Visit www.dominion.ca for more information.

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