



DURHAM COMMUNITIES PREPARE TO HONOUR CANADA'S VETERANS

DURHAM REGION — Residents across Durham will gather at cenotaphs, parks and Legion branches for Remembrance Day ceremonies honouring Canadians who served and those who never returned home. Most observances take place Wednesday, November 11, with additional services scheduled during the preceding weekend.

PICKERING — Royal Canadian Legion Bay Ridges Branch 606 will host its annual ceremony at the Pickering Cenotaph in Esplanade Park, beside City Hall, beginning at 10:45 a.m. November 11. Flags at municipal facilities will fly at half-mast.

Following the lowering of the Poppy flag, the Veterans flag will remain displayed at the cenotaph until November 30.

AJAX — Residents can attend the November 11 Remembrance Day observance at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322, 111 Hunt Street, beginning at 10:45 a.m. The town's veterans banner display also offers an opportunity for reflection, recognizing veterans, serving personnel and former Defence Industries Limited employees with Ajax family connections. Banners remain displayed through November 12.

WHITBY — Three ceremonies are scheduled for 11 a.m. November 11: the Whitby Cenotaph, 109 Dundas Street East; Brooklin Cenotaph, 8 Vipond Road; and Intrepid Park, 2008 Boundary Road. A separate National Indigenous Veterans Day ceremony takes place Sunday, November 8, at 11 a.m. at Brooklin Cenotaph, recognizing First Nations, Inuit and Métis military service.

OSHAWA — Legion Branches 43 and 637 will lead a parade departing the R.S. McLaughlin Armoury at 10:25 a.m. November 11. The procession travels to Memorial Park, 110 Simcoe Street South, where the cenotaph ceremony begins at 10:45 a.m. Proceedings include wreath-laying and two minutes of silence. Rogers TV will provide a live broadcast for those unable to attend.

CLARINGTON — Services begin Saturday, November 7, at Newtonville Cenotaph at 10:30 a.m. Sunday's events include Tyrone Community Centre at 9:30 a.m. and an Orono parade departing Rebekah Lodge at 1:15 p.m. November 11 observances include Newcastle Cenotaph at 10:30 a.m. and Bowmanville's parade departing the Legion at 10:30 a.m. for Veterans' Square beside Town Hall.

PORT PERRY — A library service at 231 Water Street runs from 10 to 10:15 a.m. November 11. A parade departs at 10:30 a.m., followed by the Scugog Cenotaph ceremony at 181 Perry Street at 10:45 a.m. Legion Branch 419, 484 Bay Street, hosts an open house and luncheon beginning at noon.Residents should arrive early, dress for outdoor conditions and check for last-minute changes. Families can make remembrance meaningful by discussing relatives who served, reading the names on local memorials and helping children understand the significance of the poppy. Those unable to attend a ceremony can pause wherever they are at 11 a.m., joining neighbours across Durham in two minutes of quiet, personal reflection.

Visitors should allow extra time for parking and walking to ceremony locations, particularly when accompanying older relatives or anyone requiring assistance. Keeping sidewalks and entrances clear helps everyone reach viewing areas comfortably. During formal proceedings, attendees can silence phones, follow directions from volunteers and give veterans and parade participants room.Remembrance also offers an opportunity to preserve family history. Photographs, letters, service records and personal recollections can help younger generations understand the individuals behind the names engraved on cenotaphs. Recording those stories, with permission, creates a lasting connection between community ceremonies and the experiences of local families across the generations.



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