SHARING THEIR STORIES: GIVING OUR COMMUNITY SOLDIERS TO REMEMBER

"They Walked These Streets, We Will Remember Them" is a community Remembrance Week project that connects people with the local soldiers who served and died in the First and Second World Wars.

Now in its seventh year, the project honors 2,000 soldiers from the army, air force, and navy who once lived in Bloor West Village, the Junction, Humber Bay, Mimico, New Toronto, Long Branch, Roncesvalles, Parkdale, Swansea, and surrounding neighborhoods.

The research for the soldier memorials is led by Katy Whitfield with the support of her students in the Museo Archives Club at Bloor Collegiate Institute, and community volunteers, using military records from the Canadian Virtual War Memorial and the Canadian Great War Project. Beyond service records and names, the team uncovers the human stories behind the numbers through photos, newspaper clippings, medals, and local ties to schools, churches, sports teams, and community groups.

Each soldier's story is printed on a laminated info card featuring a QR code that links directly to their official service record. These cards are displayed across 13 neighborhood memorial sites—including two private homes, seven churches, the Dundas-Roncesvalles Peace Garden, Annette Public Library, Bloor Collegiate Institute, and the Swansea Town Hall. Located near local schools, these sites give teachers and students a chance to walk the neighborhoods and learn about the local history beneath their feet.



Katy Whitfield alongside MP Karim Bardessy, MPP Alexa Gilmour, Former School Trustee and Community Member, Debbie King and Project Assistant, Lauren Woolfrey

Where to Visit the They Walked These Streets Community Memorials

The 13 neighborhood memorials will be on display from **November 2 to November 11 at the following locations:**

- 285 Durie Street
- 104 Colbeck Street
- Runnymede United Church (432 Runnymede Road)
- St. Olave's Anglican Church (360 Windermere Avenue)
- Annette Public Library (145 Annette Street)
- St. Paul's Anglican Church (404 Willard Avenue)
- St. Martin-in-the-Fields Anglican Church (151 Glenlake Avenue)
- Humbercrest United Church (16 Baby Point Road)
- Swansea Town Hall (95 Lavinia Avenue)
- Runnymede Presbyterian Church (680 Annette Street)
- Morningside High Park Presbyterian Church (4 Morningside Avenue)
- Dundas and Roncesvalles Peace Garden (Dundas St. W. & Roncesvalles Ave.)
- Bloor Collegiate Institute (90 Croatia Street)

Temporary Waterfront Exhibition at Fort York about Toronto's military history along the waterfront

"They walked these streets... And answered 'the call'—Stories of Service, Industry and Community along Toronto's waterfront during the war years"

Researched and curated by Katy Whitfield, this special exhibition highlights Toronto's military and industrial contributions along the waterfront during the World Wars. October 21 – November 22, 2026. Fort York National Historic Site. Wednesday–Sunday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Community Remembrance and Storytelling Event: "Their Names Liveth"

Join us for an evening of stories, reflection, and community remembrance. Monday, November 2 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM. Humbercrest United Church, 16 Baby Point Road, Toronto. Everyone is Welcome. Historical Displays Light Refreshments will be served.

Learn more about the *They Walked These Streets... Remembrance Project*. Check out: Website: theywalkedthesestreets.ca. Email: info@theywalkedthesestreets.ca. Follow on Instagram: @theywalkedthesestreets

By Katy Whitfield, Coordinator, "They Walked These Streets, We Will Remember Them" Remembrance Project



