

Canadian Centre for the Great War  
Centre canadien pour la Grande Guerre



**Annual Report**  
**2014-2015**





## Message from the Board of Directors

As the Canadian Centre for the Great War celebrates its first full year of operation we're proud to present to our public and our stakeholders the Centre's first annual report for 2014-2015.

Our biggest achievement so far would have to be the Centre's receipt of charitable status after a year of hard work by our curator, our board and our legal advisors. Having charitable status opens up a world of granting and donation opportunities that allow us to continue to fulfill our mandate, bringing the personal experience of the Great War to Canadians, and to do so in a bigger, better and more wide-ranging way.

We are in the middle of 4 centennial years for the Great War and the treaties that came after it; these milestones have already seen an increased interest among Canadians in the conflict, as well as increased government funding opportunities that we have taken and plan to take future advantage of as much as we can.

We are also proud to have generated increased opportunities for Canadians to engage with their Great War history through our collaborations with the Vimy Foundation and the Borough of Lachine.

Finally, I would like to personally thank our board members and our staff for their continued devotion to the Centre and to its growth. We've had a juggernaut year this year, and I am looking forward to another that will be as rewarding.

**Mark Cahill**

President, Board of Directors

TELEPHONE NO  
REGENT 3699.

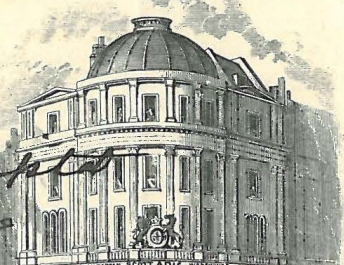
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
"SCOTT ADIE LONDON"

HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL CLAN TARTAN WAREHOUSE  
115 & 115A REGENT STREET,  
ENTRANCE AT  
CORNER OF VICO STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

*Henry Turner*

*H. J. Bonassant*

*Prince of Wales Hospital  
Marylebone*



*June 1918*



## Our vision

The First World War and the stories of its participants form a crucial part of Canada's history as a community and as a united, sovereign nation.

## Our mission

The mission of the Canadian Centre for the Great War is to preserve, protect artifacts and archives related to the Canadian experience of the First World War and to inform Canadians of the same.

## Our activities

**Activity 1:** We collect artefacts and documents significant to the Great War

**Activity 2:** We display our collections, through both in-house exhibitions and loans to national and international museums and heritage associations

**Activity 3:** We liaise with other museum, heritage associations and individuals to ensure the above

**Activity 4:** We participate in teaching, educational and research opportunities



## Exhibits

The Centre staged two mini-exhibitions in the 2014-2015 year, highlighting the centre's extensive archival photograph collections in **The Memory Wall / Le mur des memoires**, and an informational exhibit marking the centennial of the **2nd Battle of Ypres, The Shadow of Ypres: Gas warfare during the First World War 1915-1918**.

## Acquisitions

The Centre acquired several important new object collections, including a CEF cap badge collection, a correspondence collection belonging to the former Lt-Col of the 42nd Battalion, Royal Ewing, a collection of memorial plaques formerly housed at Kensington United Church in Montreal, and a tunic and greatcoat belonging to a member of the Siberian Expeditionary Force to North Russia. All of these help to illustrate the breadth by which the Great War affected Canadian life and society.

## Partnerships

The CCGW is proud to work with the Vimy Foundation to help bring a greater awareness of the Great War to Canadians and with the borough of Lachine.

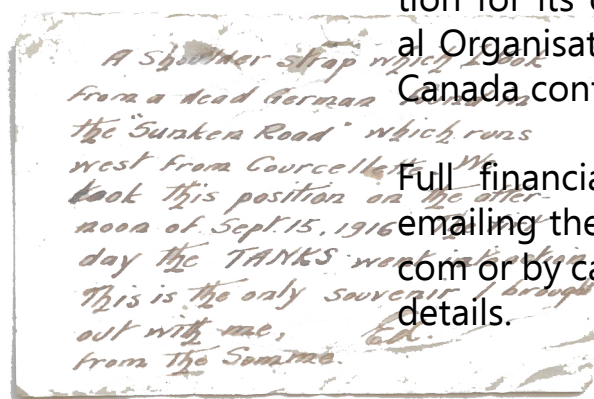
## Outreach

In addition to the Centre's weekly blog and active Twitter feed, the Centre also ran Remembrance Day activities for the grade 7 class of Loyola High School in Montreal. With the launch of the Centre's website, we are now reaching Canadians across the country and an international audience, raising awareness of Canada's First World War stories and contributions.

## Financials

The CCGW's first fiscal year has largely been about establishing the corporation and the processes of registration. We have been very lucky to have volunteers to do much of the daily work of the collection and the generosity of private businesses in Montreal who have donated most of the materials and office space we have needed thus far. Additionally, CCGW received a small grant from the Canadian Museums Association for its curator to attend the annual Organisation of Military Museums of Canada conference in Ottawa this year.

Full financial details are available by emailing the Centre at [caitlin@monmet.com](mailto:caitlin@monmet.com) or by calling 514 788 6007 for more details.





## **Volunteers**

A special thank you to all our volunteers, some of whom have been with the Centre since before it was a centre. During our first operational year we have had volunteers from around Montreal help us to catalogue the collection, set up and take down exhibitions and perform the nitty gritty detailed data entry that helps us establish exactly what we have and where we got it from. Thank you again for your dedication and your valuable time!

## **Board of Directors**

**Mark Cahill**, President

**John C. Denner**, Director

**Léon J. Chamois**, Director

**Andrey Hollinger**, Director

## **Staff**

**Caitlin Bailey**, curator



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**[www.greatwarcentre.com](http://www.greatwarcentre.com)**