



## REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2011

Session:	Public Session
Subject:	"Lest We Forget" Workshop Project
Prepared By:	Arlene Thompson
Presented By:	Arlene Thompson
Purpose of Report:	For Receipt and Information Only

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this report be received.

### ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY

The "Lest We Forget" Project is guided and funded by Library and Archives Canada, Canadian Urban Libraries Council, and the Canadian War Museum. It is aimed primarily at students who are tasked with researching and writing about individuals who served in the First World War or who died in action in the Second World War and whose names are listed on the local cenotaphs in communities across Canada. The project combines historical research with community outreach. It provides the opportunity for participants to conduct primary research, encouraging their skills in writing essays, complete with footnotes and bibliographies, and in using computers to access archival sources and databases. Students become experts on the service persons they investigate and contribute to the wartime histories of their communities. After the success of an initial pilot involving four public libraries, the program is being expanded. London Public Library requested the opportunity to participate in this next phase.

### BACKGROUND & REVIEW

London Public Library was selected as one of four libraries to participate in the "Lest We Forget" Pilot project Phase II. Calgary, Halifax, and Richmond Hill Public Libraries also are participating in Phase II. Burlington, Toronto, Winnipeg Public Libraries and Fraser Valley Regional Library participated in the first round of the project. At the end of the pilot projects, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) hopes to develop a simple operational plan for all libraries to be able to share the military records with their communities through "Lest We Forget" Workshops.

Arthur McClelland, London Room Librarian, and Alastair Neely, Westmount Branch Supervisor, were trained to deliver “Lest We Forget” workshops using the online tools provided by Library and Archives Canada. These tools will allow participants to consult and research primary source documents by looking through the military service files of Canadian soldiers and nurses who served in the First World War or who were killed in action during the Second World War. Up to \$5,000 is available from LAC to support printing and other costs associated with offering the workshops.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Staff will be contacting local schools to organize workshops for class school classes. “Lest We Forget” workshops will also be offered for the general public.