



Wreath Ceremony To Recognize Overlooked Victims of War

Sat. Nov. 11, 2017, 2:30PM

Seaforth Peace Park (1st & Burrard), Vancouver BC

This year, Vancouverites from many backgrounds will gather for a special Remembrance Day ceremony. **"Let Peace Be Their Memorial"** will commemorate refugees and other civilian victims of war, groups that aren't normally included in traditional ceremonies.

The city-sanctioned wreath laying ceremony is jointly hosted by Vancouver Peace Poppies and the BC Humanist Association. Wreaths of red and white poppies made by local students will highlight the huge growth in civilian casualties. 90% of contemporary conflict victims are non-combatants.

Following music and a brief presentation, ten 'Universal Wreaths' will be laid to recognize often overlooked victim groups, including • Refugees, • Women, • Medical & Aid Workers, • Children, • Conscientious Objectors, • Civilian & Military PTSD Sufferers, • Child Soldiers.

Following this, community groups will lay wreaths to remember victims of particular conflicts.

By drawing attention to civilian deaths, we do not wish to denigrate the sacrifices made by military combatants, or the deep loss felt by their families. We don't seek to distort the spirit of Remembrance Day, but rather to make it more inclusive. *"There is no dishonour to veterans in telling the truth about war, and working to ensure that no soldier or civilian ever has to suffer its horrors again."* says Peace Poppies co-founder Teresa Gagné.

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More photos, video highlights, and additional information at www.PeacePoppies.ca/Press