



Aboriginal Remembrance Day Ceremony

Saturday, November 11, 2006

10:30 am to 11:45 am

Sacred Fire

Pipe Ceremony

Drum: Iron Horse

Special Dignitaries: Grandfather: Alex Jacobs

Grandmother: Joanne Kakekayash

Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery: Sgt. Casey Blackbird

The Toronto Scottish Regiment: Sgt. Erwin Mahilum

Toronto Area Support Unit: Maj. Bruce Wistead (ret'd.)

Eagle Staff Carrier: Sgt. Casey Blackbird

Colour Party: MCpl. Bill Kochie, Pte. Kelly Cook

Lunch served at 12:00 Noon

ALL ARE WELCOME

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Native Canadian Centre of Toronto, 16 Spadina Road

Agenda for Service

- 6:00 am: Sacred Fire is lit
- 10:00 am: Parade assembles in the auditorium
- 10:25 am: Parade marches to the front of the building between totem pole and fireplace
- 10:30 am: Remembrance Day Service
- 11:45 am: Parade marches off
- 11: 55 am: Parade is dismissed (auditorium)
- 12 noon: Lunch in the basement cafeteria

Guests & Dignitaries

Pipe Carrier: Brian Wright-McLeod
Drum: Iron Horse
Grandmother: Joanne Kakekayash
Regimental and branch service representatives:
Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery: Sgt. Casey Blackbird
The Toronto Scottish Regiment: Sgt. Erwin Mahilum
Toronto Area Support Unit: Maj. Bruce Wistead (ret'd.)
MCpl. Bill Kochie, Pte. Kelly Cook

Music should include the following:

Drum: Honor Song, Sundance Song, Pipe Smoke-Song, AIM Song, Closing Song
Bugler: Last Post, Reveille (recorded)
Piper: Flowers of the Forest (recorded)
Band: Abide With Me (recorded)

Kitchen staff: James Taylor

Security: Brad Ashkewe

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Order of Service

- 10:30 am: Colour Party Arrives
- 10:30: Drum: Honor Song as parade marches into position
- 10:40 am: Address: Native Canadian Centre of Toronto (Welcome & acknowledgements)
- 10:45 am: Readings: Black Elk's Prayer; In Flanders Fields
- 10:48 am: Address: Canadian Armed Forces (Prayer and Ode of Remembrance) w/piper?
- 10:50 am: Sacred Pipe Ceremony begins (Drum: Pipe-load Song/Sundance Song)
- 10:58 am: Bugler: Last Post (1:24)
- 11:00 am: Two Minutes of Silence
- 11:02 am: Bugler: Reveille (The Rouse) (24 sec)
- 11:03 am: Piper: Flowers of the Forest (2:58)
- 11:05 am: Sacred Pipe is smoked (Drum: Pipe Smoke-Song)
- 11:15 am: Laying of Wreaths/ Tobacco Offerings (Abide With Me (2:37))
- 11:25 am: Prayer: Grandmother
- 11:30 am: Prayer: Grandfather
- 11:35 am: Closing Address
- 11:40 am: Drum: Closing Song (AIM Song)
- 11:45 am: Colour Party Marches Off

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Poems and Prayers

Black Elk's Prayer

Grandfather, Great Mysterious One,
You have been, always.
And before you, nothing has been.
There is nothing to pray to but you.
The Star Nations all over the universe are yours,
And yours are the grasses of the Earth.
Day in, day out, you are the life of things.
You are older than all need, older than all pain and prayer.
Grandfather, all over the world, the faces of living ones are alike.
In tenderness, they have come up out of the ground.
Look upon your children with children in our arms,
That they may face the winds
And walk the Good Road to the day of quiet.
Teach me to walk this soft Earth – a relative to all that live.
Sweeten my heart and fill me with light.
Give me the strength to understand, and the eyes to see.
Help me, for without you, I am nothing.

Hetch-a to a'lo

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

Lieutenant-Colonel John McRae (1915)

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Poems and Prayers

Prayer of Remembrance

Today we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. Today we dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.

The Ode of Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

(Audience responds)

We will remember them.

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Hymns

Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide:
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide:
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

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Additional Poems and Prayers

We Shall Keep the Faith

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet - to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With All who died.

We cherish, too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honor of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.

Moina Michael (1918)