

Good afternoon Rod & Jim, this is a good story for our members,

With our Canadian 150 Celebration around the corner, it's time we stop and look back.....

I have emailed all of you on a personal matter. It bothers me that our government will not spend money to find out where the bodies of 44 missing soldiers are, from the first world war. I am asking you to assist me in raising the \$50,000 required to find the remains of our bravest, which is being spearheaded by our Canadian Military Historian, Norm Christie.

See the attached Vimy 44 Fundraising Project summary for details. This is a real effort and I know the people involved. This story is extremely moving and beyond words. My Grandfather was shot in Vimy and my son returned there a few years back to stand in the sand, where his great grandfather once landed, holding his service medals

SiteCast is donating \$10k and I am asking all of you to assist the effort to recover ALL these Canadian soldiers from the first world war. SiteCast will sponsor 10 of the 44 soldiers.

I would personally appreciate any attention you could give to this effort and you will all be recognized by the Vimy 44 team. More importantly, you will have a very different reason to feel pride this Canada Day!

You can make your cheques payable to..... *Ottawa Service Battalion Association.*

Please contact me directly if you need more information... and thank you!

On behalf of the families of; *Bradshawn, McCowan, Purnell, Gibbons, Simmons, Howie, Allen, Kriby, Phillips, Hamilton*

Shawn Hickey, CCS., GSC., FTCA
President | SiteCast Construction

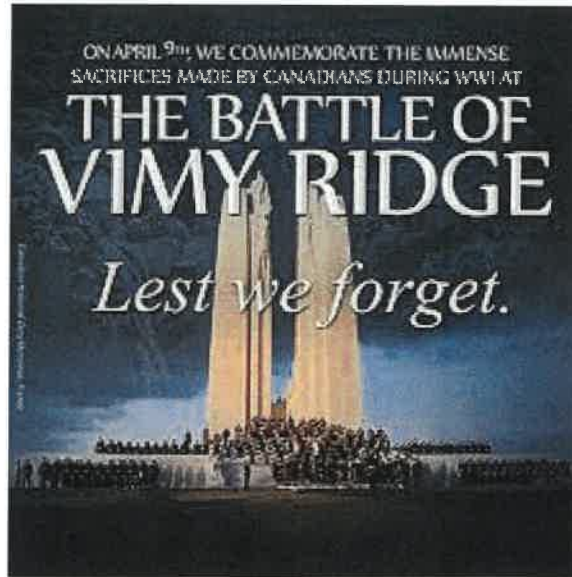
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Vimy 44 Fundraising Project

The Ottawa Service Battalion Association (OSBA) has undertaken a fundraising project to assist Ottawa Military Historian Norm Christie in the discovery and the eventual recovery of the remains of 44 Canadian soldiers of the First World War, including [427586 Pte. William J. Milne](#) who was awarded the Victoria Cross (VC) for his action at Vimy Ridge...from a mine crater that was a temporary cemetery (CA40) in which their remains were placed after the battle of Vimy Ridge.



The OSBA did a fundraising dinner at [il Primo Ristorante](#), 371 Preston Street, Ottawa, ON on October 25, 2016, which sold out and raised \$3,500 for the cause.

In conjunction with the fundraising dinner, the OSBA collaborated with Tees for the People – an award winning Company with an innovation platform new to Canada – to sell commemorative T-shirts and hoodies. During the 21-day campaign, we raised another \$1,550 for the cause.

Now we are launching a series of new initiatives to raise an additional \$50,000 needed to recovery what we now call [The Vimy 44](#). Doug Hickey, past Vice President of the OSBA, is managing this very important initiative.

Background

On April 9, 1917 the Canadian Corps, 100,000 strong, attacked the German stronghold of Vimy Ridge. The Canadians drove the enemy from the Ridge and achieved the impossible.

But the losses were heavy; 10,000 casualties, including 3,600 dead.





In the face of withering machine gun fire, maneuvering between the massive mine craters that lined No Man's Land, the 16th Canadian Infantry Battalion, the Canadian Scottish, attacked, capturing all their objectives. 100 of the 600 men were either killed or later died of wounds.



Canadian burial squads followed the attack, burying the dead in temporary battlefield cemeteries, including mine craters. 44 of the dead of the Canadian Scottish were buried in a mine crater in No Man's Land, designated CA40.

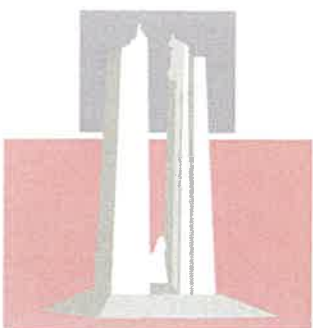
After the war, exhumation squads exhumed thousands of isolated graves, bringing them into permanent war graves cemeteries. CA40 was designated to be exhumed and moved to Nine Elms, but there is no evidence of any of the men from CA40 there.

Searching all the likely cemeteries in the Vimy region also revealed no evidence of the Canadian Scottish graves.

Military historian Norm Christie believes they remain where they were originally buried on the Vimy battlefield in 1917.

According to official records, 42 Men and 2 Unknowns are listed as being buried in CA40 (51B A10 c9.7...1/2-mile South East of Neuville St. Vaast, 3 3/4-miles North of Arras) and there could be Unknowns (other soldiers) buried with them in CA40.

The following names are the soldiers we know who are listed as being buried in CA40:



718699 Pte. Francis J. Manning
Age 30
Plumas, MB, Spec. Mem #30.



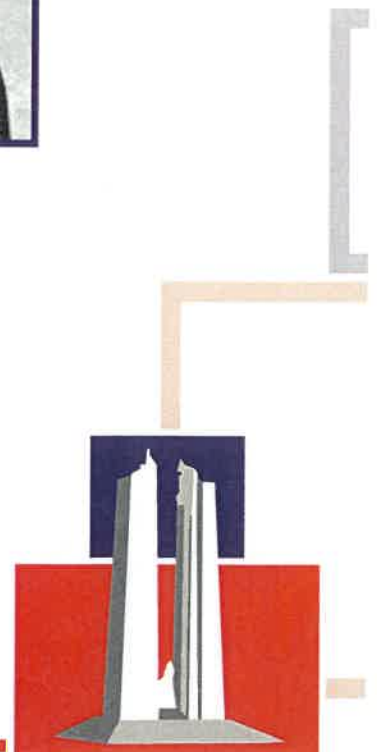
718192 Pte. Fred Bagulay (in uniform)
with James and Frances (parents)
Age 25
Alameda, SK



736569 Pte. Lancelot M. Attwood
with Rose Attwood
Age 30
Lethbridge, AB



736746 Pte. Ernest E. Betts
Age 28
Raymond, AB



736108 L.Cpl. George F. Blaik
Age 37
Calgary, AB



736317 Pte. Cyril A. Gooding
Age 19
Cardston, AB



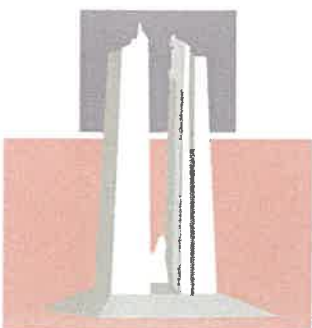
160168 Pte. William F. Dickson
Age 26
Calgary, AB



736880 Pte. Walter H. Hooper
Age 25
Claresholm, AB



736651 Pte. Sanford W. Leitch
Age 23
Creelman, SK





718269 Pte. Robert Pattison
Age 23
Glasgow, Scotland



736967 Pte. George B. Piper
Age 21
Nebraska, USA.

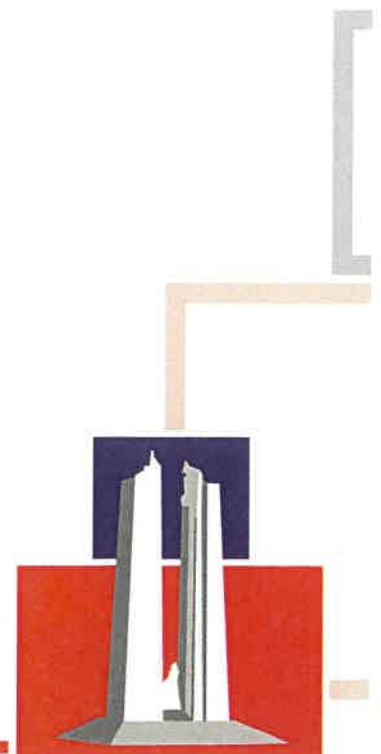
427586 Pte. William J. Milne, VC
Age 25
enlisted Moose Jaw, SK.



859684 Pte. Robert Owen
Age 29
Belmont, MB



737084 Pte. Levi G. Powell
Age 43
Surrey, UK



129200 Pte. Arthur F. Ruddock
Age 19
Powell River, BC



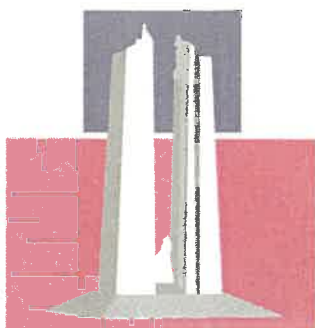
625305 Pte. Joseph Strickler
Age 19
Boyne Lake, AB



624477 Pte. Thomas A. Snelgrove
Age 23
UK



719161 Pte. Joseph Willerton
Age 23
Riding Mountain, MB



- **16372 Sgt. C.M. Wisdom**
Arras Road Spec Mem #5.
- **420819 Pte. Herbert W. Allen**
Age 24
Winnipeg, MB
- **625286 Pte. John A. Armitage**
Age 34
Manville, AB
- **700410 Pte. Edwin V. Ball**
Age 36
Winnipeg, MB
- **871504 Pte. Louis Boniver**
Liege, Belgium
- **43945 Pte. Robert E. Bradshaw**
Age 29
Toronto, ON
- **721564 Pte. Walter Clemons**
Age 23
Pine Falls, MB
- **871443 Pte. John Cooper**
Age 25
Orkney Islands
- **722078 Pte. Richard A. Glassford**
Age 21
Pelley, SK
- **624801 Pte. John H.P. Gibbons**
Age 20
Innisfree, AB
- **A/20408 Sgt. William Hamilton**
Age 31
Scotland
- **736703 Pte. Arthur J. Hawkins**
Age 33
Leeds, UK
- **628188 L.Cpl. James Howie**
Age 36
Vancouver, BC
- **624957 Pte. Hupert L. Kilcup**
Age 29
Sackville, NB
- **718249 Pte. Alfred J. Kirby**
Age 28
St. Norbert, MB
- **700022 L.Cpl. William W. Laycock**
Age 36
Winnipeg, MB
- **736171 Pte. Thomas McCandless**
Age 32
Cabri, SK
- **420765 Pte. Duncan McCowan**
Age 31
Winnipeg, MB
- **718526 Pte. Henry McWilliams**
Age 39
Winnipeg, MB
- **105741 Pte. Frank V. Phillips**
Age 21
Regina, SK
- **624593 Pte. Alfred H. Parsons**
Age 19
Georgetown, ON
- **700967 Pte. Walter Purnell**
Age 20
Winnipeg, MB
- **77309 Sgt. Irwin H. Simmons**
Age 37
Creston, BC
- **129336 Pte. Robert H. Tarlton**
Age 36
Mission City, BC
- **Unknown**
- **Unknown**



To give these heroes a proper burial we must first evaluate this dangerous battlefield using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and Electronic Analysis to pinpoint CA40.

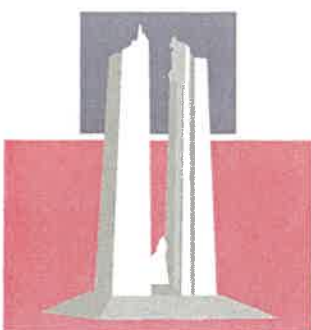
To complete this process we need to fundraise \$50,000 to address:

- an engineering team and their equipment;
- documenting the process;
- compensating local farmers; and
- safety and security costs.

Our Current Fundraising Initiatives:

Vimy 44 Quilt

- Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00
- Draw date is August 25, 2017
- 2,000 tickets have been produced
- Contact doughickey93@gmail.com if you wish to purchase a ticket or to become a seller of a booklet (10 tickets)



Vimy 44 Name Sponsor

- Become a personal sponsor of one of the names of the Vimy 44 soldier's for \$1,000
- Receive a commemorative **VIMY 44** Dog Tag and a framed Sponsor Support Certificate recognizing your contribution in the search and recovery operation of **CA40**
- Attend a special Vimy 44 Name Sponsor briefing by Norm Christie on the search activities currently underway
- Contact doughickey93@gmail.com if you wish become a Vimy 44 Name Sponsor

Keep watching our Web Site for other exciting initiatives we are developing!

How to Donate:

If you wish to donate any amount towards our \$50,000 goal, simply make out a cheque to Ottawa Service Battalion Association and mail to PO Box 92, Carlsbad Springs, ON K0A 1K0.

