



CEf100 Commemoration Society

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE 2014–2019

REMEMBERING • HONOURING • LEARNING

CEf100

Commemoration Program Description

Readiness for the Fray

Were they, are we



Forums and Workshops

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Updated: 24 October 2013

CEf100 Commemoration Society Programs

CEf100 is dedicated to promoting, encouraging and enabling collaboration to maximize the effectiveness and benefits of Great War commemoration efforts. This is one example of a **CEf100** program initiative that provides a canopy or umbrella under which many community groups, organizations and businesses can participate to make better use of available funds and achieve greater commemoration effectiveness.

Please visit www.cef100.ca for more information on **CEf100** initiated and supported projects



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Readiness for the Fray

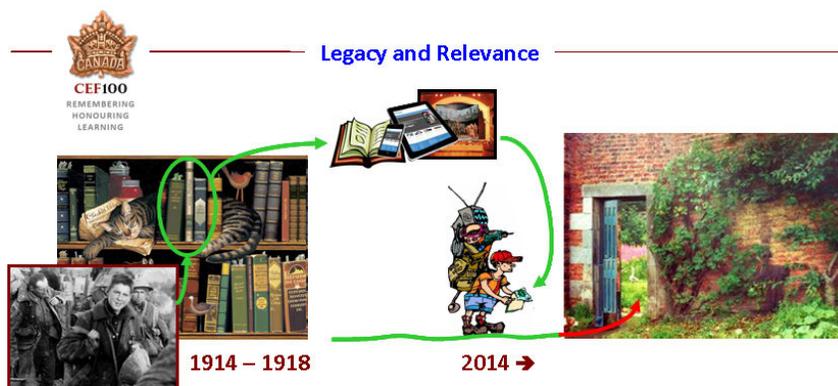
Forums and Workshops

Were they, are we, “Ready for the Fray”?

Updated: 24 October 2013

General Description

Readiness for the Fray is a three-part youth-focused forum and/or workshop that uses lessons from the Great War—and subsequent events—to prepare our future leaders for the geopolitical, social, environmental, economic and other “frays” (struggles or battles) they will likely encounter over the next several generations. Learnings from the world-impacting events of a century ago can help guide today’s youth on their life journeys.



They too were young: the often forgotten stories of, and lessons from, their Great War experiences will help prepare today's youth for their life journeys.

The principal goal is to create awareness of how to identify, assess and prepare for what can be described as the “wicked problems” future leaders will encounter. (“Wicked Problems” are those with multiple, complex, interdependent components where efforts to resolve one component may result in the creation of additional problems.)

Readiness for the Fray will focus on building the ability to be aware, forward looking, adaptable and resilient.

“In preparing for battle [the fray], I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Background

In October 1914, while en route from Canada to England, the 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish) adopted the motto *Deas Ghu Cath* (pron. *jess goo caw*) “Ready for the Fray.” Thinking this war would be over by Christmas, were the members of the 16th Battalion, the rest of the 1st Canadian Division, military, government and industry leaders, and the people of Canada “ready for the fray” that unfolded? While the war was in progress, did they understand what the fray was about? After the war, did the leaders negotiating treaties understand what the fray had been about? Did they understand the consequences their “peace” terms would have in the future? The answer to all these questions is, arguably, “No.”

Program Content

Readiness for the Fray is a framework for a dynamic, interactive general public forum and a week-long workshop focused on university- and college-level students. Each forum/workshop will include the following components:

Part I: History: Were they “Ready for the Fray”?

Identifying and assessing:

- ↻ the social, cultural, economic and other factors that led to, and shaped Canada’s participation in, the Great War
- ↻ the decisions made during and after the war and the repercussions those decisions have had on subsequent world events (e.g., Second World War, Middle Eastern and African geopolitics).

Part II: The Legacy of Learnings

Identifying and assessing the lessons to be learned from the decisions and actions taken and not taken.

Part III: The Future: Readiness for the Fray

Identifying and assessing:

- ↻ **The Potential Fray:** What is known, and not known, about emerging and potential frays related to such things as population and demographics, economies, the future of community and work, the environment, physical well-being (e.g., agriculture/food, water), geopolitics and conflict, etc.
- ↻ **Preparedness:** How we can best prepare for unfolding and unknown frays at the individual, family, community, and national level. What impacts will current society and cultural thinking, beliefs, and attitudes have on motivation and the ability to respond to frays that develop?
- ↻ **Responsiveness:** The characteristics, attitudes, ways of thinking and tools that will help prepare for the frays that develop (e.g., resiliency, adaptability, critical analysis and thinking, information and data needs and collection).

Program Implementation

There are two principal variations for implementing **Readiness for the Fray**:

Symposium

A national large-audience symposium recorded for television, radio and podcast dissemination (e.g., CBC Ideas). A series of regional symposia can also be held.

A Series of Workshops (Summer Institutes/Course)

Small group workshops held in multiple locations or online. The workshops will follow a standard program/curriculum framework with appropriate resource material.

Program Development and Implementation

Development and implementation of this program will require:

A Lead Partner and Collaborating Organizations

The lead program development and implementation partner will be an organization involved in history, strategic studies, and other related fields. Representatives from organizations and independent experts will form a pool of collaborators to develop and lead sessions.

Supporting Partners

A lead funding partner and multiple supporting organizations and individuals will be recruited.

CEF100

CEF100 will provide program development, implementation management and dissemination services.

To obtain more information or to discuss your personal or organizational involvement in the *Readiness for the Fray* program, please contact:



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