

We Remember...

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- John F. Kennedy



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WE REMEMBER

KPU

Student website shows First World War experiences of Canadian soldiers

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History students at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) have created some fascinating biographical videos about Canadian veterans, for a website designed for public viewing.

Launched ahead of Remembrance Day, the "KPU Remembers" project focuses on Canadian soldiers' experience in the First World War.

The website originally began as a class assignment, explained history instructor Dr. Chris Hyland, who is very impressed with what his students were able to create.

"The students of History 4496 were asked to locate, analyze and assess multiple original documents, such as war diaries, in order to reconstruct a Canadian soldier's First World War experience," Hyland told the



First World War soldier William James Taylor is profiled by his great-grandson, Connor Mitchell, in the "KPU Remembers" project.

Now-Leader.

"This was not an easy assignment, as the documents were lengthy, complex, and highly contextual."

Information was often missing or incomplete, he said, so the students faced similar challenges that historians have when constructing a biography.

Despite these obstacles, the students performed "extremely well and exceeded my expectations," he said.

The website is wordpress. kpu.ca/kpuremembers.

The History 4496 class students are Gagan Bajwa, Callen Cheng, Cameron Cunningham, Noor Dhilon, Jordan Fenske-White, Thomas Gorelik, Jeffrey Lai, Avneet Mangat, Lindsay Martin, Nate Mercer, Connor Mitchell, Austin Raponi, Quinn Raponi and Jasmine Sidhu.

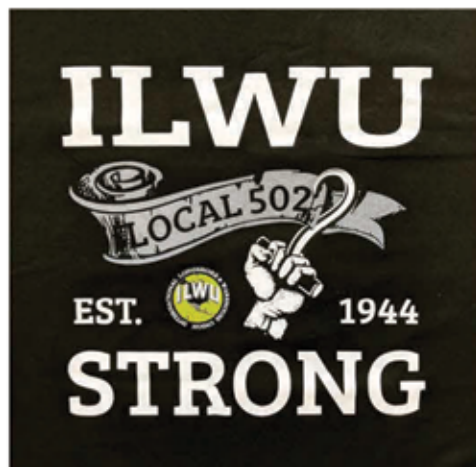
"One student, Connor Mitchell, did work on his great-grandfather, and so this was a very personal piece," Hyland explained.

It's important to know that students are interested in the military history and heritage, he added.

"They do think these ideas are important," the instructor said. "One of the key themes we stress, and I quote from Desmond Morton in 'A Military History of Canada,' 'You cannot understand Canada without understanding Canada at war.'"

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Lest We Forget