

It is with great pleasure that I offer warm greetings on behalf of the Ontario PC Caucus to the Veterans of the Canadian Merchant Navy.

The veterans of the Canadian and Allied Merchant Navies' contributed greatly to both the first and second World Wars, however their courage, sacrifices, and dedication have for too long gone without the recognition and respect they deserve.

It is through initiatives such as the Merchant Navy Commemorative Theme Project that our sons and daughters will remember and tell future generations of the vital role the Canadian Merchant Navy played in securing the freedoms that we enjoy today. No longer will these honourable men and women be unsung heroes in our country's military history—their contributions will shine brightly alongside those of their military counterparts.

Twelve years ago, under Bill C-411, An Act to establish Merchant Navy Veterans Day, we commemorated the first annual Canadian Merchant Navy Veterans Day in Collingwood. This year, the ceremony returns to Collingwood and I look forward to attending and participating alongside my municipal, provincial and federal colleagues.

I encourage the people of Ontario to take time to learn more about the Canadian and Allied Merchant Navies' and to participate annually in ceremonies across our great province.

Sincerely,

Jim Wilson, MPP

Simcoe-Grey

Interim Leader of the Official Opposition