



SAINT JOHN

SAINT JOHN STORY SERIES

Saint John Story Series is a place to profile and highlight City of Saint John staff, service areas, and the positive impacts of City led initiatives within our community.

Service and sacrifice: Local Legion partners with the City to help honour veterans October 27, 2022

Walking through the Saint John City Market, you only need to look up to see a special installation honouring the service and sacrifice of local veterans.

More than two dozen banners showcasing the names and faces of Saint John residents who have served their country have been installed on the rafters, leading up to Remembrance Day.

The banners are part of a commemorative project led locally by the Royal Canadian Legion Lancaster Branch #69 on the city's west side.

"It started back in 2015 with the help of the Cedar Hill Greenwood Cemetery and Saint John Energy and we ended up with 37 banners that year," says Branch #69 President Larry Lynch.

"We had the banners and displayed them in the upper halls of the Legion before they went up on the poles, and I thought that looked like quite a few."

That number has grown exponentially over the last seven years.

This year, a total of 300 banners line streets, businesses, and other establishments in the community, encouraging residents to reflect upon and remember those who put their lives on the line in service to their country.

"The Legion was formed by veterans, for veterans, in 1926. The purpose of forming the Legion was to help veterans, which is what we still do today, but the other main purpose is for promoting remembrance, and these banners are a perfect way of doing that," says Larry.





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“These banners have veterans on them who served during the First World War, the Second World War, those who have served in Afghanistan, and also veterans who have served during peace time.”

The banner installation in the Saint John City Market is particularly personal for Larry, with several of the banners featuring members of his own family.

“We have 25 banners in the Market, which include banners dedicated to father, my uncle and my wife’s father,” says Larry. “The main reason I put them over there is because two of my granddaughters go to St. Malachy’s high school, and so I thought it would be neat for them, as they walk through the Market going to Brunswick Square, or wherever they’re heading uptown, that they can see their relatives’ faces.”

For those who are interested in purchasing a banner to honour one of their own friends or family members, Larry recommends reaching out to the Cedar Hill Greenwood Cemetery as soon as possible to secure a spot for next year’s program.

The banners at the Saint John City Market will remain in place until after Remembrance Day.

To watch a video with Larry Lynch on the project, click [HERE](#).

