

French Canadian Veterans

When England declared war in 1914 (First World War), Canada's minister sent a telegram to the British Government, offering Canada's service and decided that every militia was to go to a camp at Valcartier. French Canadians from Quebec and across Canada were also invited, although it was made clear that there would be no French-speaking units. These veterans were roughly between the ages of 18 and 45. During the Second World War, Francophones were part of many military campaigns. Their effort in the war was just as good as that of the other groups in Canada. Francophones were part of one of three forces. They were part of either the Royal Canadian Navy, The Royal Canadian Air Force or the Army. Despite the rumour stating that French Canadiens and Francophones did not do their share in the world wars, there were actually enough of them to form an entire division of the Canadian Army. Although a lot of French Canadiens fought, many did not want to. Following the outbursts of patriotism in August of 1914, some French Canadiens had suspicions and even hostility towards Britain. Even though they were sympathetic to France, Britain's ally, they were not willing to risk their lives in its defence.



"Recollections." Veterans Affairs Canada. N.p., n.d. Web. 12 Nov. 2014.

"Conscription Crisis of 1944." Wikipedia. Wikipedia Foundation, 24 Oct. 2014. Web. 12 Nov. 2014.

"Education." French Canada and Recruitment during the First World War. N.p., n.d. Web. 12 Nov. 2014.

Tota Perry-Marinov & Tyler Richardson