



MEDIA RELEASE

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\$43,100 OTF Grant Brings Community Tales of Wartime to Life

(Parry Sound, ON) On Monday, the Rotary Club of Parry Sound and the Town of Parry Sound published a series of short films and vignettes bringing to life the historic tales of how local families, communities, and culture were affected during wartime. Among those who have had the opportunity to view the short films was local MPP Norman Miller. The project, which preserves the stories of local veterans for all to experience, is a result of the \$43,100 Seed grant that was awarded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) in 2019.

"I'm happy to see these local stories being shared and captured to help Parry Sound remember," said Norman Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka. "Remembering the sacrifices made then, is essential in ensuring we continue to cherish our hard-won freedoms. Taking the time to gather these local stories before they are lost to us ensures that we will continue to remember our local heroes for generations to come."

Thanks to the OTF grant, people everywhere can now experience these stories of remembrance of the Parry Sound community. In the process of preserving and animating these stories, emerging local filmmakers had the chance to build relationships with local World War II veterans. Project partners acknowledge that this was an important factor in the success of the project.

"We very much appreciate the funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation so that this unique program could be provided in the Parry Sound area," said Linda West, President of the Rotary Club of Parry Sound. "To be able to interact with World War II veterans and allow future generations to remember their personal struggles, sacrifices and eventual success is a special opportunity."

The Rotary Club of Parry Sound and the Town of Parry Sound partnered together on this project in a commitment to preserving local culture and history while supporting education in the arts and building a strong sense of community. If you are interested in viewing the short films, please visit the website at: www.parrysound.ca/en/live-here/wwii-filmmaking-project.asp

The [Ontario Trillium Foundation](#) (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF awarded \$115 million to 644 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.

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