

# First World War Monuments

## Parliament Buildings of British Columbia

*MEMORIAL ROTUNDA:* The Memorial Rotunda is named after the plaques, flags, and displays commemorating those British Columbians who have served in wars and peacekeeping missions. It is the site of the annual Remembrance Day ceremony.



*PIPER RICHARDSON'S BAGPIPES:* Displayed in the case in the Memorial Rotunda are the bagpipes that belonged to Piper James Richardson of the 16th Battalion (Royal Scottish). Piper Richardson was born and raised in Scotland and later immigrated to Canada with his family, settling in Chilliwack, BC. He was killed on October 9, 1916 at the Battle of the Somme at the age of 20 years old. He was awarded the Victoria Cross after his death for his display of bravery on the battlefield. His bagpipes were believed to have been lost until they were

discovered on display in the Ardvreck School in Scotland. The bagpipes were returned to British Columbia in a presentation to the Legislative Assembly on November 8, 2006.

*THE KING'S COLOUR:* The Union Flag above the west entranceway was presented to soldiers who had fought in the Battle of Vimy Ridge. On August 21, 1922, the Governor General of Canada gave the veterans of the 67th Battalion (Western Scots) the King's Colour.



*THE BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE:* These books list the names of civil servants from British Columbia who died fighting in the First and Second World Wars.

*CENOTAPH:* The bronze War Memorial to the Unknown Soldier designed by English sculptors Vernon and Sidney March was unveiled by Lieutenant Governor W.C. Nichol on July 12th, 1925. There are plaques remembering Canadians lost in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the mission to Afghanistan, and peacekeeping missions. The Cenotaph is made of Nelson Island granite, the same stone as used in the foundation of the Parliament Buildings.

The most recent addition to the Cenotaph was a plaque commemorating the mission to Afghanistan, unveiled in September 2016 by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cambridge.

