



# Larry Bryan

## Bowmanville

*Local historian and military expert,  
winner of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal*

With a lot of veterans that I've known over the years, they would talk to me... you know, as an associate... the old guard they called us. And I always asked permission. "Can I share your story?" They would say "yeah." And the underlying tone was "as long as you never let the kids forget us." They were worried back then that all of this (the Wars) would have been for nothing. And look what's happening in the world right now!?

We've been in Courtice since 1993.

Some of the legions have died and closed over the years because the numbers aren't there. But we've got such a great Legion here. It represents a real connection to the

men and women that served. Because, the banners aren't just about the wartime. It's about other people too.

I believe that by looking at the history and seeing where the soldiers were back then... I mean... it's so different from now. How are you ever going to learn to be better without it? So, by looking at the history and learning from it, it shows us where we've been and where we can head to, right?

I think what the older generation taught us was that you have to be grateful for what you have. I don't know if the younger generations fully understand that.

