

One-hundred bells will peal Aurora to mark Armistice anniversary

By Brock Weir

The peal of over 100 bells will be in the air over Aurora on Sunday as the world marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, the formal end of the First World War.

While formal commemorations will be taking place at the Cenotaph on Sunday morning, bells will ring from the tower of Trinity Anglican Church on Victoria Street just after the eleventh hour at 11.02 a.m.

This year, Remembrance Day marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that officially ended World War One, says Trinity. In recognition, the Royal Canadian Legion has asked all religious organizations to ring their bells 100 times at sunset to help people remember the joy that peace brought after so much death and destruction. We, like many churches, will ring our bells at 11.02 a.m. as a prelude to our 11.15 service.

According to the Royal Canadian Legion, the ringing of bells will emulate the moment in 1918 when church bells across Europe tolled as four years of war had come to an end.

To engage youth in this significant initiative, children with the help of schools and youth organizations, are encouraged to research, locate and place flags on the graves of Canadian Veterans of the Great War, says the Legion. Legion Branches and communities will host commemorative ceremonies and special activities to help Canada Remember. At sunset on November 11, the bells will ring at Parliament Hill, city halls, places of worship, military bases, Naval vessels and at ceremonies across the country to honour Canada's Veterans and commemorate the end of the First World War.

When you hear the bells toll on November 11, take a moment to pause and remember all those who served and sacrificed.

100 bells will also be rung from St. Andrew's College at the eleventh hour.

Trinity Anglican is still looking for volunteers to help ring the bells on Sunday. For more information, contact Janet at janet.weiss-townsend@trinityaurora.ca.