

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 5, 2015

## **Museum of Health Care celebrates health care workers during the First World War**

(KINGSTON, ON) – On February 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00pm, the Museum of Health Care invites you to celebrate its newest onsite exhibit titled *Trench Menders: Health Care during the First World War*. The opening reception will include a thirty minute re-enactment by local physician Dr. Gregory Baran, followed by refreshments. Admission is free.

In commemoration of the centenary of First World War, the Museum of Health Care developed a new bilingual exhibit to engage visitors with the practice of medicine and nursing during the First World War. *Trench Menders: Health Care during the First World War* examines the training and experience of the men and women of the Canadian Army Medical Corps and Canadian Army Nursing Corps, with specific reference to Kingstonians who acted in these roles. The exhibit covers topics such as wounds and diseases that were caused by new warfare tactics and technologies, as well as medical innovations, such as blood transfusions and intubation anaesthetics.

“When we think about the First World War we often think about the destruction that took place during the conflict,” says Museum Curator Maxime Chouinard. “What we rarely consider is the important organization which was created to save the lives of soldiers and civilians. More than 20 000 men and women served in the Canadian Army Medical Corps as nurses, physicians, stretcher bearers, dentists and more.”

“*Trench Menders* is an exhibit which seeks to explore the history of health care during the Great War, while putting a special focus on the experience of Kingston’s veterans,” Chouinard adds. “We wanted to uncover Kingston’s connections to the war effort so we invited local residents to share their stories and create an oral history database which visitors will be able to experience and expand. In addition, the opening reception will include a special presentation by Dr. Gregory Baran, who will be re-enacting for us Dr. Thomas Daly Cumberland, a veteran from the Great War and also a former Queen’s professor of Psychiatry.”

**Location:** Museum of Health Care, Ann Baillie Building National Historic Site, 32 George St.

**Dates & Times:** Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7:00pm.

**Cost:** Free

*The Museum acknowledges support from the City of Kingston Heritage Fund, Kingston Association of Museums and Veterans Affairs Canada.*

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