



Canadian War Museum Fact Sheet

The Museum

- The Museum was designed by Raymond Moriyama of Moriyama & Teshima Architects, in joint venture with Alex Rankin of Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects. The innovative design is based on the theme of “regeneration”, which brings to mind not only the impact of war on the land, but also Nature’s ability to regenerate and to recover from the devastation of human conflict.
- Energy-efficient construction and the use of recycled materials reflect the Museum’s architectural theme of “regeneration”. The organic and environmentally responsive design themes are reflected in the choice of construction materials. River water is used in the cooling systems and recycled fly ash is used in the concrete (the building’s main construction material, noted for its high energy-efficiency). Native self-seeding grasses create a low-maintenance green roof and, at 10,684 square metres (115,000 square feet), it is one of the largest of its kind in Canada.
- Origin of the copper used in the interior of the building: recycled copper from the roof of the Library of Parliament.
- The Museum features Morse Code windows in both official languages that leads “Lest We Forget” on the North peak, and other windows that spell out the Museum's initials "CWM" on the South wall.
- At 11 a.m., each November 11, the sun shines through the window of the Museum’s Memorial Hall and illuminates the only artifact in that space: the headstone of Canada’s Unknown Soldier.

The Exhibitions

- Distance travelled if you explore the entire Permanent Exhibition: 2 km (1.2 miles).
- Number of original artworks on display: 330.
- Total number of artifacts on display in the Canadian Experience Galleries: 2,167.
- Number of featured audiovisual productions: 135.
- Number of graphic images inside the Museum: 2,000.

The Collections

- Total number of artifacts in the Museum’s collection: approximately 500,000.
- Volumes of books in the Military History Research Centre: 55,000.
- Photo archives: 65,500.
- Victoria cross medals: 28.
- Alex Colville paintings and sketches: 400.
- Group of Seven paintings and sketches: 370.

