

## **Calling Another Generation To Sacrifice**

**Rod Taylor**

Leader, CHP Canada

Last week, I had the incredible honour of being entrusted with the leadership of the Christian Heritage Party of Canada. Yesterday (Remembrance Day), I had the privilege, with Elaine, of attending the national Remembrance Day ceremonies at the National War Memorial in Ottawa with two remarkable young friends from Alberta. Evert and Brittany VandeBruinhorst, brother and sister, are treating themselves to a brief holiday tour of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes. They were delegates at our recent CHP Leadership Convention in Hamilton and decided this would be a good time to visit Ottawa and to show their respects to Canada's fallen dead.

Elaine and I had the same plans as Evert & Brittany so we all met at the National Monument dedicated to the bravery and sacrifice of generations past.

After the service, we took a guided tour with them through the Parliament buildings. We walked the hall where the recent shootout took place and spoke with veterans at the special memorial for Canadians who lost their lives in Afghanistan. In the halls and on the grounds outside, we gazed at portraits and statues of past Prime Ministers and other political visionaries. We were reminded in so many ways of the courage, sacrifice and patient toil of those who have gone before us—not only those who died in battle but also those who spent their best days trying to make Canada and the world a better place to live.

I was so encouraged by these young people who first dedicated their time and resources to attend our convention as voting delegates and then set out to experience more of Canada and to educate themselves in regard to our political institutions. Their attendance at the solemn and meaningful ceremonies on November 11th was another indication of the depth and breadth of their character.

After we toured the Parliament Building and the lower part of the Peace Tower, we returned to the National War Memorial to pay our respects. We saw the hundreds—if not thousands—of poppies left on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They had a special significance in 2014 based on our fresh national memories of the loss of Corporal Nathan Cirillo on that same spot; the tragic loss of his young life was on everybody's mind.

Looking back, we honour the sacrifices of young Canadians of past generations who have been willing to lay down their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today and for a civilized society that recognizes the "supremacy of God and the rule of law". Yet those freedoms and that society are under attack today from many quarters. Who are the young Canadians today who will rise up and offer their youthful energy, their time and resources to preserve our nation and our Christian heritage? I know I spent a day with two of them in Ottawa.

Eleven months from now, we will be engaged in a general election. The goal of the CHP is to send men and women to Ottawa, not only to tour its buildings but to debate—within the chambers of Parliament—the future of our nation and to restore respect for human life across our land. What part will you play in the CHP campaign of 2015? Will you be a candidate, a campaign worker, a supporter, a prayer warrior?

You may be young; you may be old. You may be starting a career or starting a family. Whatever your situation, YOU can make a difference in Canada! We are beginning to assemble lists of prospective candidates. Let us know where you may fit in. Of course, if you're not already a member of CHP Canada, please join today.<sup>1</sup> Canada needs your help!

## **Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup> [www.chp.ca/get-involved](http://www.chp.ca/get-involved)