

Erin MacIsaac

Subject: FW: Shubenacadie Cenotaph

Sent: September 21, 2025 7:27 PM

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Good Evening,

My name is Brooklyn (Brook) MacPhee, and I have lived in Shubenacadie my entire life. I respectfully ask that you take the time to read this letter carefully and feel free to share it with others.

Each year, I attend the November 11th Remembrance Day Ceremony. While the cold and long waiting periods can be uncomfortable, I still go because I care. I've always had an interest in the history of the wars, and I've always wanted to learn more about the cenotaph and the people it honours. Now that it has become a concern, I feel the need to speak up.

First and foremost, the cenotaph was built in the heart of Shubenacadie, 104 years ago, facing west. While you may have preserved its direction, you removed it from its rightful place, furthermore, its home. This decision has upset not only our town but also some neighbouring communities. The cenotaph was funded and placed there by the people of Shubenacadie. To move it without consulting the community, especially for something as simple as parking, is both disappointing and disrespectful.

Secondly, this cenotaph holds great historical and emotional significance. It marks the spot where Shubenacadie's soldiers once stood before boarding the train behind it, heading off to war. It is more than just a monument, it is a symbolic resting place for those we lost, those who returned, and for all who contributed to the war effort and the creation of the memorial itself.

Lastly, the reasoning behind its removal, supposedly to create more parking, feels both unnecessary and unjustified. The various explanations offered to the public have only caused more confusion and frustration. We are a village, not a city. We do not need extra parking at the expense of a sacred space. This could have been resolved weeks ago, yet here we are.

I sincerely hope that all letters and concerns from the community are being read, acknowledged, and shared. The cenotaph belongs in its original location, not near it, not slightly moved, but exactly where it stood: between the two cedar trees. That is where it was meant to be, and where it should return.

Whether or not it is officially moved back, the people of Shubenacadie will continue to gather on November 11th at its true home. I hope those responsible will make this right.

Sincerely,
Brooklyn MacPhee
A 14-year-old who cares about the cenotaph

