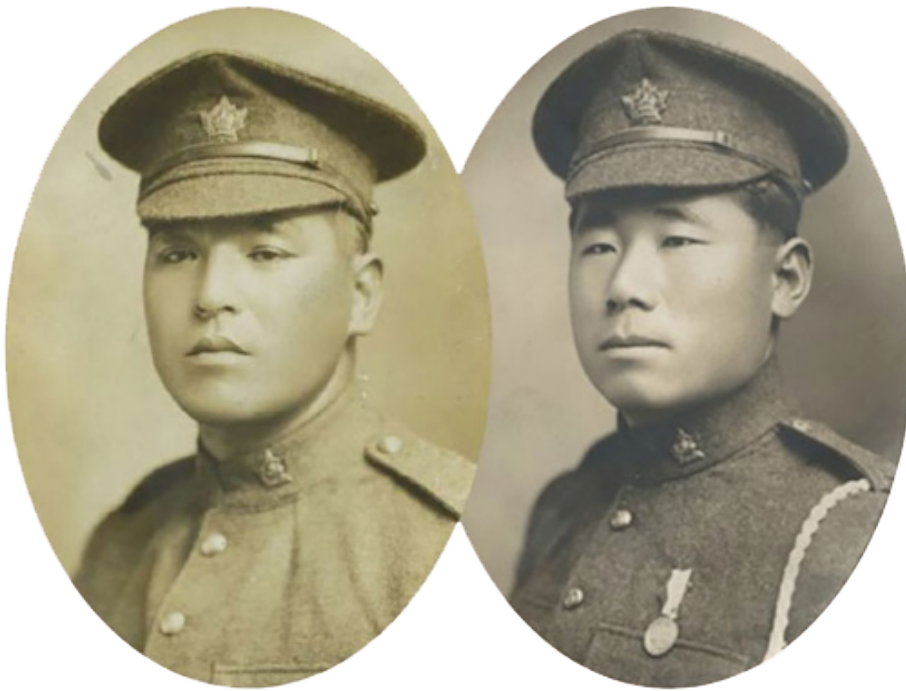


A memorial tells a story

Memorials are not artifacts frozen in time. Sometimes the efforts of people today can bring changes. One example of this is Debbie Jiang—an educator from Richmond, British Columbia. Debbie was doing research on the more than 200 Japanese Canadians who served in the First World War. She discovered as many as 16 of these brave soldiers had not been commemorated by her community due to their race. Debbie put on her investigator's hat! By digging through historical archives, she was able to gather concrete evidence that two of these men had lived in Richmond.

Thanks to Debbie, the City of Richmond added the names of Private Hikotaro Koyanagi and Private Kazuo Harada to their war memorial in May 2024. 102 years after the monument's dedication, the names of these forgotten soldiers now rightfully appear where they belong among their fallen comrades



Hikotaro Koyanagi (left) and Kazuo Harada (right) during the First World War.



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