

## A Tribute to World War I Veteran, Private John Thomas Love

### The Letter - An Educational Resource



This cross-curricular lesson collection aims at providing an opportunity for students of all ages to think about the sacrifice made by Canadian veterans and their families in World War I and II. It can be used simply with the letter and song as a short Remembrance Day reflection, or in conjunction with a more in-depth unit. Through reading the words of a veteran who was writing his last letter home, students can connect with the story of this family living in New Brunswick, and what it must have been like for Thomas Love to be so far from home.

Sadness is dealt with in many different ways, but one way people cope with sadness is through art and music. Expressing ourselves, our feelings, and loved ones we may have lost through music and art helps us to create meaning and pay tribute. Read the original letter from Private John Thomas Love as a class, or have students read individually. Following this, invite students to listen to the song "Cash It In" by Andrew Waite, which was inspired by the words in this letter and written from the perspective of John Thomas Love.

Link to the letter/song - <https://andrewwaitemusic.com/resources-cash-it-in>

### **Other Suggested Launch Topics/Lessons:**

- Perspectives in Writing (write a short story or poem from the perspective of someone living during WW1 or WW2, reflect on the effectiveness of the perspective in this song, write a personal response or reply to Thomas Love)
- Adapting a Text as Inspiration (choose a poem or short story and adapt or expand to create your own piece of writing)
- Songwriting (write a poem or lyrics about conflict and put them to music. This can be done using a given musical structure for beginning students, or can be done more open-ended for experienced young songwriters)
- Mixed Media Self-Expression (using any mode of expression such as writing, drawing or dance to create a piece that expresses how you feel about conflict)
- History of Canadians in World War I and II (choose an area, a battle, a veteran, and research facts from World War I or II to present in some way to classmates)

### **PEI Language Arts Curriculum Outcomes including;**

- Grades 4 - 6: Speaking and Listening (Speak and listen to explore, extend, clarify and reflect on their thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences. Interact with sensitivity and respect, considering the situation, audience and purpose.)
- Grades 4-6: Essential Graduate Learning (Aesthetic Expression and Citizenship)
- Grade 7-9: GC01, GC03, GC04, GC06, GC07
- Grade 10: SCO 4, SCO 5, SCO 6, SCO 8
- Grade 11: SCO 3, SCO 4, SCO 5
- Grade 12: SCO 4, SCO 5