



"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and walk humbly with our God" Micah 6:8

Dear Intercessor!

November, 2023

From the last Friday in October to Remembrance Day, millions of us will wear a Poppy as our promise to never forget those who served and sacrificed. Funds raised by the Legion from the sale of those poppies supports Veterans and their families in need.

One of OIM's outreach programs is our Innerscity Veterans Outreach (IVOS). It came to life around five years ago, after our Street Outreach teams would come back to the office concerned about the number of Veterans they were encountering on their walks. With a grant courtesy of Veterans Affairs Canada, we were able to pilot and then implement a program aimed specifically at providing help and support to Veterans in need. It involves our Street Outreach teams who are encouraged to let their Street Friends know about the program, a staff person dedicated to IVOS and a number of volunteers, all Veterans themselves.

We were moved recently by a message of thanks from one of our Veteran Friends. It said (with permission from the writer):

"To: OIM IVOS

Subject: Re: Against all hope do you have a sleeping bag

You Dear Lady are a Saint.

No Quartermaster ever could hold a candle to you.

This sleeping bag is top of the line top quality.

I didn't have to wear long johns nor a long sleeve shirt.

I wore a golf shirt and a hoodie and I was more than fine.

I actually was almost too warm.

I thank you immensely for your efforts and concern.

Indeed Madam I am in your debt

You always thank us for our service.

If you don't mind it's us that thank people like you.

We served to protect and serve you.

We existed because good people like you existed.

You're the reason we exist and do whatever we do.

So my dear sweet lady, thank You for giving us a reason to do whatever were born to do, what we had to do, and what we must do.

With sincere and uppermost respect."

It is a poignant reminder of our purpose and the difference a little kindness can make. Let us keep these special men and women in prayer this month.

Bless,

Margo Dewar
Managing Director