



## A Quest to Return Medal to Family of WWI Veteran

Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — City crews come across some interesting finds but it's not every day they find a World War I Victory medal on the side of the road. But that's exactly what a City worker found last year when he stopped to check the contents of a cardboard box marked "free" on a City boulevard. That find triggered a search for the family of soldier Major G.D. Walker.

Over the past year, truck driver Rick Brown and Manager David Myles have contacted the Canadian Military, Canadian Archives and the local Police in an unsuccessful effort to return the medal found on Prior Street to the family of Major Walker.

"With Remembrance Day around the corner, we're hoping someone is thinking of a loved one and their missing medal and will hear what we have found," noted David Myles, Manager of Underground Services. "Our efforts may have exhausted Canadian records but perhaps it was a soldier who immigrated to Victoria after the war. Hopefully a family member is still here."

The medal appears to be the British Empire version, issued to troops from Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

"We've come across everything from snakes and stolen parking meters stuffed in storm drains, jewelry and shotgun shells....but nothing that has set us on a search like this," noted Rick Brown, tandem truck driver. "With over 260 kilometers of roads in the City, of course we come across unique items, but it may remain a mystery how such a valuable medal could end up in a cardboard box on the side of road."

The 36 mm bronze medal shows the winged figure of Victory and the reverse states the words 'The Great War for Civilization 1914 – 1919'. It hangs on a double rainbow ribbon with red joining in the middle. The name "Major G. D. Walker" is engraved on the rim of the found medal.

- 30 -

### For More Information:

Katie Josephson  
Director of Corporate Communications  
Office: 250.361.0210  
Cellular: 250.217.8343