

**“Mothers of War”**

*Poem by Karina Benson, Branch #61 Delta*

Oh mothers of the soldiers  
Who marched so bravely off to war,  
How did you manage to gather the strength  
To let them walk out the door?

It must have been so hard for you  
To watch them walk away,  
Not knowing if they'd come home at all,  
Much less return unscathed.

You were the ones who hurt the most,  
Oh mothers of the war,  
Waiting, worrying, for your children  
As they braved the raging storms.

In gruelling conditions, they did fight,  
Through violence so profound,  
But with valiant honour they fought for their home,  
And for that you can be proud.

I'm thankful that some lucky few  
Were able to make it home  
And return at last to your waiting arms,  
Not having to suffer alone.

But to the mothers who were met  
With sorrow and despair  
When you found out you'd lost your child  
To the horrors of warfare,

I'm so sorry for your loss  
And for the hurt that you endure.  
I wish the world had been kinder,  
And not taken from you a life so pure.

But while I, too, mourn their loss and courageous sacrifice,  
I thank you, mothers, for the strength it took to let them go and fight  
Because I don't think, if I were you, that I could do the same,  
And thanks to you, brave mothers of war, Canada may sleep peacefully tonight.