

808 DRUMMOND COURT  
DRUMMOND STREET  
MONTREAL

May 16, 1932.

Sir Arthur W. Currie, G.C.M.G.,  
McGill University,  
Montreal.

Dear Sir Arthur,

I have recently read with deep interest Dr. Fox's comprehensive report on McGill's museums and, as an outsider, found cause for genuine enthusiasm in the thought of the great University Museum the report pictures and which, from your introductory remarks, I take to be an objective that the University shall one day seek to attain.

In reading the report, it occurred to me that no consideration had been given, or at least none had been expressed, to an aspect of Canadian history which must become more important from a museum point of view with every passing year, and it is in regard to this point that I respectfully submit this letter.

I refer to the period of the Great War. Museums in Canada, as a whole, have ignored the War and in so doing they are hardly to be blamed, for the field opened up by the events of 1914 - 1919 is so vast that consideration of it by museums already over-crowded is well-nigh impossible. In addition, I believe that in cases where space has not been the primary difficulty, museum authorities have shrunk from the War, owing to the scope of the problem it presented and the mental adjustment required to consider it from a museum point of view.

Nevertheless, the Great War, though so fresh in the minds of all adults of this generation, is rapidly passing into history, and from my own experience I know that documents and material available a few years ago are rapidly being lost, or destroyed, much more rapidly, I believe, than anyone who has not had occasion to seek such material would think possible.

In these circumstances, I wondered if the plan for a McGill University Museum should not definitely take into account the problem of Great War material, with provision for the space and other factors that the inclusion of such material