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# NEEPAWA Banner & Press

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**Inside this week**



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# Thank you for your service

## Ceremony in Neepawa honours Lieutenant-General Ray Crabbe

By Eoin Devereux  
 NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

It's a recognition that has been a long time coming for a former member of the Canadian military who has a strong connection to Neepawa. On Wednesday, July 13, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 23 held a commemorative ceremony at the cenotaph in front of the Beautiful Plains County Court Building. Along with honouring the anniversary of the war memorial, which was first unveiled in 1922, it also was a celebration of the career of Lieutenant-General (Ret) Ray Crabbe.

A few hundred people attended the event, which featured speeches and prayers at the cenotaph, followed by a celebratory parade to the Legion building. At the Legion, a commemorative portrait of Crabbe was then unveiled, which will be displayed within the building in perpetuity.

### Pleased and proud to be back in Neepawa

This local honour for Crabbe is well deserved. Born and raised in Neepawa, Crabbe would go on after graduating from the University of Manitoba to serve in the Canadian Army. After tours of duty in Cyprus and Germany, he climbed the ranks, with his most notable posting at that time being to the former Republic of Yugoslavia, as the Commander of the United Nations Protection Force.

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PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Agassiz MLA Eileen Clarke was given the honour of presenting Lieutenant-General (Ret.) Ray Crabbe with his commemorative portrait, which will hang proudly upon the wall at the Neepawa Legion building.

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