

Dear Friends of the Mount Allison Memorial Library,

As most of you know, the Mount Allison Board of Regents passed a motion on 26 November 1918 (only two weeks after the end of WW I) to build a Memorial Library as a lasting War Memorial to honour those Allisonians who paid the supreme sacrifice defending our freedom.

"Moved by Dr. Wigle, seconded by Rev. A S Rogers, that this Board most heartily endorses the proposition of erecting a Library Building as a War Memorial in honor of Mount Allison students who have made the supreme sacrifice in behalf of our country, and that a committee be appointed to inaugurate a campaign to raise necessary funds. Carried."

When Memorial Library was opened on 8 June 1927, it was dedicated as a War Memorial by Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, Principal of Pine Hill Divinity School. The names of the fallen Allisonians, to whom the building was dedicated, were read during the ceremony. (Source: Mount Allison Record Vol II Nov / Oct 1927.)



This photo shows that the current Mt A Administration is now demolishing the building even though it is still a dedicated War Memorial. Nothing has been done to remove its dedicated or consecrated status. It would be bad enough to demolish this architecturally important heritage building, but now the Administration and Board of Regents are committing an insulting sacrilege, not only to those Allisonians who sacrificed their lives on our behalf but to all veterans and all those who donated to the construction of this dedicated War Memorial. When asked what action was planned to "decommission" or remove the dedicated status of the building, one Vice President said a number of months ago, "It is now a much more secular society". The question is: secular or not, does that make it any less dishonourable to needlessly demolish this dedicated War Memorial?

If you find this totally immoral and dishonourable, as the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month approaches, let President Campbell (rcampbell@ma.ca) and Bruce McCubbin (bruce.mcCubbin@moosehead.ca), Chairman of the Board of Regents, know your concerns. Also let them know that even though demolition has commenced, it is still not too late to call a halt to the desecration and seek a win, win solution. It is the opinion of professionals that it would still be more cost effective to restore the building than to demolish it.

Sincerely,

Save the Mount Allison Memorial Library Committee.

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