



Conduct a WebQuest to decide what you think about the contributions of William Lyon Mackenzie King to the history of Canada.

Use the websites provided by your teacher to find out about King's record on the following issues:

- *National unity*
- *Contribution to the war effort*
- *Conscription*
- *Social welfare programs*

Quotations from William Lyon Mackenzie King

It is what we prevent, rather than what we do that counts most in Government.

- Mackenzie King, August 26, 1936

[You are] defenders of the faith and of civilization against the domination of free countries by barbarism.

- Mackenzie King, December 1939, referring to those who enlisted for military service

The services of men and women are imperatively needed for the armed forces. All, however, cannot be employed in the armed forces. For example, it would not be possible to have a total effort if so many men were training for the navy that none were left to build ships. We could not have a total effort if so many men were taken into the army that enough were not left to make tanks and guns and shells. One could go on and give hundreds of similar examples, but others will suggest themselves to your own minds. Those whose services are needed to maintain the health and efficiency of the people, if they are doing all they can in their respective occupations, should not feel that they have no place in the war effort.

- Mackenzie King, August 1942, in a broadcast about the war effort

1944, Year of Decision: The supreme effort has still to be made.

- Mackenzie King, as quoted on a poster in the year conscription was enacted

We shall now eagerly await the triumphant return of those who have fought the fight of freedom on the sea, on land and in the air, and who have survived the vicissitudes of war. What a welcome will be theirs! As long as they live, their welfare should be our first concern. Especially must we look to the well-being of the dependents of those who will never return. We must endeavour to see that no service and no sacrifice is allowed to go unremembered.

- Mackenzie King, May 8, 1945, the day the war in Europe ended