



# Private Alexander Cunningham

1884 - 1918

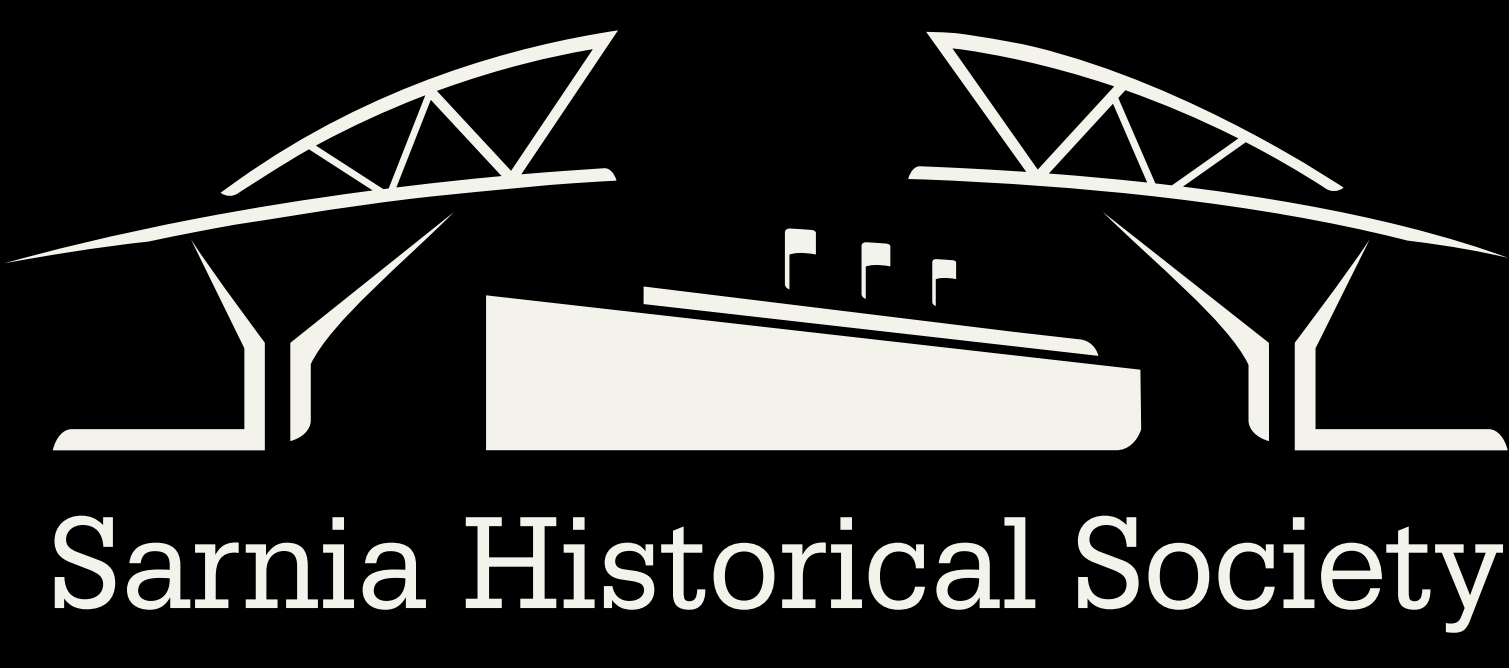
FIRST WORLD WAR

Army: Canadian Infantry, 43rd Battalion

Alexander was born in 1894 in Lanarkshire, Scotland, the eldest son of James and Isabella Cunningham. The Cunninghams had five children together and immigrated to Sarnia in 1913. Alexander's younger brother John, an employee at Imperial Oil, enlisted in early 1916. John was wounded severely at the Battle of Vimy Ridge and returned to Sarnia.

Alexander was twenty-three years old, single and a local farmer when he was called to service in January 1918 under the Military Service Act. He arrived in England in February 1918 and in France in August 1918 as a member of the Canadian Infantry, 43rd Highlanders Battalion. He was soon taking part in the Hundred Days Campaign, the "beginning of the end" of the Great War. It was during the third offensive of this Campaign, the Battle of Canal-du-Nord and Cambrai in France, that Private

Alexander Cunningham suffered gun shot/shrapnel wounds to his right arm and to his head. He died two days later on October 3, 1918 at a Casualty Clearing Station, the result of his wounds. Five weeks later, the Armistice agreement was signed, ending the Great War. Alexander Cunningham, 24, is buried in Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.



**THE SARNIA  
WAR REMEMBRANCE  
PROJECT**

by Tom Slater and Editor Tom St. Amand