

## Military Toronto – 1917 – World War I – Veterans' Care



The veterans' hospitals were overseen by the Military Hospitals Commission of Canada (MHCC) from 1915 to 1918. Conflicts with the military shifted care of hospitals to the Dept. of Militia and Defence in 1918.

The cover (above) was mailed 30 Jun by the MHCC to St. Catharines and returned under separate cover on Jul 10 1917. It has an MHCC mark, while not a postal mark is scarce. It pays the 8¢ registration fee which was not free to OHMS mail.

In 1917 Toronto had six hospitals for the care of soldiers (1,607 beds). The Battle of the Somme saw 16,000 wounded returned to Canada catching the Commission unaware. By late 1917 they had 13,802 beds for the care of these soldiers.



In 1919 the former National Cash Register Co. was converted into the *Dominion Orthopaedic Hospital* - known as the **Christie Street Hospital**.