



## DECEMBER 2020

This newsletter is published by CIHC, an organization dedicated to preserving Canada's Industrial history.

About 1900, Brantford was Canada's third largest industrial producer of exports to the world. Its industrial history mirrors the growth of industry across Canada.

Our Address is  
Canadian Industrial  
Heritage Centre, P.O.  
Box 23055, Brantford  
Ontario, Canada  
N3T 6K4

[www.canadianindustrialheritage.com](http://www.canadianindustrialheritage.com)

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CanadianIndustrialHeritageCentre>

We are responsible for the  
TICCIH Canada website  
[www.ticcihcanada.org](http://www.ticcihcanada.org)

Please send submissions to:

[info@canadianindustrialheritage.com](mailto:info@canadianindustrialheritage.com)

## OUR MISSION

To promote and honour Canada's industrial heritage through public education and the preservation of historical data, resources and artifacts. It is our hope that the spirit of innovation that drove the early entrepreneurs of Brantford and Canada forward for so many years will inspire the young entrepreneurs of today and tomorrow.

## FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Well! Winter is upon us and CoVid19 continues to limit our social contacts and Christmas celebrations, but it has not limited the progress of CIHC activities this fall!

We have lots to celebrate and report to our members and friends. Primarily, after many years patiently waiting and carrying on other activities,

### We Have A Lease To 66 Mohawk!

Our Acting President Donald Harris will report the details. All the other Directors have been working diligently and have wonderful reports.

At the Directors' meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup>, we decided to hold our **AGM** as a Zoom meeting and set the date to **7:00 p.m. December 29<sup>th</sup>**. A link will be sent out to members.

If you are a member, by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, you should have received an emailed package containing the formal notification of the AGM, the President's Annual Report, the Annual Financial Report and Slate of Officers.

If you do not receive it and you wish to join or re-join CIHC, please fill in the membership form attached and send it in as soon as possible or if you feel there is an error, contact us at [info@canadianindustrialheritage.com](mailto:info@canadianindustrialheritage.com)

Donations are always welcome

## The President's Report From Donald Harris (With extracts from President's Annual Report)

As acting President to fill in for John Kneale, I would like to thank all the Directors who stepped in and worked diligently on all the Committee work, which you can observe from their reports.

With reference to 66 Mohawk Street, the city has long awaited the Compliance Certificate that would allow redevelopment of the brownfield site where the Cockshutt Plow Company formerly sat. It is with great pleasure I can tell you that indeed this hurdle has been overcome! At a City of Brantford Council meeting in November a motion was unanimously passed to enter into a lease agreement with the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre. With the lease signed, the next step is the rezoning of 66 Mohawk to be completed by the City of Brantford. It will be included in the new Official Plan for the City of Brantford to be released in January.

The Lease is for two acres on which we will restore the two structures that still exist, the portico that was the entry into the Cockshutt office building as well as the Time Keepers Office. Additionally, the plans call for the construction of an interpretive centre focused on providing display space, the preservation of artifacts and educating the public in the industrial history of Brantford,

Part of this site will include facilities where Brant Theatre Workshops will have room to meet their needs and act as a base for dramatic presentations aimed at furthering the knowledge and education related to our industrial history. The Facilities Committee members have been working diligently on this.

When the 2 acres is rezoned, CIHC will officially be able to begin fundraising for our Interpretive Centre. It has been decided to form a Fundraising Committee. We are reaching out for resources and are starting now to actively seek financing. At the moment we are seeking an individual who will take on the role of Chair of a committee responsible for raising the funds to make this project the success that we have envisioned over so many years.

Directors are already working on grant applications. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

## The Facilities Committee

The **CIHC-BTW Facilities Committee** (Bill Darfler, Christina Han, Gerry Lafleur, Peter Muir) has been working hard to lay the groundwork for the creation of our Heritage, Arts, and Performance space at 66 Mohawk, the *Time Office*. We have conducted CIHC's and BTW's Needs Assessment and researched similar heritage-arts collaboration facilities and projects. We have been working with the city's Planning Department, city councillors, MMMC Architects, Lansdowne Children's Centre, and the Ontario Trillium Foundation to secure support for our project. We have received a \$3,000 grant from Enterprise Brant for our initial legal and architectural fees. We are currently working on our business plan. (From C. Han)



## The Italian Community Project

Peter Muir, Brant Theatre Workshops

This spring the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre, in partnership with Brant Theatre Workshops, Brant Historical Society and Laurier University, have plans to travel from Italy to Brantford and are offering that trip to our intrepid voyagers.

Brian Moore leads a historical walk sponsored by the BIA

This year's ***Memories of the Italian Community*** is based on the success of the CIHC (click here) [\*"Memories" of Brantford's Jewish Community\*](#), project which was held in 2019. The event invigorated the downtown and broke daily attendance records at the Museum bringing hundreds to Laurier and the downtown. It featured curated heritage displays, music, food and theatre. It was the beginning of a cultural journey with a mind to celebrating our early roots and immigrant backgrounds then the pandemic began and brought all the culture/heritage sector to our knees. We had no choice but to cancel/postpone our planned 2020 event. Accordingly, our 2021 event has evolved.

In 2019 we gathered closely in the halls of Laurier's Academic Centre learning about our differences together, side by side. In 2021 we can't be so packed in...but that has spawned a variety of ways to become part of the event. You can bring it live to your house, attend it in person or experience it on-line at home.

Beginning in February, thanks to funding from the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, a series of "memories" will be broadcast from seniors in Brantford's Italian Community on YouTube weekly, leading up to a live event held at the Brant Museum on Charlotte Street. Local historian, Jack Jackowetz has been part of the team working on the filming of the YouTube broadcasts. At the Museum, Dr. Christina Han and her assistant, John Campbell, have been busy researching, gathering artifacts and exploring themes. Brian Moore of the Brant Historical Society has been researching a way to bring the Italian perspective to his downtown walk. Brant Theatre Workshops is excited to be working with local playwright John Centorrino and Italian actor, Paul Amato on a script for the theatre production.

As well, new this year, there will be a limited series of Covid friendly "Porch Pop Ups" with a musician, comedian and heritage expert along with a meal composed of selections from Brantford's Italian restaurants.

Early this spring, the live event begins with the opening of the display and a live-stream broadcast throughout the event. A series of historical downtown walks follow with a lecture on Italian immigration.

Outside, the afternoon progresses with a taste of the Italian community in Brantford through a selection of curated music and foods. As darkness ascends, the front of the Museum will be transformed into the streets of Italy and then into Brantford avenues with a tale told by the actors of Brant Theatre Workshops in a drive-in style theatre.

Through our combined research/immersion, we have discovered many fascinating industrial heritage links to the construction Industry, food distribution and labour in Brantford's formative factories through its history. Check the CIHC newsletter as we make more exciting announcements in the New Year.



BMGA is an organization that has been active for many years under the umbrella of Brantford's Arts, Culture and Tourism. It consists of representatives from city-funded and independent museums in Brantford, Brant and Six Nations and includes

Glenhyrst Art Gallery and a few independent galleries. Its main purpose has been information and resource sharing and cooperative planning. Recently the City of Brantford contracted for a museum sustainability study to determine the status of each organization. its strengths and weaknesses, with recommendations for sustainability, including the City's role and responsibilities.

The study recommended that BMGA incorporate as a non-profit organization and follow a 5-year plan with funding and support from Brant County and Six Nations as well as the City of Brantford. Its recommendations for each organization and for the City involving the five-year plan includes professional workshops for BMGA members to set professional standards and work together on the plan to develop one voice for the organizations.

The study recognized the importance of recognizing Brantford's industrial history and made strong recommendations to CIHC for action with support and finances through BMGA.

CIHC recognizes the importance of this initiative and plans to vigorously support the "new" BMGA.

The group has already created its Vision and Mission statements which are available on its new website [www.bmga.ca](http://www.bmga.ca)

**TICCIH Conference and Tour:** Nothing new has been reported recently regarding our role with the conference. See the website at <https://ticcih.org>. The international convention will be in Montreal next year on Labour Day weekend.



**Website Committee:** TICCIH Canada Website, <http://ticcihcanada.org/>.

Our summer student Lauren worked on the TICCIH website throughout the summer and completed the interactive map which was moved from the CIHC website – a big job well done!. Further work will be required including creating a new logo.

The Committee plans to apply for a grant to do further work on it and on the **CIHC website**, <https://canadianindustrialheritage.com/> including linking the completed interactive map on the TICCIH Canada site to the CIHC site. Check out the work in progress. (J.F.)



# Changes in Technology Makes Short Shrift of A Local Industry

by Jean Farquharson

Sometimes investment plans do not work out despite careful planning. Unexpected new technology makes methods and materials redundant. Here is an example from Brantford/Brant County that did not work out for local entrepreneurs and investors.



We zero in on our map to Blue Lake in South Dumfries Township. William Dickson, who purchased Block 1 of the Haldimand Tract and brought in settlers to farm, kept an area around this beautiful kettle lake as a picnic area.

About 1900, the serene, pastoral atmosphere at Blue Lake was changed into the clattering, bustling sounds of “progress”, when W.G. Elliott discovered the



marl beds in the bottom of the lake. Marl is a product of photosynthesis made by the blue green algae from calcium carbonate in the water. It is the blue green algae which make the lake such a wonderful colour.

A process of making Portland cement from marl and clay had been developed and Portland Cement plants were springing up in Ontario wherever marl beds were found.

Elliott engaged the help of prominent Brantford entrepreneurs, among them W.S. Wismer, E.L. Goold, Harry Cockshutt, A.A. Bixel, to form the *Ontario Portland Cement Company*, and they advertised for shareholders. By 1901, they had formed the company.





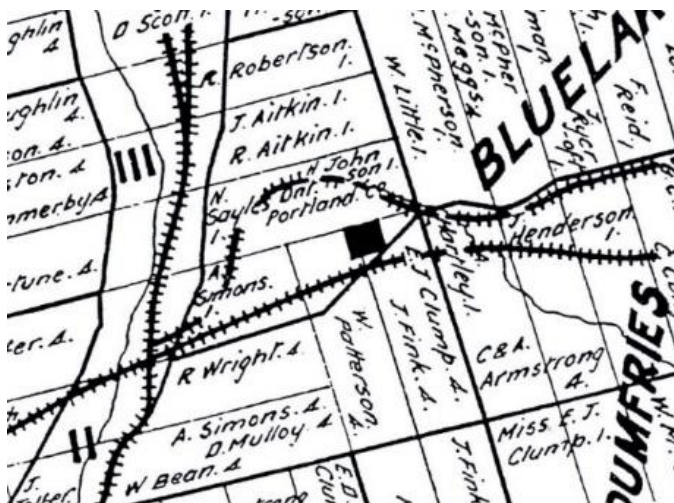
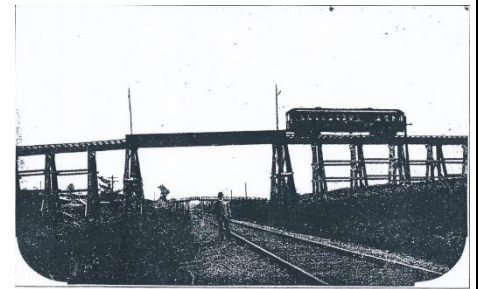
Portland cement which was bagged and shipped out on the railway..

By 1903 the laboratory building also served as the Blue Lake Post Office



Residences were built for the workers who came from as far away as Italy, Armenia, Russia and Bulgaria

In 1904 the Grand Valley Electric Railway which ran from Brantford to Galt ran a spur line about 2 miles long to join up with the main line of the Grand Trunk Railway, which connected by a spur to the plant.



Coal and clay were shipped in and the finished product, Portland cement, was shipped out to markets across the country at competitive rates.



( copy )

THE ONTARIO PORTLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED,  
Profit and Loss Account, Oct. 31, 1908.

By Balance to October 13, 1907 per report Nov. 19, 1907.	\$ 32,587.44
Net Profit for 12 months ending Oct. 31, 1908, after providing for all charges and expenses,	<u>\$ 10,797.53</u>
Balance forward.	\$ 43,384.97

BALANCE SHEET

<u>ASSETS</u>	
Real Estate, Plant, Buildings, etc.,	\$388,305.97
Cash,	552.79
Accounts Receivable,	492.61
Inventory, etc.,	<u>50,339.12</u> \$439,690.49
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable,	<u>\$ 12,705.52</u>
<u>SURPLUS OF ASSETS</u>	<u>\$ 426,984.97</u>
Represented by:	
Capital Stock paid up,	\$ 383,600
Balance at credit of Profit and Loss,.....	<u>43,384.97</u> <u>\$426,984.</u>

Brantford, November 11, 1908.

(sgd) A. K. Bunnell. C.A.  
Auditor.

## PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

October 31, 1908.

Capital Stock was \$383,600. Assets totalled \$439,690.49. The profit for the last year was \$10,797.53. Total profit was \$43,384.97.

It would be a long time before the investment would pay off to investors.

However, the business closed operations on August 15, 1916. Why?

It was said locally that "Blue Lake became too deep and dangerous to mine the marl." However, according to G.R. Guillet's *Marl in Ontario*, competition had something to do with its closure. A new technology had been developed.

According to Guillet, by grinding up limestone and mixing it with clay, a better quality Portland cement could be manufactured more cheaply than by using the process of drying out the marl. 14 plants using marl in Ontario operated between 1889 and 1919, and by 1919 "limestone had completely replaced marl in the

cement industry".

## MEMBERSHIP DUES, DONATIONS AND ITEMS FOR SALE

Readers and members are invited to check our website. Memberships for 2020 are available online for your convenience or you may fill out the form and mail it in. You are welcome to order our books including our three bestsellers, *Merchants Exchange: Ignatius Cockshutt, 1812-1901* and *The Cockshutt Plant News, 1943, and 1944*.

This newsletter is published by Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre, P.O. Box 23055, Brantford, Ontario, Canada N3T 6K4. See our website: [www.canadianindustrialheritage.com](http://www.canadianindustrialheritage.com) Facebook: Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre CIHC. Submissions to our newsletter are welcome and are subject to editing. We are not responsible for errors. Please send submissions or inquiries to [info@canadianindustrialheritage.com](mailto:info@canadianindustrialheritage.com)



# CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE CENTRE

## Membership Form

### Benefits of Membership in the CIHC...

- Participation in the Annual General meeting, and the election of directors.
- Regular updates on our activities through the CIHC Newsletter
- 10% Discount on most Purchases
- Special invitation to all CIHC events

### Your Membership Helps us All...

- Expand and conserve the CIHC collection
- Advocate for the preservation of our extensive industrial heritage
- Promote awareness of the industrial and innovation heritage and its importance to our future and quality of life
- Liase with other national and regional heritage groups

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS -** RENEWAL ☐ NEW ☐ DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 201\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fees category:** Student \$10 ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$25 ☐

Family Member(s) at Same Address \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby consent to receive information by electronic-transmission from CIHC ☐

**Yes !** I would like to make a donation to the CIHC of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations of \$20 or more above membership fees are tax deductible.

Charitable number #861470623RR0001

**Method of payment: -** Cheque ☐ Cash ☐ Paypal ☐

Please Make cheques payable to the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre.

Our mailing address is - P.O. Box 23055, Brantford, ON N3T 6K4

Membership Fees are for the Calendar Year. Those joining after October 1st will be entitled to membership through to the end of the following calendar year.

visit - [www.canadianindustrialheritage.com/membership](http://www.canadianindustrialheritage.com/membership) - To Pay on-line

Are you interested in volunteering with us ? ☐

Areas of interest/comments/suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Information collected on this form is for CIHC membership records only.

20.03.17