



MAY 2022

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

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

And we are proud to be headquartered in Brantford
Our Mailing Address is

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

Please visit our website:

www.canadianindustrialheritage.com

And our Facebook page

facebook.com/CanadianIndustrialHistory

We are also responsible for the

Canadian website of TICCIH

International please visit

www.ticcihcanada.org

Please send any submissions or inquiries to:

info@canadianindustrialheritage.com

CIHC Annual General Meeting

Thank you all for your support for the CIHC. Our AGM for 2021 will be held on June 11, 2022, 7-8:30 pm via Zoom.

There will be two special presentations following the meeting.

We hope to see you all there!

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends of the CIHC,

I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful weather and gatherings with your loved ones and friends. I am writing this report from Seoul, Korea, where I am staying for three weeks on a research trip. A few days ago, I visited a small but innovative museum called *G Valley Industrial Museum*. G Valley is Seoul's new centre of high-tech industry but 70 years ago it was home of South Korea's heavy and light industries. The exhibition space was not big but it was filled with interactive displays, including touch screen digital collection highlights and immersive 3-D movies. I was very much inspired by the museum and brainstormed some ideas for our future Time Office.

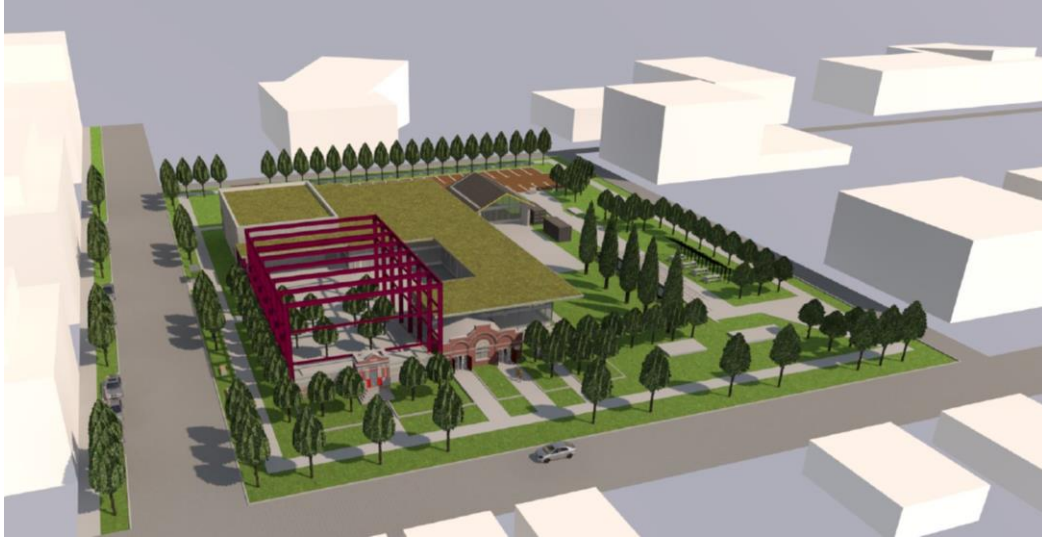


G Valley Industrial Museum (Seoul, Korea)

Left – Exhibition Hall; - Right – Interactive Digital Collection Highlights

Throughout spring, our board members have been working tirelessly on research, programming, and site development. You can read the details of our updates in our newsletter editor's report. One exciting additional update is that we have received a grant from the City of Brantford (\$7,000) to conduct a Social Enterprise Feasibility Study of 66 Mohawk. We have appointed Dave Levac Consulting to provide us with a report outlining potential partners in both private and public sectors we can collaborate with for a sustainable development of our heritage-arts complex, the Time Office.

Below is a new concept drawing of the Time Office created by MMMC.



Our Steering Committee for 66 Mohawk has held regular monthly meetings with the City's Planning Department to help pave the way for the successful development of the site. In the last meeting, our architect Craig Newsome presented the new site plan to the department, and it was very well received. The department is finalizing structural assessment for the Timekeeper's Office and the portico at 66 Mohawk so we can begin much-needed repair and conservation work.

We have received the federal government's **New Horizons for Seniors Program** grant (\$24,900) for our *Roots of Eagle Place Project*. Working in partnership with the **Eagle Place Community Association**, the **Brantford and District Labour Council**, and **Brant Theatre Workshops (BTW)**, we will be producing a series of activities and events that highlight the rich history and culture of Eagle Place. The project will include 1) Publication of an online, open-access, digital archive, 2) Creation of mini-documentaries and podcasts to share the historical memories, 3) Design and installation of a series of public art/story pieces and signage, and 4) Production of the *Eagle Place Family History Guidebook*. We have just formed **Seniors Working Group** and will soon hire and train student researchers for the project.

Our Annual General Meeting for 2021 will be held on June 11, 2022, 7-8:30 pm via Zoom. Following the meeting, there will be two special presentations on our new site plan for 66 Mohawk and our Memories of Brantford Project. We hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,

Christina Han

CIHC Annual General Meeting on June 11, 2022

Our AGM will be held by Zoom on June 11 at 7 p.m. We now have ten Directors, but are allowed by our bylaws to have eleven. Some of our Directors' terms of office have ended. This will be explained in the package that will be sent to members soon. Members will receive formal notice and reports from our Secretary Treasurer soon. If you are a member, please make sure your membership is up-to-date. If you are not a member, but interested in joining CIHC and having a vote, please apply and pay for membership to canadianindustrialheritage.com or use the form. The program which will follow consists of presentations about the *Memories of Eagle Place Project* and a shortened video presentation by Architect Craig Newsome from MMMC of his concept of our plan for 66 Mohawk – it is exciting!

REPORT FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

We have an amazing team of Directors working for you at CIHC! Led by our talented President, Christina Han, they have acquired grants and donations to help us work in several directions! In last month's newsletter, we introduced the Directors and outlined their various skills. Now we will show you how they are applying their skills to build CIHC into a strong working organization as Christina has explained in her report!

Our present goal is to gain access to the 2-acre property at 66 Mohawk to build a centre to reawaken to visitors Brantford's phenomenal industrial past. It will reflect Canada's industrial development. We are meeting regularly with Brantford City Planners to get things done! Our architect has presented the latest concept to them. While we wait, we are doing many other tasks in preparation.

The directors with business and accounting skills are setting us up on a **Strategic Plan**. Now that we have several grants, they are developing a **system of spending, banking and bookkeeping**, and we have a grant to create a **feasibility study** to explore how we can find a way to sustainably finance the Centre.

A generous donation from our Chairman has financed an **engineer's study** to examine the *Cockshutt Time Office* for us to determine its condition and possible future use. We would like to restore it as an entry into the past lives of the factory workers who kept the wheels of industry turning. The City's engineers are also looking at the problem.

The **Website and Social Media Committee** has received grant money and interviewed several website developers, and hired a local one to combine and redevelop our websites into a new, lively, attractive connection to the world to show off our collection of resources, writings, documentaries, interactive maps, oral history, connect with and build our membership, market our publications and other products, and link to other organizations and resources.

We have acquired **Canada Summer Jobs Grants** to hire three students. One will be working on developing a **Virtual Museum** on the website.

Another will begin soon as an **archivist** to help us inventory and catalogue our collection. Our **Research and Collection Committee** is working on examining and cataloguing our scattered collection which is stored in various places, the main part being at the *Waterford Agricultural and Heritage Museum* which has, for several years, generously provided display space and storage of the Cockshutt collection of artifacts including plows and tractors, and a large collection of documents. Another student will work on looking into curriculum and develop an **educational plan** to work with schools and groups.

Our partnership with **Brant Theatre Workshops** will allow us to **dramatize** the lives of the people and groups responsible for Brantford's industrial growth – workers, entrepreneurs, business people, labour unions, inventors, industrialists, politicians, immigrant groups.

We have recently formed a new Committee – **Promotions and Public Relations** – which will include fundraising, newsletters, handouts, communications, events planning, marketing publications, press releases, and connecting with our neighbours, local museums and national and international organizations such as TICCIH related to industrial heritage.

The **Eagle Place Project Committee** has begun to contact local people and organizations to **interview** those from working families who were connected with the huge industries that existed in their neighbourhood. The interviews will be available on the website. Not many of the actual employees are left from the days when such industries as Cockshutt, Massey, Trailmobile, Koering-Waterous flourished in Brantford. We need to act fast! Please pass the word and our Committee will contact them or their families! A **Seniors' Group** has been formed to open communications.

CIHC – RECENT AND COMING EVENTS

Thanks to some of our Directors who have written Reports on our current and future activities:



SOAP BOX DERBY: We were invited by the Brantford Regional Labour Council. to participate with a display at the Annual Soapbox Derby, to be held on ICOMM Drive on International Labour Day May 1st. We went as far as setting up our tent, but didn't unpack our displays because it was pouring rain. The organizing committee postponed the event until Labor Day in September.

The display was used successfully as part of Jane's Walk, and will be saved for later use.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Talks are booked for **Kiwanis Club** and the **Eagle Place Neighbourhood Association** to communicate our concept for 66 Mohawk.

The International Cockshutt Club (ICC): The CIHC was founded in 2002 after the ICC held a huge gathering of 6500 Cockshutt tractor aficionados in Brantford. We still have a close

connection. Rob Adlam has written a report on their recent annual gathering.

International Cockshutt Club Spring Meet in Brantford

by Rob Adlam



The International Cockshutt Club Inc. held their annual Spring Meet in Brantford the weekend of April 29 to May 1 at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Centre. The CIHC has maintained a close relationship with this organization, for obvious reasons, throughout the past twenty years. Since Brantford was the home of the Cockshutt Plow Co. and the numerous business interests of the Cockshutt family dating back to 1831, it was

indeed a special occasion to have the International Cockshutt Club come back to where it all began. The CIHC had a display in the exhibit hall that had the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft Ltd. as its theme. Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft produced wooden fuselages for the Avro Anson trainer aircraft and received many positive comments, with one of the most common being, “I had no idea that Cockshutt produced aircraft components”.



The final evening of the event culminated in a banquet which was attended by several members of the Cockshutt family who maintain a keen interest in Brantford and the heritage of the famous company that bears their name. The banquet was attended by CIHC board members Christina Han, Jean Farquharson, David Neumann, and Rob Adlam. CIHC President Christina Han gave a short presentation to the approximately 100 guests about the CIHC's future plans for our new home at 66 Mohawk St. in Brantford. The presentation incorporated architectural renderings of the concept facility and was well received. Visit www.cockshutt.com for more information about the International Cockshutt Club Inc.

Discovering the Roots of Eagle Place by Peter Muir

The Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre is excited to announce a new heritage program focused on retaining the memories of Eagle Place and its industrial heritage. From the early 1800s to the present day, the history of “Eagle’s Nest Tract” is a fascinating one. Beginning in the early 1800’s factories were constructed for the Cockshutt Plow Company, Koehring Waterous and a variety of other industries. Thousands of their workers made Brantford one of the largest manufacturing centres in Canada.

Many of the families of workers in the factories still have valuable memories of these times and the work done in the industries of the area. We want to collect these and bring them alive.

Working in partnership with CIHC, The Eagle Place Community Association, the Brantford and District Labour Council and Brant Theatre Workshops, we will be producing a series of activities and events to share those memories. Each of our organizations is currently located in Eagle Place.

- Publication of an online, open-access, digital archive
- Creation of mini-documentaries and podcasts to share the historical memories
- Design and installation of a series of public art pieces telling the worker’s stories
- Production and distribution of the Eagle Place Family History Guidebook

Vic Hedden, Tom Duesling, Maude Anderson, Peggy Hutcheson, Irene Mitchell, Freda Fairley, Earl Wheeler, Bob Clement, Bruce Greenslack, Jack Reid, Joe Newton, Bill Rex, Jack Webster, Vern Dettor, Wes Wood, Cy West, Ralph King, Doug Percival ... all of these people have something in common.

They were some of the Cockshutt employees in March of 1945. The women, stood out as tough, devoted and hard working.



Pictured above: Women working at the Canadian Car Foundry Co. in Brantford during the Second World War (1945)

Women war workers of Brantford were enduring unaccustomed surroundings and hard labor with the same grit and humor as their sisters in England. Wearing trim coveralls and with their hair neatly tucked into brightly-colored and becoming turbans, Brantford's women working in munitions factories were at once feminine and efficient.

The Roots of Eagle Place featured prominently in the Eagle Place "Jane's Walk" recently and a presentation was made at 66 Mohawk Street by CIHC Board member, Peter Muir. The committee also made an appearance at the Brantford Kiwanis Club.



During a recent Jane's Walk Peter Muir let the people of Eagle Place know about the future development of 66 Mohawk St.

The working group of *The Roots of Eagle Place* has its "work" cut out for them. But it is a labour of love. Already people are coming out of the woodwork with connections, ideas and a vision for the future.

If you have any leads on workers in the factories of Eagle Place we could use the help. Please contact Sharyl Hudson at shudsonmuir@gmail.com.

CHINESE Community

移民往事

Reported by Peter Muir



Dr. Christina Han interviews Warren Mark at the Oriental Restaurant as Brian Moore gathers stories for his Historical Walk sponsored by The Downtown BIA

The Interviews: Our latest edited video interview features Warren Mark of the Oriental Restaurant and his recollections of growing up Chinese in Brantford. The Mark family have been prominent as both restaurant owners and laundry owners.

MAIN EVENT
SAT 22-OCT-2022

The Downtown Historical Walk: Brian Moore's Walk will take a look at the downtown area and long-gone vestiges of laundries and cafes. The Downtown Business Improvement Area has kindly offered to sponsor the walk this year.

The Museum Exhibit: Dr. Christina Han has been diligently pursuing and researching the community's artifacts and stories. The exhibit will open on October 22, 2022 at the Brant County Museum and Archives

The Play -Tomb Sweeping: The play is set during the Haang San Festival which is known as a day for cleaning up the graves and headstones of one's ancestors. During the festivities, we take a look back at those who came before and paved the way for future and current immigrants from China.

The play is currently being developed at the Brant Theatre Workshops space on Greenwich Street.

FOOTLOCKER by Vince Ball

Reported by Peter Muir



A Japanese Guard, (Brett Miller) threatens Stuart, (Paul Amato) during a PTSD incident in the play *The Footlocker* at the Canadian Military Museum

The Footlocker was **Expositor** reporter, Vince Ball's timely play set during the Second World War and was performed at the Canadian Military Heritage Museum on March 25, 26 and 27 not long after the invasion of Ukraine on February 24th.

His earlier plays — *Doing Our Bit*, *Veteran of Vimy* and *Sisters in Solace* — involved themes from the First World War.

Ball noted that his interest stems from his involvement with the **Great War Centenary Association**, a local charitable organization whose goals include highlighting the community's involvement in the First World War. He said he got source material given to him by another association member, Geoffrey Moyer, who works at the Brantford Public Library, specializing in local history,

"Letters from the front were the words of the soldiers who were over there," he said. "I just fell in love with the stuff."

He said that reading the letters make you feel as though you are with the soldiers. And he wanted to put those letters and memories into a play. *The Footlocker* tells the story of a couple who met prior to the man being sent to defend the British colony of Hong Kong, in case of attack by the Japanese.

Eventually, he gets captured and taken to a prisoner-of-war camp, while his wife worked at the Cockshutt factory in Brantford, making warplanes. Ironically, *Footlocker* connects directly to **Brant Theatre Workshops** next project, *The Roots of Eagle Place* with the setting of the Cockshutt Factory.

"It's a World War Two love story," said Ball. "They had very different experiences during the war, and it examines how couples managed to make their relationship work."

Ball approached **Brant Theatre Workshops** director Peter Muir with the idea for his first play, *Doing Our Bit*. He praised Brant Theatre Workshops' efforts to present works with local community connections.

Bob Ion, President of the **Canadian Military Heritage Museum** met with Muir after the run of the show. He was very encouraged by the success of the piece and the two decided that Brant Theatre Workshop would mount a season of heritage related plays at the museum.

BTW's new **Heritage Stage** premier season begins in 2023 with a version of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. The play will be called *Otto*, after Otto Frank, Anne Frank's father who brought Anne's diaries to the world. Watch for the latest on our website branttheatreworkshops.com.

305 Lost Buildings of Canada

A New Book of interest to Industrial Heritage followers:

by Raymond Biesinger and Alex Bosikovic. (Published by Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton, N.B., 2022).

Some of our members were interested in this new publication. I borrowed a copy from the local public library and decided to include a few words about this interesting pictorial work. Raymond Biesinger is described on the back cover as “an acclaimed Montreal artist whose work has been published in the *New Yorker*, the *Guardian* and *Time Magazine*.” His illustrations are a refreshing change from the usual pictorial work containing old photos of old buildings. Each drawing is boldly stylized to show the characteristics of each building with the descriptive terms of their various styles included in a glossary.

The text, by Alex Bosikovic, the architecture critic for *The Globe & Mail*, includes the dates, designer, and a brief history and description of the building and its various uses over the years, including the present use of the site

Examples include buildings with a variety of uses – churches, hotels, restaurants, factories, office buildings:

- The *T.H. & B. Station* in Hamilton was rebuilt in 1933 and is now the Go Station.
- The *Temple Building*, a ten-story edifice in Toronto, was built in 1897 at Bay and Richmond for the *Canadian Order of Foresters*, a mutual aid society. It contained its own museum of artifacts collected by its leader, Dr. Oronhyatekha, a prominent Mohawk medical doctor from Six Nations on the Grand. A modern office building is now located there.
- *Mercury Mills*, Hamilton, was a large factory established in 1917 to produce hosiery, underwear, etc. by John Penman. It closed in 1955, was demolished 1980.

It would be easy to research and produce a second volume since there are many other interesting lost buildings across Canada which qualify, and some that are still standing have interesting uses, such as **The Pickle Factory**, a canning company that became the very successful **Waterford Agricultural and Heritage Museum**.



In the Town of Paris, one of several very successful **Penman Knitting Mills** is still standing. John Penman was a benevolent, paternal employer and a dedicated Presbyterian. He hired mostly women from Britain with experience on knitting machines. He felt responsible for the women to feel comfortable and respected in the workplace and in the town. He therefore had the knitting mill designed to look stately and ornate with a slate mansard roof and cast iron roof decoration rather than looking like an ordinary workman's factory. This building remains on West River St. and has been converted to apartments. It is a National Historic Site.

Brantford Cordage, was at one time the largest manufacturer of twine in the British Empire, and a significant part of Brantford's industrial past. This historic factory became *The Rope Factory*. This 5,000 sq. ft. space is now a heritage district, home to a premiere event venue, residences and rental spaces for crafts persons.

Your Editor, *Jean Farquharson*

This newsletter is published by Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre, P.O. Box 23055, Brantford, Ontario, Canada N3T 6K4. Mail in a membership or join CIHC by using a credit card on our website: <https://www.canadianindustrialheritage.com>. Keep updated with the latest events on our Facebook page. 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.



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

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

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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 - 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.