



CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL
HERITAGE CENTRE

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Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2023

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 evolution of industry across Canada.

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

See our website:

www.canadianindustrialheritage.com

Facebook:

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

We are responsible for the TICCIH Canada website at www.ticcihcanada.org

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info@canadianindustrialheritage.com

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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year to all members and friends of the CIHC! I hope 2023 will be a year of great health and much happiness for you all.

We have been very busy since the publication of our last newsletter. In this newsletter, you will learn about some of our latest events and projects. In October, we had a greatly successful *Memories of Chinese Community* event. In November, we had a wonderful celebration of our 20th anniversary.

Our directors have been busy with many projects. Rob Adlam has spearheaded a project to request a transfer of ownership of the façade pieces from the Cockshutt and Adams offices, as well as the Esquire Theatre, from the City to the CIHC.

Although there has been a delay, our website will finally launch in February with new features, such as digital archives and virtual exhibits.

Since September 2022, Robert Singleton, a student from Laurier Brantford's History program, has been digitizing our collection of documents. Robert's position is supported by Laurier's Copp Scholars Program through their Centre for the Study of Canada. We have recently hired a new Web Content Coordinator, Kalya Kendall, who will be working hard to develop our web content.

This year we also have a plan to launch a summer camp for school-aged children, working in collaboration with Brant Theatre Workshops. We will also host a virtual symposium on industrial heritage in order to meet our national mandate of representing and promoting industrial heritage across Canada.

Our presentation last week at the Mohawk Lake District Meeting was also very well received. I would like to thank our directors who presented our vision for 66 Mohawk to the residents of Brantford.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their amazing work and tireless dedication.

Please spread the word about our upcoming programs with the people you know.

Sincerely,

Christina

REPORT FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

We are grateful to and proud of our President and all the Directors of CIHC this past year. Together, they have accomplished an amazing variety of activities. CIHC has collaborated with members of Brant Museum and Archives, Brant Theatre Workshops, Waterford Agricultural and Heritage Museum, Paris Museum and Archives, the Canadian Military Heritage Museum, Laurier students, Brantford and District Labour Council, Eagle Place Community Organization, Brant Museum and Galleries Association, TICCIH, National Trust for Canada, the City of Brantford, the County of Brant and many other groups and people.

Many of these activities could not have been accomplished without many grants acquired by our team led by Christina Han and Peter Muir.

In this newsletter, we have a report of several of the major activities.

DID YOU KNOW?



A REBUILT MOSQUITO COMBAT PLANE IS ALMOST READY TO FLY AGAIN AND IT HAS A BRANTFORD CONNECTION

The Windsor Mosquito Bomber Group is working on a long-term project of restoring one of the planes at the Canadian Aviation Museum. It is thought that this is the first rebuilt Mosquito in Canada that will be able to fly.

The plane's history is described on the website: www.canadianaviationmuseum.ca/museum/mosquito-bomber-kb161.

It was tasked to drop a pattern of Target Indicator flares. On returning from the mission, it was found that one flare had not dropped correctly and was lodged in the bomb-bay. It ignited and caught fire to the belly of the aircraft. F/O Woollard was able to bail out with the help of Pilot Lewis, who was himself not able to escape. The aircraft soon crashed. KB161 had also become the first Canadian-built Mosquito to be destroyed in Bomber Command service. In 1976, excavations by the Anglian Aeronautical Preservation Society recovered remains of the aircraft, including part of the wooden frame, one engine and an armoured seat.

According to a friend of mine, Tim Hyland, who is a member of the group rebuilding the plane, members have acquired parts from other collectors and groups around the world. For instance one of their members, on a trip out West, discovered and purchased two brand new engines in their original crates from a farmer who had them stored in his barn for many years.

The team is assembling the plane at the Canadian Aviation Museum in Windsor. Tim reports that final inspections are being made before the group launches the restored aircraft. Watch for announcements of the event.

What Is This Plane's Relationship With Brantford?

The Mosquito combat aircraft was one of the few operational front-line aircraft of the World War II era to be constructed almost entirely of wood and, was nicknamed "The Wooden Wonder".

The original Mosquito KB16 was a Mosquito Mk XX manufactured by de Havilland's Canadian subsidiary in Downsview, Ontario. The wooden parts were made for de Havilland at the Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft Plant on Mohawk St. in Brantford.. The plant was especially constructed during World War II for this project and the building is still in use. The wings were made in the Weston plan of Massey Harris.



Many women worked in the Moulded Aircraft Plant during the War. Some of them came from the Maritimes or the western parts of Canada, and boarded at local homes in Brantford. Their stories are told in *The Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft News*, which is included in the *Cockshutt Plant News*, one of CIHC's publications.

CIHC's current project, *Roots of Eagle Place*, to be completed in 2023, includes interviews with family members of Eagle Place who can tell stories about those who were employed at the plant. See our new website for details - <https://canadianindustrialheritage.com>. The first visual display on the website will feature the Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft Plant.



BRANTFORD'S IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES BROUGHT TO LIFE AGAIN



Immigrant Memories of Brantford committee members Peter Muir (left), Bill Darfler, Christina Han, Jack Jackowitz, Sharyl Hudson and Brian Moore are ready to continue the series on Oct. 22 with a focus on the Chinese community. *BRIAN THOMPSON*

Photo Courtesy Brantford Expositor

Every year since 2018, members representing Brant Theatre Workshops, Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre, Laurier Brantford, and Brant Museum and Archives have produced an event to portray a different immigrant group that helped build the City of Brantford. There were more countries represented by immigrants in Brantford than anywhere else in Canada. The team's projects include a website: <https://memoriesofbrantford.ca>

Our Latest Event: Chinese Immigrants to Brantford

Using a vast resource of materials, the group began research into the Chinese immigrant community by conducting 10 video interviews of the memories of immigrants and their families. Archives in the museum were searched through and

the planning for activities commenced. Brant Theatre Workshops began workshops of its play, Brian Moore created a script for his walking tour and Dr. Christina Han worked with associates and students at Laurier and the Brant Museum to fill out the immigrant story with artifacts and exhibits. In the end they produced a feature exhibit at the Brant Museum, "Laundries, Chopsticks, Medicine" with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony and a walking tour, held a concert performed by Grand River Chinese Orchestra, enjoyed a delicious Chinese takeout dinner courtesy of the Mark family at the Oriental Restaurant, showed a video of interviews made by Brant Theatre Workshops, presented (by Dr. Christina Han) research about Brantford's Chinese immigrants, and performed the original play, "Tomb Sweeping."

Memories of Brantford's Chinese Communities Mini-Documentaries

Brantford's first Chinese immigrant arrived in 1885. Within two years, another Chinese immigrant would arrive in Brantford with the intention of opening a laundry service on Market Street. By 1921, Brantford's Chinese population had grown to 140. You can view our video collection of memories from Chinese Elders (and families) about immigrating into Brantford: <https://vimeo.com/channels/chinesecommunity>

(Click captions to access interviews below)

[Hunter Liao, the president of the Chinese Association of Brantford talks about a recent immigration](#)



[Warren Mark of the Oriental Restaurant remembers his time working in the restaurant and coming to Brantford](#)

[Helen and Henry Mark talk about going to school and growing up in Brantford.](#)



The day's event began on October 22nd at the Brant Museum and Archives with an official opening Ceremony, walking tours and a curated display



Laundries, Chopsticks, Medicine is an exhibit that highlights the Chinese community, past and present, of Brantford. It focuses on three main areas in which the Chinese community has been active, the operation of laundries, restaurants, and a very influential doctor, Dr. Thomas Chiang.



Members of the Grand River Chinese Orchestra entertained in the Laurier Academic Centre.

The day's event concluded at Laurier with a welcome, lecture and play. The original play, **Tomb Sweeping** created by Nicole Ao, Christina Han, Brett Miller, Peter Muir, Mari Reeve-Newson, Hao Pan, and Joshua Yang with dramaturgy by Sharyl Hudson and Stage Management by Cole Hill.



CIHC CELEBRATES ITS 20TH YEAR SINCE ITS FOUNDING



Rob Adlam 's display of the Adam's Wagon greeted guests at the Canadian Military Heritage Museum where we held the celebration on November 6, 2022



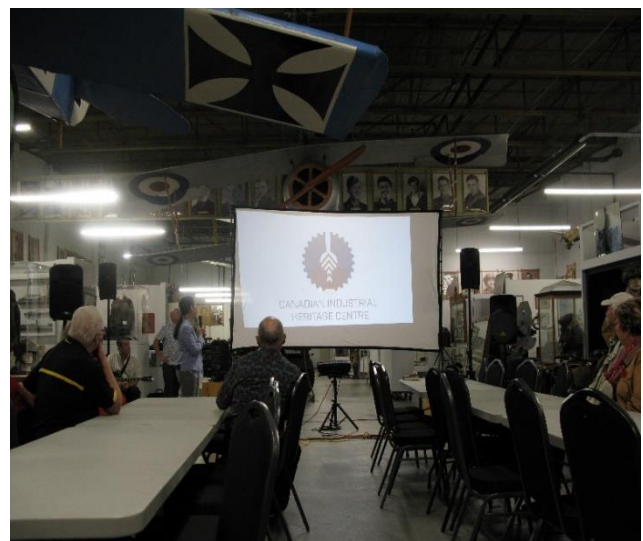
Musical entertainment from Johnny Cash in Eagle Place.



John Tench, from Murdoch Mysteries acts as MC.



Free Plowman's Lunch



Unveiling our New Logo

ROOTS OF EAGLE PLACE PROJECT

Snippets

by Sharyl Hudson

Pictured is the original Verity Works factory steam whistle



The Roots of Eagle Place interviews are off to the races! We recently had a fascinating visit with Brantford resident and former Massey Ferguson employee, Wayne Disher. Wayne worked as a plumber/pipe fitter at the Greenwich Street plant from 1970 to 1988. By then, Massey's well paying, steady employment which had contributed to Brantford's economic growth was in steady decline. Yet Wayne described his time at Massey with fondness, humour *and*, dare we say, nostalgia. Here's a "snippet" of the interview:

"The Verity works was the only plant in Canada that ran 100 psi steam to all overhead heaters and radiators. The rare time a heater could not be repaired, a new one would be custom made with extra heavy tubing to stand up to the pressure. I used to think how long would it be until someone gets seriously burned. The reason was they would sometimes get hit by tow motors when stacking parts and boxes in the low alleyway. Fortunately, no one ever got burned (to my knowledge).

The plant was heated by oil fired boilers or natural gas, whatever was most economical. I was told the November bill for natural gas was \$57,000. There were three boilers and maybe eight compressors in the powerhouse, also a very antique fire pump made in Buffalo. The brass inscription on it said it would provide five hoses with 'good streams of water'. We tried it out one day with five fire hoses on a

steel table, with everything anchored down. It took about 10 minutes for the steam to start operating then true to the plaque, it delivered."

A pleasant surprise at the end of the interview ... Wayne presented the original Massey steam whistle hanging on his basement wall.

COMING EVENTS:

We are continuing the Roots of Eagle Place project, with a spring activity to be announced soon.

We hope to have a summer camp for children, with details to be worked out.

This year's annual project in collaboration with Brant Theatre Workshops, CIHC, Laurier and Brant Museum and Archives is **MEMORIES OF BRANTFORD'S UKRAINIAN IMMIGRANTS**.

Watch for further announcements for future plans.



Ukrainian Community
Українська громада

Preview event
Saturday 25-March-2023
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Brantford Slavic Full Gospel Church
70 Superior Street

Live Theatre Cuisine Exhibit Music

Watch for our main event in September

For updates visit memoriesofbrantford.ca
For tickets visit branttheatre.com/memories



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This newsletter is published by Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre, P.O. Box 23055, Brantford, Ontario, Canada N3T 6K4.

Mail in a membership by using the attached form 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



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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
- Liaise with other national and regional heritage groups

MEMBERSHIP STATUS - **RENEWAL** ☐ **NEW** ☐ **DATE:** ____ / ____ /202__

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** ☐ **OnLine** ☐

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.