



SEPTEMBER 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.

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See our website:

www.canadianindustrialheritage.com

Facebook:

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

We are responsible for the TICCIH Canada website at

www.ticcihcanada.org

Please send submissions or inquiries to:

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FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Events are happening quickly! Our President John Kneale is on the mend after intensive surgery, and in his last report he is setting a distance record with his walker. We wish him well and will be glad to see him return. Meantime Don Harris has capably taken over his role, and our Directors are working intensely on various committees which you will read about.

News Flash! We are working with the City of Brantford for 66 Mohawk St. to lease the land for developing the long-planned interpretive centre for Brantford's impressive industrial history. The city's lawyer is working on incorporating into the lease the terms of the *Certificate of Property Use* from the Ministry of the Environment before it goes to our lawyer. We have set dates to hold planning meetings soon with the architect, and we are working on grant applications to fund an outdoor covered performance theatre in the park to be shared with many other groups. The Facilities Committee has been working with our prospective neighbours to plan shared parking.

The CoVid19 virus situation has put us in a quandary. The Directors must decide whether to hold a virtual annual meeting or a live one. We prefer to hold a live AGM because once the lease is signed, we want to kick-off a series of activities with working committees for fundraising, membership, and programs. Another newsletter will precede the meeting.

The Museum Sustainability Report commissioned by the City of Brantford is going to Council this month. It recommends that the Brant Museum and Galleries Association be restructured more formally and be expanded to include funding and support from Brant County and the Six Nations and include their heritage organizations. Then we can all speak with one strong voice to negotiate with them for the benefit of all. Council will decide at the end of September whether to fund and plan workshops to implement the recommendations.

We are going to need lots of help from volunteers and supporters, Please join us: renew your membership and volunteer.

Jean Farquharson, editor

The Facility Committee

Here is an article written by Peter Muir, a Facility Committee member from Brant Theatre Workshops. Directors Christina Han and Bill Darfler represent CIHC on the Facility Committee. Peter Muir and Gerry Lafleur officially represent Brant Theatre Workshops to develop a plan to partner on the project at 66 Mohawk St.

News from the Time Office By Peter Muir

I am working on a time machine. It is situated at 66 Mohawk Street. In the present all you can see are the portico of the old Timekeeper's Office and remnants of the old office building struggling to fend off the weeds and trees in a fenced-off vacant lot. This is the present condition of this heritage property in this time.



Today, the Boards of the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre and Brant Theatre Workshops have been working together to preserve and breathe life into this neglected sliver of our industrial history, ravished by time and fire.

There have been a lot of years of advocacy to protect this history. As Bill Darfler says *"We're standing on the shoulders of giants!"*

Today, Bill, Christina Han, Gerry Lafleur and myself are carrying that torch with the support of the CIHC and BTW boards. We are the Facility Committee.

Let's take a trip back in time to 2013. At that time, City Council, after much advocacy and discussion, agreed to offer a lease to the CIHC for the existing building and two acres of land surrounding it once the brownfield cleanup of the Mohawk-Greenwich lands was completed.

"...this building represents a remnant that has, and continues to be, erased from our collective heritage memory. Tens of thousands of individuals worked in industries throughout Brantford and brought the City national significance. We must strive to make this a showcase that honours them and their contributions. What they did here must not be forgotten" -Rob Adlam, Former President of CIHC.

Fast forward to 2019 when expressions of interest in the land were requested by City Council with accompanying maps identifying the 2-acre CIHC site. Both CIHC and Brant Theatre Workshops were interested in locating in the Greenwich Mohawk area.

At the time, Brant Theatre Workshops and the CIHC were actively involved in a partnership to create the "Memories" program, with our first subject being the Jewish Community. This created a very successful working relationship between this heritage and cultural group. Sitting together in the Charlie Ward Room at City Hall, Bill Darfler and I realized that we were also in a

unique position to partner on a facility at 66 Mohawk since BTW currently rents a 1,200 foot Office/Rehearsal Space. Check out our website at branttheatre.com for our latest programming. We could do so much more together.

In 2019 both Boards met and a committee was struck with equal representation from both groups to move the facility forward. While no work could be done on the site since the Ministry of the Environment had to approve a Record of Site Condition, the Facility committee met regularly to make plans once the City had received approval.


Moving into 2020, we continue to meet with MMMC Architects on an outdoor amphitheatre to accommodate summer performances in the Park area. We have applied for and received support from Enterprise Brant to begin legal and architectural work on the project.

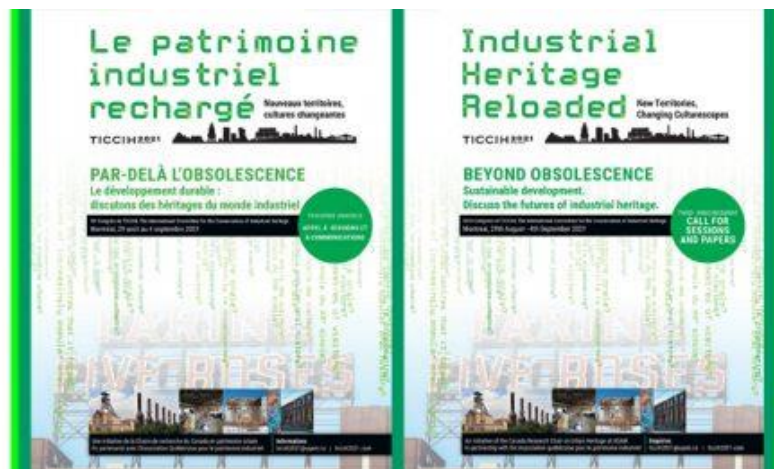
Looking into the future, we envision a space that is an active nexus of Cultural and Heritage groups working together to and offer engaging artistic and educational programming for all ages in an environment steeped in our industrial heritage.

After many years of deliberation, it is looking likely. During the last meeting of the City's Mohawk Greenwich working group, the record of site Condition has been received and the City solicitor will be offering a lease to the CIHC for the property.

We will keep sharing the news as we enter into the next stage. The Facility Committee is now working on the business plan as the Time Office travels into 2021 and beyond!

TICCIH Conference and Tour:

TICCIH  TICCIH is **The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage**, and CIHC has been linked with this organization for several years when we took on managing TICCIH Canada, which has never been very active. We were given funding to set up a TICCIH Canada website to help tie together the many organizations across Canada that relate to industrial history.



The website project has been expedited because TICCIH will be holding its annual world conference in Montreal next September, and we want to build up the Canadian website <http://ticcihcanada.org/>

We were also asked by TICCIH Conference organizers to help develop a post-Conference bus tour of Ontario industrial history sites for attendees. We expect to be working on that soon.

TICCIH Canada Website

This year, in February, we formed a Website Committee consisting of Directors Christina Han, Don Harris, Jean Farquharson, and David Wright, and we decided to apply for a summer grant to employ a student to help us develop the TICCIH Canada website. We received the grant in late June.

Our student Lauren Holmes (M.A. in history) has been working for us from her home from early July and will continue into September. Christina has been the project manager, and David Wright is our website administrator. Both have been working with Lauren, training her to work on an interactive map of sites across Canada that relate to industrial history. This map had already been started years ago on the CIHC web site and was transferred to the TICCIH Canada site. Lauren was required to check each link to find out whether it was still active, and to add new links. Before Lauren came on the scene all the Committee members assembled a list of resources, and each of us also worked on finding other sites online across Canada that relate to industrial history. Check out the work in progress at <http://ticcihcanada.org/>

The Italian Community Project

Last year an Ad Hoc Committee was formed including Christina Han, Bill Darfler, Peter Muir, Brant Theatre Workshops, Brantford Public Library, Brant County Museum and Archives, Laurier University and other organizations to do research and put on a day of activities at Laurier about the Jewish people of Brantford (the Memories of Brantford's Jewish Community event). It was a great success as was reported in the last newsletter. The committee has grown and have decided to continue this work on a new similar project relating to the Italian community of Brantford. CIHC is most interested in their contribution to local industries.

The group is currently fundraising and Jack Jackowitz, John Campbell and Peter Muir have been successfully interviewing people on tape to gather their research. These tapes will be deposited at the Brant County Museum. The next event, "Memories of Brantford's Italian Community" will take place in April of 2021.

Report on Public Art Project

by Acting President Don Harris

Some years ago Rob Adlam, a former President of CIHC asked the City of Brantford Council if on behalf of CIHC he could visit the site of the Massey (Verity) foundry that was about to be demolished. He pursued this opportunity and rescued numerous pieces including moulds, ladles and other paraphernalia associated with the casting of iron and steel parts used in farm implements manufactured here in Brantford.

These pieces sat in Rob's barn for several years until the City of Brantford acquired the former Federal Building that included the former Post Office for use as the new City Hall. Rob at that time conceived of the idea of having a work of art constructed that would encompass some of these artifacts and hang in the new City Hall as a testament to the first foundry that stood on this site as well as to those that followed.



Rob approached the Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant's director, Ana Olson, who then submitted a proposal to the City of Brantford's Public Art Committee. The City of Brantford agreed to fund the program and further support came from the Samuel W. Stedman Foundation. A Call for Artists was issued and there were nine responses from artists from across Ontario and as far away as Montreal.

The Jury was comprised of representatives from Glenhyrst Art Gallery Board of Directors, the City of Brantford Public Art Committee, the City of Brantford representative, Mayor Kevin Davis, a Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre representative and a public citizen. The jury includes stakeholders, artists, and cultural

professionals. City of Brantford and Glenhyrst staff, were involved as non-voting members and along with Rob Adlam participated in an advisory capacity.

A Phase 1 judging process took place and the original nine submissions were narrowed down to three. These three artists were given the opportunity to submit more detailed presentations and answer certain questions related to the criteria included in the original Call For Artists. When the Jury met once again, a design submitted by Jane Bowen, an artist from Elora was the unanimous choice of the Jury. "We are thrilled with the selection of Jane's work, and look forward to welcoming a new piece of public art downtown that speaks about our heritage" said Ana Olson, director of Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant as published in the Brantford Expositor. It is expected that this new work of art will be installed in April of 2021.

Rotary Snow Plows

By Michael O'Byrne, Director and VP, CIHC

Note: We invite readers to submit articles like this on Canada's industrial heritage

Snow is great if you are a penguin, husky or polar bear, but not so great if you are operating a railroad in areas where significant accumulations of snow are experienced. Initial attempts to cope with snow clearing saw snowplows attached to the front of the locomotive. If their snow accumulation was modest, these early plows could cope and today, some diesel locomotives are so equipped. Major snowfalls required more formidable apparatus and a variety of plows were tried such as the Buckner plow introduced in 1866. The Buckner was a wedge-shaped item mounted on two railroad trucks and pushed by any number of steam locomotives. The problems with the Buckner and similar designs were that it frequently was necessary to use several locomotives to push the plow, that the units stalled frequently and that they could not clear areas immediately adjacent to the track.

Enter Mr. Orange Jull, a flour mill owner in Orangeville, Ontario. While some American individuals had toyed with the concept of a rotary machine, Jull worked on a design based on a revolving fan mounted on a railcar

which was pushed by a locomotive and threw the snow to one side. Jull approached the Leslie Brothers who operated a machine shop in Orangeville. Jull's design incorporated a cutting wheel rotating at high speed placed in front of a revolving fan wheel. The cutting wheel sliced the snow in front of the plow and passed it to the fan wheel which discharged the snow to one side.



Jull obtained Canadian and American patents for his design and in 1884 the Leslie Brothers assembled the prototype on a C.P.R. flatcar. The winter of 1884 was over before the unit could be tested, but CPR obliged by filling a rail cut at

Parkdale, Toronto, with snow. Based on the trial run, the Leslies re-designed the fan wheel so that it could revolve in either direction thus blowing the snow to the left or right. Not wanting to be captive to the CPR, arrangements were made for the Cooke Locomotive and Machine Works of Paterson, New Jersey to build a unit that was completed in 1885. From the start the rotary plow was highly successful and examples were purchased by a number of railroads. The CPR had eight units built under license.

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 online, including our three bestsellers, *Merchants Exchange: Ignatius Cockshutt, 1812-1901* and *The Cockshutt Plant News, 1943*, and *1944*. Mike Hand's books are also available.

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