PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



# Peterborough Historical Society Bulletin

Issue 453 January 2019

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## Peterborough Historical Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, January 15
Hajni Hos,
"The New Canadian Centre
and Diversity
in Peterborough."

Tuesday, February 19
Su Ditta,
"Punching Above Our
Weight: Contemporary Arts
Practice in
Peterborough."

#### **Hutchison House Events**

Distaff Day Sunday, January 13 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

#### PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The monthly meetings and lectures are on the third Tuesday of the month: September, October, November, January, February, March and May at 7:30 p.m., Lion's Community Centre, 347 Burnham Street. Note that we have returned to the Lion's Centre for the 2018-2019 season.

## "THE NEW CANADIAN CENTRE AND DIVERSITY IN PETERBOROUGH"

Tuesday, 15 January 2019, Lion's Community Centre, 347 Burnham Street, 7:30 p.m.

Issues of immigration are very much in the news today, whether immigrants are refugees, economic migrants or reunited family members. **Hajni Hos**, Executive Director of the New Canadian Centre, will explain the history and work of the Centre and its contribution to the increasing diversity of the region. The history of Peterborough, like that of Canada writ large, is rooted in the stories of migrants. In the decades since the Second World War, many migrants have come from more diverse regions of the world. In Peterborough, the New Canadian Centre reflects the recent evolution of newcomers.



Hajni Hos at the New Canadians Centre

#### PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

You can now register to attend the forthcoming conference on the history and current state of public health in Peterborough, the Kawarthas and Ontario! The date is **Saturday**, **9 February 2019**. The program is on page 3, and a registration form is attached/enclosed. The PHS has partnered with Peterborough Public Health to organize this conference as part of the celebrations of 130 years of a permanent Board of Health in Peterborough. **Register now to avoid last-minute higher fees, and join the exploration of public health in Peterborough's past and present.** 

#### From the President ...

#### **Dale Standen**

In the previous *Bulletin*, I looked ahead to the exciting roster of monthly speakers in the Society's winter and spring meeting schedule. As we enter the new year, I am looking back and reflecting upon the essential contribution that volunteers make to our Society, whether organizing and executing its events, serving on the Board of Directors and its committees, or maintaining Hutchison House Museum and sustaining its educational programs and fundraising events.



In 2018, one of our long-serving volunteers, Kathy Hooke, retired from her position on the Board of Directors. Kathy exemplifies people who have a keen interest in local history and an innate commitment to community. Like many volunteers, Kathy contributes to several worthy endeavours of which the PHS is only one. She is a native of the County, having grown up on a farm north of Lakefield, and after several years away for her post-secondary education and early years of marriage, returned to Peterborough with her forester husband, Hal, when he took up the position of Director of Part-time Studies at Trent University in its early years.

Kathy's extended family were early cottagers on Stoney Lake, the history of which attracted in Kathy an abiding passion, and provided the subject of an Occasional Paper that she wrote for the Society. Her broad interest in Peterborough's history connected her to an extensive network of like-minded citizens, which she drew upon for many years as Chair of the Speakers' Committee to offer fascinating lectures in the Society's monthly meetings. She has organized heritage bus tours and Trent Canal cruises.

The Canadian Canoe Museum has also benefitted from Kathy's interest and volunteer support. One of her uncles was George M. Douglas, the intrepid adventurer who prospected the Coppermine River in the Northwest Territories by canoe in 1911-12. Douglas owned a farm next to that of Kathy's family north of Lakefield. In addition to serving for a period on the Canoe Museum's Board, Kathy has provided the museum with valuable research and rich records, photographs, artifacts and canoes relating to Douglas's explorations.

So thank you very much, Kathy, for all that you have contributed to the preservation of our community's history, and for inspiring others to do the same. And thank you to all our volunteers, newcomers and long-time residents alike, who share the excitement, interest and pleasure in helping us engage in the richness of our past.



Kathy Hooke examines her historical records and photos





### Back to the Future: 130 years of Public Health in the Kawarthas Saturday, 9 February 2019

A Conference of the Peterborough Historical Society and Peterborough Public Health At Peterborough Public Health, 185 King Street, Peterborough, ON K9J 2R8

#### **PROGRAM**

#### 8:30-9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION

- 9:00-9:15 Land Acknowledgement (Dr. Rosana Salvaterra, Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough). Welcome to Treaty 20 (PPH Board Chair – Councillor Kathryn Wilson, Hiawatha First Nation). Opening remarks (Invited: MP, MPP, Warden, Mayor).
- 9:15-11:40 Presentations: Moderator Professor Kristi Buccieri, Trent University.
- **9:20-10:00** "Building Public Health in Peterborough 1850-1920." Dale Standen (Professor Emeritus, Trent University).
- 10:00-10:40 "Indigenous Healing and Medicine: the Case of Diabetes." Edna Manitowabi (Elder Odawa/Ojibway from Wikwemikong; Head Woman, Eastern Doorway of the Three Fires Midewewin Lodge; Professor Emeritus, Indigenous Studies, Trent University).

#### **BREAK**

- 11:00-11:40 "The Role of Vaccines in the Eradication of Polio." Dr. Gary Humphreys (Past Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough City and County).
- 12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch and Displays
- 1:00-1:40 Keynote Speaker: "Inventing a Public for Ontario's Public Health, 1882-85." Professor Kenton Kroker (Department of Science and Technology Studies, York University). Introduction by Professor Kevin Siena, Trent University.
- 1:40-4:00 Presentations: Moderator: Brittany Cadence, Manager of Communications & IT, PPH.
- 1:50-2:30 "Great Lakes Governance, Environmental Protection and Public Health." Professor Jamie Benidickson (Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa).

#### BREAK

- 2:40-3:20 "The Contribution of Nursing to Public Health." Dr. Kirsten Woodend (Dean, Trent/Fleming School of Nursing).
- **3:20-4:00** "The Role of Women in Health Protection: Pasteurization of Milk and the Women's Institute." Dr. Rosana Salvaterra (Medical Officer of Health) in conversation with Beryl Harris (Selwyn Women's Institute).
- **4:00-4:45** Closing Address: "The Future of Local Public Health." Dr. Peter Donnelly (President and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Ontario).
- 5:00-6:00 Closing Ceremonies and Reception (Atrium).
- [Note: Conference fees and payment options are outlined in the enclosed/attached Registration Form.]

## **Hutchison House Report**

### **Gale Fewings**

The month of December 2018 at Hutchison House was anything but quiet. It began with the Volunteer's Christmas Market at the end of November and seemed to escalate from there. Our Heritage Luncheon the first week of December was practically filled to capacity. The two back-to-back special events on December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, hosted by volunteers Linda Chandler, Loretta Terry, Carol Marsland, Juli Hiller, Paul Lumsden, Don Willcock and Bob Laing, were shared by sold-out crowds on both days.



Our newest venture, "A Victorian Christmas for Kids", which took place on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, was very well attended by families that included grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles, and most of all, lots of very sweet young children. It was so much fun to watch the children so full of excitement. They enjoyed Christmas stories on the top floor, tours of the museum on the main floor, gingerbread cookies and apple cider in the keeping room, crafts, and calling Santa's workshop directly via an old rotary phone. On behalf of myself and of Erin, many thanks to Doreen Jones, Marilyn MacNaughton, Heather Barker, Lois Scott, Juli Hiller, Skylar Gibeault, Rachel Baker, and Josh Fewings (aka Santa) for helping us make the afternoon such a rousing success. I'm sure we'll add it to our calendar of events for next December.

By the time members of the Society read this edition of the Bulletin, our Hogmanay New Year's celebration will have come and gone and the year 2019 will be upon us. In previous years throughout the month of January, we took part in the annual Snofest activities in Peterborough. Snofest, however, seems to be going through a time of change that does not include any of our local organizations at this time.

I've often heard it said that "when one door closes another one opens". In early December, a member of the Peterborough Weavers & Spinners Guild contacted us asking if Hutchison House would be interested in hosting a Distaff Day event with members of the Guild on hand with their spinning wheels and other fibre activities to demonstrate and share their craft.

According to Wikipedia, **Distaff Day**, also called **Roc Day**, is January 7<sup>th</sup>, the day after the feast of the Epiphany. It is also known as **Saint Distaff's Day**, and is one of the many unofficial holidays in Catholic nations.

Many St. Distaff's Day gatherings, large and small, take place throughout local fibre communities. The distaff, or rock, used in spinning was the medieval symbol of women's work.

In many European cultural traditions, women resumed their household work after the twelve days of Christmas. Women of all classes would spend their evenings spinning on the wheel. During the day, they would carry a drop spindle with them. Spinning was the only means of turning raw wool, cotton or flax into thread, which could then be woven into cloth.

Some modern craft groups have taken up the celebration of Distaff day as part of their New Year celebrations.

Since we wanted to hold the event on a Sunday, we've opted to host our Distaff Day on Sunday, January 13, 2019 from 12:00 – 3:00 pm. Members of the Guild are most interested in showing the community what their fibre craft is all about. Hutchison House will charge an admission fee of \$5 for adults and \$2 for school-

aged children; youngsters under 5 years are free.



Christmas at Hutchison House - children calling Santa



Christmas at Hutchison House - craft time

Christmas at Hutchison House
- Christmas Market Volunteers



Christmas at Hutchison House - carolers Linda Kathy, Annie



#### **PETERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Phone: 705-740-2600 info@peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

#### **Hutchison House** Museum

270 Brock Street Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P9

Phone 705-743-9710 info@hutchisonhouse.ca

> Websites: hutchisonhouse.ca

peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

The Bulletin Editor: Jodi Aoki Publisher: Marilyn MacNaughton

Bulletin (ISSN 1484-5983)

## Voices from Peterborough's Past

These are truly voices from the past! Nowadays we expect to see celebrity musicians perform in major metropolitan centres but in mid-twentieth century in the age of the big band orchestras, big names still regularly toured the smaller cities as a regular part of making a living. This ad and article in the *Peterborough Weekly Review* in 1949 announces a one-off performance of the great Duke Ellington in June. In September, Club Aragon featured Artie Shaw. The following year Peterborians could dance in February to the orchestra of Gene Krupa, and throughout the summer successively to the orchestras of Benny Goodman, Les Brown and Woody Herman. The hosting venues were the Brock Ballroom, Club Aragon and Summer Gardens.

Thanks to PHS member Ken Brown for these references.



Duke Ellington ad and article 1949

One of the most famous dance lastest efforts are "Lady of the bands in America, Duke Ellington and his orchestra, will play a onenight stand at Club Aragon this Saturday night, June 4.

This is the first time the "bigname" band has come to Peterboro and Jack Wineberg, manager of Club Aragon, is very proud of the fact that he was able to line up the Duke for this Saturday night.

The celebrated band leader, who is equally famous as a composer, will put on a three hour show featuring many of his celebrated compositions. Among Ellington's obtained at TEM.

Lavender Mist," the two part "Symphomaniac," a satire on the Whiteman era and the "atonal extravagances" of 1949, "On a Turquoise Cloud" and many other latest hits.

Ellington will feature a number of artists including the beautiful Kay Davis, sensational vocalist. Al Killian will give out with his piercing trumpet and Al Hibbler's singing will also be heard throughout the evening.

Tickets at \$1.75 each may be