



# YEAR IN REVIEW



World Congress  
of Business History

HartHouse

## CANADIAN BUSINESS HISTORY ASSOCIATION

2025-2026 EDITION

[WWW.CBHA.CA](http://WWW.CBHA.CA)

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# ABOUT US

The Canadian Business History Association is a community of scholars, archivists, students, professionals, and business leaders dedicated to advancing the study, preservation, and promotion of business history in Canada.

# OUR MISSION



**PRESERVE**



**PRESENT**



**ENGAGE**

We aim to encourage more studies of Canadian enterprise, help build and maintain well-structured open business archives, provide a forum for business historians and professionals to connect, and encourage research projects on relevant subjects via resources and funding.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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The CBHA Board is so excited for the release of this inaugural issue of our annual magazine! Our Executive Director Dr. Joanne Archibald and summer intern Stefanie Ezra Samosir were instrumental in its production – a big thanks to both.

It has been a year of transformation for our organization. Our founding President, Joe Martin, stepped down from the board. Joe was pivotal in the formation of the CBHA over a decade ago. Through his leadership, Joe has helped institutionalize the study of business history in Canada.

The year before Joe's departure, Professor Dimitry Anastakis stepped down as Chair. Like Joe, Dimitry has been at the heart of the CBHA since the beginning. He brought both scholarly rigour and steady hands during a period of change. The CBHA bears the imprint of both. Andrew Ross has succeeded Dimitry as Chair. Andrew led a fantastic Board Retreat in February 2026, culminating in a new Five-Year Plan. It leverages the foundation laid by the 2021 Five-Year Plan and all the learnings since. Andrew brings with him passion, vision and execution, which will translate to an exciting chapter ahead.

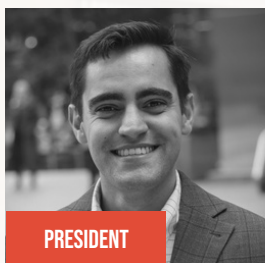
Earlier this year we also bid farewell to outgoing Executive Director Steven Bright, and welcomed Dr. Joanne Archibald to the role. Joanne hit the ground running. Notably, she provided crucial support to Dimitry who helped lead the complex task of convening the World Congress of Business History in Toronto this summer. A true feat, and the CBHA was delighted to play a supporting role.

Finally, we mourn Red Wilson, a devoted Canadian, accomplished business and public service leader and generous philanthropist who passed away on February 9. His conviction that Canada's business history deserves to be studied, taught and celebrated fundamentally shaped this organization.

If you believe in our mission, please consider the CBHA in your giving plans this year. There has never been a better time to support the study of Canadian business history.



**RYAN MANUCHA**

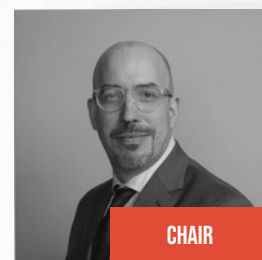


PRESIDENT

RYAN MANUCHA

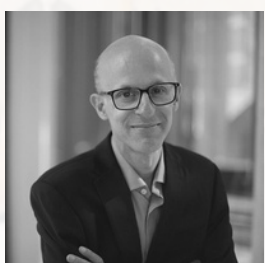
**Ryan Manucha** is a leading expert on interprovincial trade in Canada, frequently advising governments and agencies. His work has appeared in leading Canadian legal journals, national media, and think-tank reports. His book, *Booze, Cigarettes and Constitutional Dust-Ups: Canada's Quest for Interprovincial Free Trade*, won the Donner Prize and was a finalist for the Balsillie Prize for Public Policy.

A founding director of the CBHA, **J. Andrew Ross** has been Chair since 2025. He is currently Director of Research Support at Library and Archives Canada, and a former government records archivist. He completed an M.A. thesis on the Heintzman Piano Company and his doctoral dissertation (University of Western Ontario) was published as *Joining the Clubs: The Business of the National Hockey League to 1945* (Syracuse, 2015).



CHAIR

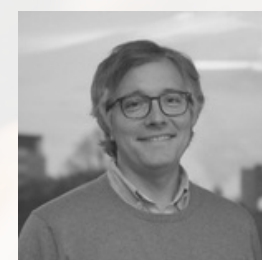
J. ANDREW ROSS



DIMITRY ANASTAKIS

**Professor Anastakis** teaches at the Rotman School of Management and the Department of History and holds the L.R. Wilson/R.J. Currie Chair in Canadian Business History. His research focuses on business, government, and politics in postwar Canada, particularly the automotive industry. He has published 13 books and is frequently featured in major media. He is the General Editor of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, and he is a founding director of the CBHA, serving as Chair from 2015-2024.

**Don Nerbas** is Associate Professor and Chair in Canadian-Scottish Studies in the Department of History and Classical Studies at McGill University. He has been on the board of directors for the CBHA since 2017. He has published widely on economic elites and capitalist development, and is the author of *Dominion of Capital: The Politics of Big Business and the Crisis of the Canadian Bourgeoisie, 1914-1947* (University of Toronto Press, 2013). The principal focus of his current research centres on Cape Breton's coal trade and the social and political history of Cape Breton's Sydney coalfield in the 19th century.



DON NERBAS

**Jeremy Mosher** is a Managing Director at National Bank of Canada, where he works with global investors pursuing investment opportunities across Canada. Before joining National Bank, Jeremy held roles at CIBCAM, Peters & Co., and CIBC World Markets. A proud graduate of Queen's University, Jeremy met his wife there and began building their life together. Outside of work, Jeremy is passionate about family, including raising three children, and is actively involved in the family vineyard in Beamsville.



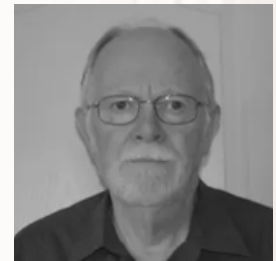
**JEREMY MOSHER**



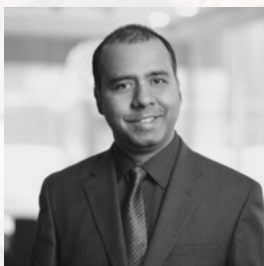
**Mona Zhang** is the Founder and Managing Partner of Trunity Partners Ltd., a Toronto-based portfolio management firm, with over 15 years of global investment experience. A CFA charterholder and Rotman MBA graduate, she has managed large-scale portfolios and worked with leading institutional investors worldwide. She also serves on the board of Moberg Pharma, and is a guest lecturer at the University of Toronto. She has been a director of the CBHA since 2022.

**MONA ZHANG**

**Stephen Salmon** retired from Library and Archives Canada (LAC) in 2012 after more than 30 years of service. From 1989 to 2012 he was LAC's business archivist. He has published and presented papers worldwide on a variety of topics including acquisition theory, archival appraisal, and Canadian business and financial history. He has served on the editorial boards of peer reviewed journals in Canada and overseas. His current research focuses on the business history of Canadian Great Lakes shipping. Stephen is a founding director of the CBHA.



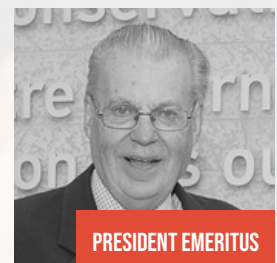
**M. STEPHEN SALMON**



**Sanjeev Sharma** is a strategy and transformation leader and passionate business historian who sees history as a guide for building the future, drawing on its lessons to inspire innovative, scalable business culture in Canada. His work with Joe Martin on Nortel and Bata has been published as teaching case studies. Sanjeev is the AVP and Head of Data, Analytics and AI for TD Enterprise Finance, bringing over 15 years of experience across management consulting and firms like Oracle to CBHA's financial and treasury management. Sanjeev has been a director of the CBHA since 2025.

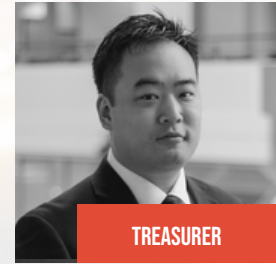
**SANJEEV K. SHARMA**

**Joe Martin** is the former Director of the Canadian Business History Program and an Adjunct Professor and Executive in Residence at the Rotman School of Management. He is the co-author of *Relentless Change* and *From Wall Street to Bay Street*, which was translated into Mandarin and adapted into a PBS documentary. He also serves as Historian of Toronto's Albany Club, was appointed the first Honourary Member of the Canadian Institute for Historical Education, and is President Emeritus of Canada's History Society. Joe is the founding president of CBHA, served as a director from 2015-2025, and was this year given the title President Emeritus of the CBHA.



**JOE MARTIN**

**Chester Santiago** is a finance and operations professional, currently serving as CFO at NuPort Robotics, a Toronto-based AI startup in the autonomous trucking industry. Since entering the startup sector in 2018, Chester has worked across finance, operations, strategy, and risk, often serving as a senior operator responsible for keeping fast-moving organizations focused and execution-ready. He holds an MBA from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.



TREASURER

**CHESTER SANTIAGO**



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**JOANNE ARCHIBALD**

**Joanne Archibald** holds a PhD in Canadian history from Queen's University and is the Founder and Principal Consultant at Livy Consulting. She brings both academic and business expertise to the Executive Director role at CBHA, as well as administrative experience in marketing, events, and fundraising. She has had academic articles published in *International Journal*, has had bylines in *The Hub*, and *Chatelaine*, and has been featured on podcasts like *History Matters*, and *FoundHer Rising*. She looks forward to engaging Canadians in the importance of preserving and promoting business history.

## BOARD DEPARTURES

**Tabitha Fritz** specializes in translating complex research into clear, engaging formats for audiences beyond academia. Tabitha is passionate about public-facing history and its power to connect the past with today's economic and policy conversations. Tabitha leaves the board of the CBHA in 2026 after serving as a director since 2019.



**TABITHA FRITZ**



**DONICA BELISLE**

**Donica Belisle** (she/her) is Professor of History at the University of Regina, where she specializes in histories of gender, labour, and capitalism. She is the award-winning author of *Retail Nation* (UBC Press, 2011) and *Purchasing Power* (University of Toronto Press, 2020). Her forthcoming book, *Indenture and Canadian Sugar in Colonial Fiji: Power and Profit Across the Pacific* (2027) examines indenture on B.C. Sugar's plantations in Fiji. Donica leaves the board of the CBHA in 2026 after serving as a director since 2017. She received the 2025 CHA Teaching Prize. Contact: [www.donicabelisle.ca](http://www.donicabelisle.ca).

Thank you to **Tabitha** and **Donica** for their years of service to CBHA and their engagement in our programming.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In February, the CBHA hosted its Annual General Meeting at the Rotman School of Management. The keynote speaker was Howard Green, who spoke about his most recent book, *Gimme a Crisis: In the Room with Global Banker Rick Waugh*.



In February, the CBHA gathered to celebrate the impressive and immense body of work of **Joe Martin**, who was elevated to the title of President Emeritus of the CBHA. Tributes to Joe were delivered by family, colleagues, fellow directors, former students, and lifelong friends, all of whom described the positive impact he had had on their lives and on the promotion of Canadian business history.



# IN MEMORIAM: RED WILSON



In February, the CBHA (along with Canada more broadly) lost a steadfast supporter: **Lynton “Red” Wilson**.

Mr. Wilson was the major founding donor of the CBHA, ensuring the organization had enough seed funding to get started, and leaving a legacy behind him that celebrates, teaches, and preserves Canadian business history.

*“Red Wilson was a modest, low-profile, and unassuming Canadian leader and icon who has made a remarkable and lasting contribution to Canada in higher education, business, and public service. His secret sauce was his innate sense of humour and his unique ability to unite people in common cause to solve difficult problems. An incredible role model par excellence.” - Anthony (Tony) Fell O.C. LL.D, Retired Deputy Chair, Royal Bank of Canada and University Health Network*

# PRIZES & AWARDS



## BEST SCHOLARLY ARTICLE IN CANADIAN BUSINESS HISTORY

The Best Scholarly Article in Canadian Business History is awarded to a scholarly article published in either English or French.



## CHRIS KOBRACK RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The Chris Kobrak Research Fellowship is awarded to a graduate or post-doctoral student completing research on a Canadian business history topic.



## DESAUTELS RESEARCH FUND IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, HISTORY & LAW

The Marcel A. Desautels Centre for Private Enterprise and the Law offers support to PhD students and scholars within 5 years of completing their doctoral degrees for a research project on private enterprise, law and history through the CBHA.



## WILSON UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE

The Wilson Undergraduate Essay Prize is awarded to a student who submitted a paper engaging with Canadian business history, in English or French, as part of a course at a recognized Canadian university.



## WAUGH FAMILY FOUNDATION CBHA / ACHA PRIZE

The Waugh Family Foundation awards an annual \$10,000 prize through the CBHA / ACHA funded by a \$250,000 endowment. The prize rotates on a three-year cycle:

- **Theme 1 - Career Achievement Prize** (recognizing exceptional contributions to Canadian business history) - 2028

- **Theme 2 - Public Engagement Prize** (highlighting outstanding public-facing projects in Canadian business history) - 2026

- **Theme 3 - Book Prize** (best book in Canadian business history) - 2027

# BEST ARTICLE

The Best Article prize was awarded to Brian Gettler, for his fascinating examination of the lending practices of 19th Century Wendat couple Marguerite Vincent La8inonkie and Paul Picard Honda8onhon. He provides a compelling micro-historical case study that reveals how Indigenous peoples in Quebec were able to capitalize on changing religious and market conditions to not only achieve affluence, but also to influence the economic fortunes of their local community. Utilizing a corpus of seven hundred contracts and a blend of deeply-researched and innovatively employed Indigenous, Quebec, and business and financial history, Gettler's article shows how the province's unique legal and economic system — particularly notaries — facilitated the emergence of a coterie of Wendat families who became major creditors in Lower Canada in the 1800s. Gettler's story of the Vincent-Picard family, who leveraged their earnings from small-scale manufacturing of moccasins, snowshoes, and other traditional goods into larger-scale lending and wealth management profoundly challenges our understanding of financial, Indigenous and business historiography.



**BRIAN GETTLER**  
ARTICLE WINNER

Honourable mention for the Best Article prize went to Clarence Hatton-Proulx, whose extensive research in the Hydro-Québec archives opens the “black box” of energy forecasting. Combining groundbreaking research with careful analysis, Hatton-Proulx shows how forecasting was adopted and deployed by Hydro-Québec during the eras of the Trente Glorieuses and the energy crisis of the 1970s. Attentive to Hydro-Québec’s role in state-led development strategies and participation in an international corporate world, Hatton-Proulx reveals future-making activities as a major factor in facilitating new capital investment in energy infrastructure, serving to project economic stability in an increasingly uncertain world. But despite the math equations and data points that went into forecasting, actor coalitions, power relations, and ideology played a decisive role in shaping forecasts. Ultimately, energy forecasts were deployed to not only predict the future but to shape it. Hatton-Proulx’s article makes an important contribution to the fields of business and energy history.



**CLARENCE HATTON-PROULX**  
HONORABLE MENTION

# DESAUTELS RESEARCH FUND IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HISTORY AND LAW & CHRIS KOBRAK RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP



**LETIAN WANG**  
DESAUTELS WINNER

The 2026 CBHA / Desautels Research Fund in Private Enterprise, History & Law was awarded to Letian Wang, whose project: “Farewell to The Chinese Times” studies the demise of The Chinese Times (Tai Hon Kong Bo) newspaper in Canada, showing how its important run from 1914 to 1992 encountered difficulties in the 1980s and 1990s due to changing readerships and to competition from transnational competitors particularly Sing Tao and World Journal.

Through textual and oral history analysis, this project bridges Chinese Canadian historiography and Canadian business history, showing how ethnic enterprise is situated in broader contexts of economic and institutional change.

The 2026-2028 Chris Kobrak Fellowship is awarded to Joe Borsato. Dr. Borsato graduated from Queen’s University in 2025 with a degree in History, with specializations in Canadian, global, and Indigenous history. His SSHRC-supported dissertation examined Indigenous expressions of sovereignty during the first century of English exploration and colonization in the Americas. Joe is being awarded the Kobrak Fellowship for a project entitled “Vast Rupert’s Land: Prince Attash’s Voyage and Cree Commerce in the Seventeenth-Century Hudson Bay,” which will uncover the contributions of Indigenous agents to early Canadian business history in a trans-regional perspective, and will examine the economic, political, and diplomatic history of Cree relations with European merchant corporations in the Hudson Bay watershed. The Kobrak Fellowship is named in honour of Professor Chris Kobrak, who taught at the Rotman School of Management in Toronto and played a leadership role in establishing the CBHA.



**JOE BORSATO**  
KOBRAK WINNER

# TRAVEL AWARD

The CBHA awarded its **first travel grant** for 2026 to **Matthew Kunkel**, a 2nd year PhD candidate at York University. Kunkel will use the grant awarded by the CBHA to travel to the Lakehead University Archives in Thunder Bay as well as the Thunder Bay Historical Society Archives where he will consult material related to the experience of loggers, miners, and commercial fishers in the Lake Superior region between 1860-1930.



The CBHA awarded its **second travel grant** for 2026 to **Tiffany Chénier**, a Ph.D. student in History and Classical Studies at McGill University, specializing in Canadian political economy and capitalism. Her FRQSC-funded research examines how nineteenth-century information technologies shaped Scottish-Canadian social networks, investment, globalization, and empire. With support from the CBHA, she will conduct archival research at the universities of St Andrews and Glasgow on Gilmour, Pollock & Co., a prominent Glasgow-based timber firm whose wealth and networks influenced both British and Canadian political and economic development. This research will support her dissertation on the firm's role as an early international financial system, its transatlantic legacy, and the impact of information technology on Scottish-Canadian investment networks.

# PAST WINNERS

## PRIZE WINNERS

1

### BEST SCHOLARLY ARTICLE IN CANADIAN BUSINESS HISTORY

**2024 - Kathrine Parkin & Sarah Elvins**

"The Business of Abortion: Referral Services, Cross-Border Consumption, and Canadian Women's Access to Abortion in New York State, 1970–1972," *Enterprise & Society*, 2024.

**2022 - Matthew Bellamy**

"Business Against Drunk Driving: The Neoliberal State, Labatt Brewery, and the Creation of the 'Responsible Drinker,'" *Enterprise & Society*, 2022.

**2021 - Michel Dahan**

"'Tout le monde voyage': l'agence Hone & Rivet et les débuts de l'industrie touristique au Canada (1894–1939)," *CHR*, 2021.

**2020 - Sarah Elvins**

"Lady Smugglers and Lynx-Eyed Custom Agents," *CHR*, 2020.

**2019 - Janis Thiessen**

"The Narrative Turn, Corporate Storytelling and Oral History," *Enterprise & Society*, 2019.

2

### THE CHRIS KOBRAK RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

**2024 - 2025 – Clarence Hatton-Proulx**

**2022 - 2023 – Nicholas Fast**

**2020 - 2021 – Matthew Hollow**

**2018 - 2019 – Stefano Tijerina**

3

### DESAUTELS RESEARCH FUND IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, HISTORY & LAW

**2022 – Jean-Philip Mathieu**

4

### WAUGH FAMILY FOUNDATION CBHA / ACHA PRIZE

**2025 – Book Prize - Dimitry Anastakis**

*Dream Car: Malcolm Bricklin's Fantastic SV1 and the End of Industrial Modernity* University of Toronto Press, 2024

**2024 – Career Recognition Prize - Brian Young**

James McGill Emeritus Professor of History, McGill University

5

### BEST BOOK IN CANADIAN BUSINESS HISTORY PRIZE

**2021 - Daniel Robinson**

*Cigarette Nation: Business, Health, and Canadian Smokers, 1930–1975*, McGill-Queen's University Press, 2021.

**2019 - Andrea Benoit**

*Viva M.A.C.: Fashion and Philanthropic Practices of M.A.C. Cosmetics*, University of Toronto Press, 2019.

**2018 - Michael Stamm**

*Dead Tree Media: Manufacturing the Newspaper in 20th Century North America*, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018.

# WAUGH PRIZE



The winner of the 2026 Waugh Family Foundation Prize and its \$10,000 award is the **Manitoba Food History Project**, led by Professors **Janis Thiessen**, **Kimberley Moore**, and **Kent Davies** from the **University of Winnipeg**!

The Manitoba Food History Project is a public history initiative that uses oral histories, archival research, podcasts, digital storytelling, and a travelling food truck to explore how food has been produced, sold, and consumed in Manitoba—and what those stories reveal about the province's communities, businesses, cultures, and people

The **CBHA** is grateful to the **Waugh Family Foundation** for its generous support of the Waugh Prize and its commitment to celebrating excellence in public-facing business history.



To learn more about the Manitoba Food History Project and its work, visit their website! [click here](#)

# WAUGH PRIZE FINALISTS

This year's competition for the **\$10,000** Waugh Prize in Public History featured an incredible group of projects, and we were thrilled to celebrate the four shortlisted finalists below alongside our winner, the Manitoba Food History Project.

1



**Storefront Stories**, a business history project from the **Ontario Jewish Archives**.

2



**Founded in Service**, a project by TD Bank led by **Amy Korczynski** and **R. Stuart Keeler**.

3



A mapping project exploring Greek businesses in Toronto, by **York University** PhD candidate **Alexandros Balasis**.

4



A Smile in Every Bottle, a project by **The University of Lethbridge** PhD candidate **Stephanie Laine Hamilton**.



**CBH Talks** are a curated collection of interviews that feature insightful discussions, expert panels, and thought-provoking lectures that delve into the rich tapestry of Canadian business history. From the evolution of specific industries to the impact of policy changes, our talks aim to shed light on the multifaceted world of Canadian enterprise. Whether you're a student, a business professional, or simply someone interested in the economic forces that have shaped Canada, this series offers a treasure trove of knowledge and perspectives.

In this edition of the magazine, we are profiling four CBH Talks from this year.

# | CBH TALKS



Every business eventually faces the same challenge: How do you adapt when the world around you changes?

In this episode of Canadian Business History Talks, Tabitha Fritz speaks with historian Edward MacDonald about the remarkable story of the Macdonald family of Panmure Island, Prince Edward Island—a family whose business endured for more than a century through economic upheaval, changing markets, new technologies, and shifting social expectations.

Beginning with Scottish immigrant Andrew Macdonald in the early 1800s, the family built a successful enterprise rooted in trade, shipping, agriculture, and landholding. Over the next hundred years, successive generations were forced to make difficult decisions as the economy of Atlantic Canada evolved around them.

In this episode of Canadian Business History Talks, Tabitha Fritz speaks with historian Jason Russell about the closure of the Kelvinator plant in London, Ontario, in 1969—and what it reveals about the Canadian economy.

At the time, Canada's manufacturing sector appeared strong and stable. But the sudden shutdown of a major factory told a different story. Drawing on his article "Sooner or Later, You'll Discover Kelvinator," Russell shows how this closure exposed deeper vulnerabilities tied to foreign ownership, corporate restructuring, and the branch plant economy.

What looked like a local event was, in reality, an early signal of a much larger shift. This episode connects a single factory closure to broader questions about economic change, labour, and the long-term direction of the Canadian economy.



# CBH TALKS



In this episode of CBH Talks, Tabitha Fritz speaks with historian Allan Greer about the role of alcohol in the labour systems of early Canada. Drawing on his article *“Drinking on the Job: Liquor and Labour in the Staples Trades,”* Greer examines how rum and other spirits became part of the everyday workings of the fur, fisheries, and timber trades.

The conversation explores how alcohol was used in recruitment, compensation, and workplace culture, while also shaping relationships between workers and employers.

By viewing liquor as part of both economic exchange and labour life, the episode offers a fresh perspective on the foundations of the Canadian economy.

To watch other CBH Talks, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/@CBHA-ACHA>

In this episode of CBH Talks, Tabitha Fritz speaks with historian Clarence Hatton-Proulx about the role of forecasting in shaping Quebec’s energy future. Using Hydro-Québec as a case study, Hatton-Proulx explores how electricity demand forecasts influenced major infrastructure projects, government policy, and investment decisions during the Quiet Revolution.

The conversation examines how expectations of rapid growth helped justify some of the largest public works projects in Canadian history and positioned electricity at the centre of Quebec’s modernization.

By looking at the relationship between forecasting, investment, and infrastructure, the episode raises broader questions about how predictions can influence the future they are meant to anticipate.



# BOOK REVIEWS

## 2025-2026 BOOK REVIEWS

1

### **GIMME A CRISIS (HOWARD GREEN)**

Amy Korczynski finds Green's biography of Scotiabank's Rick Waugh a lively, accessible inside view of crisis-driven bank leadership, though one shaped by the author's close twenty-year relationship with his subject.

2

### **ON THE WING OF ETERNITY (MICHAEL O. ALEXANDER)**

Joe Martin calls Alexander's biography of his father, an RAF bomber pilot killed over Rotterdam in 1941, a compelling, letter-rich portrait of a generation born at the end of one world war and lost to the next.

3

### **ACQUIRING THE CANADIAN WEST (ED WHITCOMB)**

Todd Stubb's praises Whitcomb's frank chapters on the Numbered Treaties but finds this popular history of Ottawa's westward expansion weighed down by a cost-accounting approach, factual errors, and a dated "national achievement" framing.

4

### **STANDING UP TO BIG NICKEL (ELIZABETH QUINLAN)**

Eliot Perrin commends Quinlan's deeply researched, interview-rich account of the 1958 Inco strike in Sudburb and Mine Mill's subsequent collapse as a sobering lesson in the rise and fall of left-wing labourism.

5

### **THE SCRAMBLE FOR THE TEENAGE DOLLAR (KATHARINE ROLLWAGEN)**

Brandi Adams calls Rollwagen's study of how Eaton's and other retailers courted mid-century teenagers, especially through the Junior Council and Junior Executives, a thoroughly researched contribution to Canadian

**FOR MORE BOOK REVIEWS,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[WWW.CBHA.CA](http://WWW.CBHA.CA)**

# A SLICE OF WINDSOR

04



A project funded by the *Canadian Business History Association*  
Created by Ally Peddie

What can **pizza** tell us about the identity of a city? **A Slice of Windsor Pizza Project** is an undergraduate research fellowship documenting the history of Windsor's distinctive pizza industry. Through the stories of locally owned and family run restaurants, the project explores how local business history has helped shape a unique Windsor identity and a distinctly Canadian food culture. Click [here](#) to view the website.

The project began during a Borderlands History seminar at the University of Windsor, where a discussion raised a larger question about the city itself: **does Windsor have an identity separate from neighbouring Detroit?** What began as a classroom debate developed into research on one of Windsor's most recognizable local industries.

Through the project, Ally explored Windsor's locally owned and family run pizzerias and the wider recognition Windsor pizza has received. The research considers how these businesses have helped preserve a local food tradition while contributing to the city's sense of identity.

The project demonstrates how local business history shapes a uniquely Canadian identity, independent of American influence.

# FROM RESEARCH TO PUBLIC HISTORY

With support from the **Canadian Business History Association**, A Slice of Windsor developed beyond a university research paper into a public facing exploration of Windsor's business history. The goal is to make the research accessible not only to scholars, but also to community members, educators, and students.

## This Project Will Include

### A Publicly Accessible Website

The research will be presented online, allowing the public to explore Windsor's pizza history and the businesses behind it.

[www.asliceofwindsor.ca](http://www.asliceofwindsor.ca)



### Educational Resources

The project will also provide resources that educators can use to introduce students to local business history.

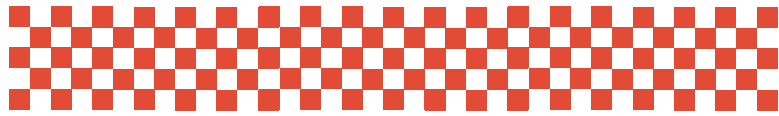


### Stories of Windsor Pizza

The project examines early Italian immigration to Canada, the creation of Windsor pizza, Windsor pizzerias, the importance of maintaining the traditional recipe, and the preservation of its legacy.



# SUPPORT THE NEXT GENERATION OF CANADIAN BUSINESS HISTORIANS



## What can **\$1,500** make possible?

It can send a student into the archives, uncover a piece of local history, and turn that research into public history that reaches far beyond the classroom. A Slice of Windsor shows what one fellowship can do.

Every community in Canada has stories like this waiting to be told: the family firms, local industries, and main-street businesses that shaped how people lived and worked. Too often, those stories sit unexamined in archives and local collections, or survive only in the memories of the people who lived them. A research fellowship gives a student the time and support to find them before they are lost.

These projects are also truly intersectional. Each begins with local business history and ends with a tangible public history product, but along the way students can follow their research into questions of gender, race, class, labour, immigration, and international and political history. Business history, done well, is a window onto how Canadian communities were built.

For the student, a fellowship is often a first experience of original research. It builds skills in archival work, writing, and public communication, and gives them something real to show for it: a finished project with their name on it, available for anyone to explore.

For the rest of us, it means more Canadian stories researched, preserved, and shared, and a growing community of young historians who see business history as a living, relevant field.

Your gift makes all of this possible. A modest investment supports a student's research from first question to public launch, and the result lasts long after the fellowship ends.

**A gift of \$1,500 funds one student research fellowship. Help us create the next A Slice of Windsor.**

# JOINING THE CHA MEETING IN CHARLOTTETOWN



CBHA was represented at the **Canadian Historical Association (CHA)**'s Conference in Charlottetown in June by Andrew Ross (Chair), Dimitry Anastakis and Don Nerbas (Board Members) and Joanne Archibald (Executive Director).

From exceptional panels, to interesting roundtables, and generative meetings, we are so glad to be a part of the history community. We were especially grateful to host a business history lunch with top and emerging scholars in the field covering a diverse range of research topics. We have a big tent approach to business history, and it is wonderful to see that resonate with so many historians!

3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Business History

Toronto, Canada | July 27–31, 2026



## CBHA WELCOMES INTERNATIONAL COLLEAGUES

The Canadian Business History Association hosted nearly 350 delegates from across the globe for the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Business History in Toronto, July 27-31, 2026. Initially inspired by Rotman professor Chris Kobrak, who founded the CBHA in 2015, the conference was first proposed in 2019 and co-organized by Dimitry Anastakis (U of T, CBHA) and Andrea Schneider-Braunberger (the GUG, Germany). Building on the theme of "Global Connections/Diverse Directions: Building Bridges Across Business Histories," the event was a great success, with nearly 90 sessions, workshops, and roundtables, and a host of additional business-themed and fun events, including visits to the Toronto Stock Exchange and Bata Shoe Museum, a streetcar tour of the city, and a Toronto Blue Jays game. **The CBHA looks forward to being a part of the next World Congress in 2030!**

We would like to thank two major local sponsors whose generosity helped make the Congress a success: Mr. John Cleghorn and an Anonymous Donor. Thank you!

# HISTORY

## of the World Congress of Business History



The World Congress of Business History (WCBH) was born from a bold vision: to bring together business historians from around the world through a truly global forum. First proposed in 2009 during discussions between the European Business History Association (EBHA) and the Business History Society of Japan (BHSJ), the idea quickly gained momentum, with formal planning beginning in 2012.

To build enthusiasm for this international initiative, organizers hosted a one-day World Conference of Business History in Frankfurt, Germany, in 2014. The event attracted more than 180 participants from across the globe, demonstrating both the strength of the international business history community and the demand for a dedicated world congress. Its success laid the foundation for something even more ambitious.

That vision became reality in 2016, when the inaugural World Congress of Business History was held in Bergen, Norway. Bringing together approximately 400 scholars to present their research over three days, the Congress marked a milestone for the discipline, showcasing the breadth, vitality, and global reach of business history scholarship. The overwhelming success of the inaugural meeting established the WCBH as the premier international gathering for the field and led to the decision to hold the Congress every four years.

Following a successful virtual edition in 2021, the third World Congress of Business History took place in Toronto in July 2026, welcoming scholars from around the world to continue advancing research, fostering collaboration, and shaping the future of business history on a truly global stage.

# Five Days of Scholarship, Exchange & Connection

Throughout the Congress, scholars explored the many ways business history intersects with society, politics, culture, and the global economy.

Sessions examined themes ranging from finance, taxation, entrepreneurship, and international business to gender, colonialism, retail, technology, regulation, and business culture.

# 1



## RESEARCH

### BEYOND THE CONFERENCE ROOM

The Congress extended beyond formal panels and presentations. Participants were invited to experience Toronto through special activities including a curator's tour of the **TD Bank Tower**, a visit to the **Bata Shoe Museum**, and the **Toronto Stock Exchange Closing Bell**.

The World Congress also created space for conversation and connection beyond academic sessions. Roundtables, receptions, informal gatherings, and the CBHA Cocktail Reception at Hart House brought together scholars from different institutions and countries, strengthening relationships across the international business history community.

# 2



## CULTURE

# 3



## COMMUNITY



## Founding Donor

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**Here's How!**



**Submit a pitch for a CBH  
Talk & 2027 awards call**



**Write a book review**



**Donate**



The CBHA is grateful to you for your support and engagement in our programming over the last year. We remain dedicated to preserving, teaching, and promoting Canadian business history. In particular, CBHA wishes to thank Elsa Lee, KB Media, Andy Thompson, Elspeth Heaman, and Stefanie Samosir.