

CANADIAN
BUSINESS
HISTORY
ASSOCIATION



5 Years

L'ASSOCIATION
CANADIENNE
POUR L'HISTOIRE
DES AFFAIRES

PROGRESS REPORT

2021



The **Canadian Business History Association - l'association canadienne pour l'histoire des affaires (CBHA/ACHA)**, founded in 2015, celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2021. Like other organizations we had to face up to the challenges of COVID. One of the immediate challenges was the cancellation of our Annual Conference scheduled for Winnipeg in 2020. In its place we introduced monthly TED-like Talks called *CBHA/ACHA Talks*. These covered a wide variety of topics including the Price of Gold the 150th anniversary of Manitoba's entry into Confederation, the 350th anniversary of the chartering of the Hudson Bay Company, and a conversation with Donald K. Johnson discussing his recent autobiography.

We continued with our normal operating activities - building links among academics, archivists, students, and businesspeople; providing funding support for students and scholars; and recognizing excellence in Canadian business history writing through the support of our Book and Article prizes.

The highlight of our 5th year came when we learned in July that we would be the recipient of a \$1 million endowment from the L.R. Wilson Foundation. Indeed, the Foundation also offered to match an additional \$1 million raised from others. That gave the CBHA/ACHA a real shot in the arm. Not only did we celebrate, we began the challenge of raising that \$1 million in earnest and held a Strategic Retreat of your Board.

To this point our mission has been to **Preserve** and to **Present**. With additional resources we can now go further. We will expand our mission to also **Engage** the business community, the educational community, and society at large on the importance of understanding business history and its vital contribution to Canadian society. A good example of this from the past year was our initiative to recognize the 150th anniversary of Canada's Bank Act.

Dimitry Anastakis
Chair

Joe Martin
President

The **CBHA/ACHA's** objectives include:

To Preserve

- Improve the quality, quantity, and access to Canadian business history material and archives.
- To establish a central site, or have archival expertise available, for the study of Canadian business history.

To Present

- Make Canadian business history more accessible to the general public.
- Support academic and scholarly research and publication on Canadian business history both domestically and internationally.

To Engage

- Encourage the study of business history in academic institutions in Canada.
- Accelerate the presentation and dissemination of relevant corporate histories, industry histories, and business leadership biographies.

To meet these objectives, the CBHA/ACHA will actively recruit new members and operate with the highest standards of governance and corporate responsibility.

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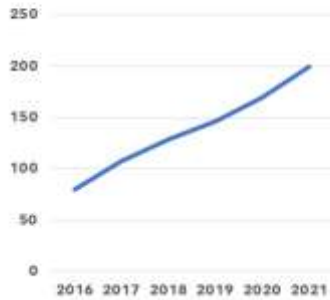
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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The **CBHA-ACHA** had a material impact in the field of Canadian business history in 2020/2021:

- Continued with its series of online virtual presentations **CBHA-ACHA Talks** on topics relevant to Canadian business history.
- Grew to **196 individual members** from the academic, archivist, business leader, junior scholar and public communities, **an increase of 16%**.
- Awarded its first annual **CBHA-ACHA Best Article in Canadian Business History**.
- Maintained a leading-edge website and an on-line **YouTube Channel** with archived **CBHA/ACHA** presentation lectures.
- Published **The Prospectus**, a monthly newsletter with over 1,600 subscribers.
- Awarded the third **CBHA/ACHA Best Book in Canadian Business History** with a prize of \$10,000.
- Provided **\$15,500 in grants, scholarships and sponsorships** to its members and associated organizations to advance the study of Canadian business history.
- Partnered with *Canada's History Magazine* to offer a **one-year complimentary subscription** to new members of the CBHA-ACHA.
- **Welcomed a new Charter Corporate Member**, engineering firm Black & McDonald.
- Participated in several in-person and virtual **academic and archivist conferences**.

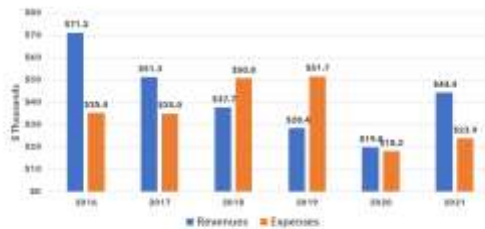
Membership Growth



Membership Categories



Financial Results





The **CBHA-ACHA** was pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2021 Best Book in Canadian Business History was **Andrea Benoit** for her book **Viva M.A.C: AIDS, Fashion, and the Philanthropic Practices of M.A.C Cosmetics** (University of Toronto Press, 2019). The jury included the following in its citation in honouring Andrea with the \$10,000 prize: “Benoit’s book is a path-breaking narrative on the creation and impact of a pioneering Canadian firm . . . her analysis is based on extensive archival sources and is firmly situated in relevant secondary literature. Her book is a tremendous work of business, social, and cultural history that will inform the research of current and future Canadian historians.” In addition, the Jury conferred Honourary Mention to **Professor Matthew Bellamy** for his book **Brewed in the North: A History of Labatt’s**, (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2019).

The Wilson Foundation committed \$2 million to the **CBHA/ACHA** by way of the new **Wilson Foundation Endowment for the Study of Canadian Business History**. The first \$1 million of the endowment is immediate while the second \$1 million will be triggered by matching donations. Projects supported will include financial support for students, expanded events, the digitization of important historical documents, and more biographies of Canadian business leaders.

Guest speaker **Professor Brian Gettler** presented to the members and guests of the **CBHA-ACHA** at its Annual General Meeting on the topic ***Unmaking the Made Beaver: Money and Monopoly in the Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Fur Trade***. The presentation analyzed money as both a symbol around which discourses of appropriate behaviour were articulated and as a concrete tool in the governance of peoples and lands.



In its inaugural year the Jury decided on co-winners for the CBHA/ACHA **Best Article in Canadian Business History**.



Sarah Elvins, *Lady Smugglers and Lynx-Eyed Customs Agents: Gender, Morality, and Cross-Border Shopping in Detroit and Windsor*, *Canadian Historical Review*, 101, 4 (December 2020): 497-521. **Janis Thiessen, *The Narrative Turn, Corporate Storytelling, and Oral History: Canada's Petroleum Oral History Project and Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action No. 92*, *Enterprise and Society*, 20, 1 (March 2019): 60-73.**

The **CBHA-ACHA** created a new Charitable Endowment Account for its Awards and Scholarships through *The Veritas Foundation Giving Fund*. The income from the CBHA/ACHA Awards Fund will be used to provide monetary grants, bursaries and awards. You can contribute to this new venture at:

<https://cbha-acha.ca/index.php/donate/>

Affiliated Organizations



PLANS FOR 2022

Continue to present its monthly online *CBHA-ACHA Talks Series*

This series of webinar talks originated during the global health pandemic and includes speakers and researchers on a variety of topics relevant to Canadian business history.

Resume its Annual Conference with an event held in Winnipeg

The conference will present research and opinion on business activity in the *Roaring Twenties* with a comparative analysis to the contemporary economy.

Announce new projects funded by the *Wilson Foundation Endowment for the Study of Canadian Business History*

As a result of endowed funding, the **CBHA-ACHA** will be presenting new initiatives and partnerships to advance the study of Canadian business history.

Award the third *Chris Kobrak Research Fellowship in Canadian Business History*

This bi-annual Research Fellowship provides funding of \$5,000 in each of two years to an individual conducting scholarly research on a relevant topic of Canadian business history.

Award Grants, Scholarships and Sponsorships

Continue to provide financial assistance to **CBHA-ACHA** members to attend conferences and workshops, conduct events related to business history, and publish research material.

Award the *CBHA-ACHA Best Article in Canadian Business History*

This annual award encourages innovative studies in Canadian business history that have the potential to expand the boundaries of the discipline.

LEADERSHIP



Dimitry Anastakis, Chair of the Board. Professor, University of Toronto, Department of History.

Joe Martin, President and Member of the Board of Directors.



Donica Belisle, Member of the Board of Directors. Associate Professor, University of Regina.

Mark S. Bonham, Secretary-Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors. Executive Director, The Veritas Foundation.



Tabitha Fritz, Member of the Board of Directors. CEO, Fritz's Cannabis Company.

Jeremy Mosher, Member of the Board of Directors. Director of Equity Sales, National Bank Financial.



Don Nerbas, Member of the Board of Directors. Associate Professor, McGill University.

J. Andrew Ross, Member of the Board of Directors. Manager, Library & Archives Canada.



Jason Russell, Member of the Board of Directors. Associate Professor, Empire State College, State University of New York.

M. Stephen Salmon, Member of the Board of Directors. Library & Archives Canada (Retired).



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position
As at September 30th

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash & Deposits*	\$ 1,014,865	\$ 2,282
Prepaid Expenses	3,300	3,300
Accounts Receivable	223	2,223
	\$ 1,018,388	\$ 7,805
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$ 2,001	\$ 751
Restricted Donation	10,000	20,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 12,001	\$ 20,751
NET ASSETS		
The Wilson Foundation Endowment	\$1,000,000	-
Association Equity	\$ 6,387	\$(12,946)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,018,388	\$ 7,805

*includes restricted cash of \$14,218 Awards and \$1,000,000 Wilson Foundation Endowment.

Statement of Operations
Year Ended September 30th

	2021	2020
REVENUES		
Membership Fees	\$ 20,075	\$ 19,375
Conference Income (Net)	(475)	-
Book Sales	-	447
Donations - Awards	14,306	
Book Prize Sponsorship	10,000	
	\$ 43,906	\$ 19,822
EXPENSES		
Accounting & Legal	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,250
Advertising	918	1,192
Bank Charges	625	559
Computer Services	1,432	2,445
Grants, Awards & Sponsorships	15,500	5,500
Insurance	800	800
Office and General	3,798	5,334
Travel	-	1,133
	\$ 24,573	\$ 18,213
Excess (Deficiency) of		
Revenues over Expenses	\$ 19,333	\$ 1,609
Association Equity, beginning of Year	(12,946)	(14,555)
Association Equity, End of Year	\$ 6,387	\$(12,946)

CHARTER CORPORATE MEMBERS



Canadian Business History Association

l'association canadienne pour l'histoire des affaires

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www.cdnbiz150history.ca