

CANADIAN
BUSINESS
HISTORY
ASSOCIATION



L'ASSOCIATION
CANADIENNE
POUR L'HISTOIRE
DES AFFAIRES

PROGRESS REPORT

2016



The Canadian Business History Association - l'association canadienne pour l'histoire des affaires (CBHA/ACHA) is dedicated to the pursuit of Canadian business history and its role both domestically and in world business history.

Building on earlier efforts to stimulate business history in Canada, a small group of historians, archivists, and business people has been formed to create a new business history organization. The group shares the conviction that our business heritage is an integral part of Canadian history and that this heritage cannot be preserved without a strong academic/business partnership.

The **CBHA/ACHA** believes it is important for businesses to organize and open their archives by engendering a respect for the role of scholarship in helping to understand the social significance of commerce. Despite its long historical and economics traditions, attempts of late to further Canadian history have remained small and localized. Canada is too large and diverse a country to cultivate integrated interdisciplinary, regional, and ethnic forums for the study of business history without a partnership with the business community.

The **CBHA/ACHA** mission is to establish a not-for-profit association that provides a forum for archivists, historians, managers, management scholars, and the public to further the historical study of Canadian business and how that history relates to other countries.

The CBHA/ACHA Objectives include:

- Build a diverse organization of members with an interest in Canadian business history and which reflects the broad diversity of the country.
- Substantially increasing the amount and quality of Canadian business history.
- Improving the quality of, and gaining access to, commercial archival materials, and to provide a central site to make sources accessible to a broad audience.
- Increasing the amount of business history taught at Canadian business schools and in history departments.
- Helping encourage and supervise more corporate histories within a professional approach.
- Increasing the number of companies that include history as a part of their corporate orientations.
- Making Canadian business history accessible to the general public.
- Supporting academic research and publication in Canadian business history.
- Developing outreach and strong links with business and academic communities.

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In its first year of operations as a not-for-profit organization, the **CBHA/ACHA** had a material impact in the field of Canadian business history:

- Recruited a diverse and effective **8 member Board of Directors** to supervise the development of the organization.

- Recruited over **80 individual members** from the academic, archivist, business leader, junior scholar and general public communities.

- Enrolled **10 Charter Corporate Members** who believe in the mission of the organization.

- Developed a leading-edge website with public and private member sections that saw over **7,000 unique visitors**, an average of **585 per month**.

- Created an on-line CBHA/ACHA **YouTube Channel** to broadcast public events and lectures.

- Organized its **first Annual Conference**, *From Public Interest to Private Profit*, in partnership with The Leverhulme Trust, the University of Kent, the Rotman School of Management's Business History Group, and The Michael Lee Chin Family Institute for Corporate Citizenship.

- Provided in excess of **\$12,000** in grants, scholarships and sponsorships to its members and associated organizations to advance the study of Canadian business history.

- CBHA/ACHA members **attended and presented papers and workshops** at several conferences in Canada and around the world, including:
 - Business History Conference annual meeting, Portland, Oregon, USA
 - Canadian Historical Association annual conference, Calgary, Alberta
 - Association of Business Historians conference, Berlin, Germany
 - European Business History Association 20th Annual Congress and First World Conference on Business History, Bergen, Norway

 - Entered into **reciprocal membership arrangements** with two related research organizations:
 - the German Business History group GUG;
 - the Oral History Centre (OHC) at the University of Winnipeg.

 - Created the **monthly member's newsletter** to keep members informed about the progress and events of the organization.
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Speakers gather for a photo at the first Annual **CBHA/ACHA** conference in May 2016. ***From Public Interest to Private Profit*** investigated the changing political and social legitimacy of international business and attracted a diverse international group of presenters and attendees.

The **CBHA/ACHA** maintains a listing of contact information for all public and private archival sources in Canada. This information is available to members in the MEMBERS section of the website. The information includes a listing of Bank Archives, Law Firm Archives, Insurance Archives, Corporate Archives, Government Archives, University Archives, Museums, and Vendors.

Numerous research articles have been published on the importance of business archives to the study of overall economic and business history. They are an important tool in reconstructing the business and economic narrative on both a micro level and a macro one. Knowledge of this history adds elements of objectivity, fairness, education, and truth to pronouncements. The challenge for the **CBHA/ACHA** is to motivate business to create and maintain archives, making them relevant and accessible, when that business is focused on matters considered more relevant to its successful operations.

The **CBHA/ACHA** is now pleased to make available to its members an extensive searchable list of public repositories for the archives of Canadian business. The list is sorted by province, and also includes Library & Archives Canada.

Affiliated Organizations:



GUG | 40 JAHRE
GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
UNTERNEHMENSGESCHICHTE e.V.



ORAL
HISTORY
CENTRE



1865 - 1949
Confederation
Debates

PLANS FOR 2017

The CBHA/ACHA Best Book In Business History Award

The prize committee encourages the submission of books from all methodological perspectives. It is particularly interested in innovative studies that have the potential to expand the boundaries of the discipline. The recipient will receive \$2,000.

The CBHA/ACHA Research Fellowship

Offering support for a research project in an area of Canadian business history. The successful applicant will receive up to \$5,000 per year over two years, for a total of up to \$10,000, to support the completion of the project. Academic support and oversight will be provided by an Academic Advisory Board drawn from the **CBHA/ACHA**'s membership. The Research Fellowship is open to graduate students (MA, PhD., MBA), and postgraduate scholars within ten years of completing their degree.

Annual Conference – 150 Years of Canadian Business

Coinciding with Canada's Sesquicentennial celebrations, the theme for the September conference will be 150 years of Canadian business. The conference will consist of multiple plenary sessions by industry categories and with appropriate academic, archival, government, public and industry leader speakers. Several prominent keynote speakers will be engaged on broader themes for keynote presentations.

Archivist Workshops

A series of workshops throughout the year dedicated to leading edge issues for the Archivist community, including a multi-day session with the Oral History Centre at the University of Winnipeg.

Grants, Scholarships and Sponsorships

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

CBHA/ACHA Member Lectures and Workshops

Periodic presentations by experts on current affairs and news issues, and workshops on research studies in Canadian business history.

LEADERSHIP



Dimitry Anastakis, Chair of the Board of Directors
– Professor of Business History, Trent University.

Joe Martin, President and Member of the Board of Directors – Adjunct Professor of Strategy and Executive in Residence, Rotman School of Business, University of Toronto.



Mark S. Bonham, Secretary-Treasurer and Member of the Board of Directors – President, Bonham & Co. Inc.

Christopher Kobrak, Member of the Board of Directors – Wilson/Currie Chair of Canadian Business and Financial History, Rotman School of Business, University of Toronto.



Amy Korczynski, Member of the Board of Directors
– Archivist, TD Bank Group

J. Andrew Ross, Member of the Board of Directors – Archivist, Library & Archives Canada and Adjunct Professor of History, University of Guelph.



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

Janis Thiessen, Member of the Board of Directors – Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Winnipeg.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position
As at September 30th, 2016

	2016
ASSETS	
CURRENT	
Cash	\$45,381
	<hr/>
	\$45,381
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LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$ 9,665
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TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 9,665
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MEMBER'S EQUITY	
Capital Stock	\$ 2
Retained Earnings	35,714
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY	\$45,381

Statement of Operations
Year Ended September 30th, 2016

	2016
CONTRIBUTIONS	
Membership Fees	71,157
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	\$ 71,157

EXPENSES

Accounting & Legal	\$ 2,158
Advertising	2,678
Bank Charges	234
Computer Services	4,243
Conference Expenses	3,297
Grants, Awards & Sponsorships	12,024
Office and General	3,089
Travel	7,720
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	\$ 35,443

Excess (Deficiency) of Contributions over Expenses	\$ 35,714
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CHARTER CORPORATE MEMBERS



Canadian Business History Association / l'association canadienne pour l'histoire des affaires

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www.cbha-acha.ca