

The Burlington Historical Society

MINI Newsletter

February 13, 2023 GENERAL MEETING

@

7:00pm in the BPL Centennial Room

Our speaker is [Thanh Campbell](#)



Thanh Campbell Intro

Mr. Campbell lives in Drayton ON and operates 3 businesses outside of his speaking career. Thanh is the host of The Resilient Summit and Tour which airs live on Facebook and is becoming a live to air full broadcast on YouTube. He is developing a Magazine and a Speaking tour by the same name.

He has been asked to sit on a number of boards and committees including MacKids New Health Centre Fundraising Committee and the Hamilton Media

Advisory Council, which discusses the issue of diversity and multi-culturalism portrayed in the media.

Thanh was born in Vietnam and came over to Canada as part of the last flight out of Saigon in 1975 with 56 other orphan children. Their story was captured numerous times in the media. He has been invited to be a guest on such programs as CBC Radio, TVO, Canada AM, 100 Huntley Street, with chance to share his life story to the Nation.

The 57 Orphans' story has been covered by many newspapers including the Toronto Star, Hamilton Spectator, Ottawa Citizen, Vancouver Sun, Saigon Newspaper, and included in the French Consulate Newsletter.

Most recently Thanh has written his autobiography titled *Orphan 32*. Since then, Thanh has been invited to speak at numerous business groups, conferences and schools across Canada as a keynote speaker sharing his story of coming to Canada. In 2014, Mr. Campbell was awarded the Paul Harris Fellow Award, a prestigious award, presented by the Rotary for those whose efforts are commended in community building.

We will hear this amazing story of the value of family, life and the power of love.

All are WELCOME!

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The Present - the Past Waterfront Hotel

by Patricia Taylor

THE PRESENT

The owner of the Waterfront Hotel, at the east end of Spencer Smith Park, has big plans for this site. Demolish the hotel and replace it with 2 buildings – one 35-storeys, the other 30. There would be a 5-storey podium joining the two buildings containing commercial space. There would be a hotel with 122 guest rooms and the top floors would contain 557 residential apartments.

Burlington City council unanimously rejected this proposal in 2022 as overdevelopment of this site. The city is trying to control overdevelopment particularly along the waterfront.

This was not a new vision for the waterfront.

THE PAST

In 1964, at the other end of what became Spencer Smith Park, big changes were being planned. The Brant Inn had been sold and the new owner was envisioning a 44-storey apartment building, 100-suite hotel, a 500-seat convention centre, a restaurant and shopping facilities taking its place.

This dream had changed by 1967. Now there was talk about a 20-floor apartment building on top of a 5-floor hotel and a recreation and parking wing built over the water.

1969 brought another vision. 14 floors were added to the apartment portion - a total of 350 suites.

All this on two-thirds of an acre. Burlington council was concerned – this was a rather ambitious project for such a small space. There was a bylaw on the books that allowed building over the water. The 1976 Burlington council reversed this bylaw. The proposed development was scrapped.

The property was eventually sold to the City so there could be continuous access to Lake Ontario along the waterfront from Brant St. to the Burlington Canal.

2023 BHS Board

Officers
(Elected)

President

Jane Ann Newson

First Vice President

Don Thorpe

Second Vice President

Nicola Thomson

Secretary

Patricia Taylor

Treasurer
(vacant)

Past President

Joan Downey

Directors
(Appointed)

Programs

Alan Harrington

Bookkeeper

Jane A. Newson

Archives

Joan Downey

Webmaster

Wayne Murphy

Membership

Patricia Taylor

Newsletter

Jane Ann Newson

Outreach

All Board Members

Event Planner

Patricia Taylor

Convenors
(Appointed)

Greeting Cards

Anne Wingfield

Heritage Burlington

Alan Harrington

Social Media

Jennifer Kemp

Nicola Thomson

50/50 Draw

Don Thorpe

Archive
(Volunteers)

Josie Hammond

Jennifer Kemp

Dorothy Kew

Patricia Taylor

Nicola Thomson

Peggy Armstrong

Joan Downey

Next Month's Program

March 13, 2023

Centennial Room at 7:00pm

Speakers

Chris Mallion Moore -Post cards between 2 local
Teenage girls

Patricia Taylor - Waterfront Sculpture Trail

Everyone is Welcomed



The Burlington Historical Society
 Preserving Burlington's History for Today and Tomorrow

Membership - 2023

Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Membership Dues

New Member Family: \$40.00 Senior: \$25.00
 Renewal Adult: \$30.00

Yes, as a new BHS member I wish to receive the Gazette newsletter and other e-communications and understand I can unsubscribe at any time.

Volunteer

Are you interested in volunteering with the Society? Would you like to help us in preserving the history of our City? Tell us a bit about your talents and interests – info@burlingtonhistorical.ca

Donation

I wish to make a separate donation to the society in the sum of _____
 A Tax Receipt will be issued for all donations totalling \$25.00 or more
 The Burlington Historical Society is a registered charity # 119217693RR0001

Mail completed form and remittance(s) to:

The Burlington Historical Society
 Membership Director
 PO Box 93164
 1450 Headon Road
 Burlington, Ontario L7M 4A3

Make cheques payable to The Burlington Historical Society

OR

e-transfer funds to  info@burlingtonhistorical.ca

If you are a new member using e-transfer, please email the completed form to us at the above email

OR

Leave it at the Membership table at any General Meeting

www.burlingtonhistorical.ca
info@burlingtonhistorical.ca
[www.facebook.com/burlington history](https://www.facebook.com/burlingtonhistory)