



Zooming Back: Unmasking Our History

Virtual Program 2021 Program Details & Registration

A program of Chinook Country Historical Society

Our Sponsors



Funded by the
Government
of Canada



Most of our virtual programs listed below are in cooperation with Calgary Public Library. Click on the *Register* button to receive the link to access the event. If you don't live in Calgary, you do not qualify for a Calgary library card that is required to register for these events. As a CCHS member, if you wish to participate in these events, please email us at info@chinookhistory.ca and we can send you the appropriate link.

Friday, July 23

7:00 pm – Opening Ceremonies

Kickoff to Historic Calgary Week 2021. **Mayor Nenshi** will bring greetings and open the “Week.” In his remarks, he will reveal some of his favourite places in Calgary.

[Register](#)

7:30 pm – When Avenues Collide: Road Riddles and Map Mysteries

Avenues are supposed to be parallel - so why do some intersect? Why does 17B St precede 17A St? Why is Tompkins Square a triangle? Was Maggie of Maggie Street the same person as Margaret of Margaret Street, four blocks away? Why is there no college on College Lane? Why are some SW addresses north of the Bow? Join **Doug Coats** as he explores Calgary's quirky road system!

Registration: (Register using 7:00 pm link above.)



An improbable intersection

Saturday, July 24

10:00 am — Chinatown: Beyond Dim Sum

Did you know the current location of Chinatown is the third one in Calgary and Canada's 3rd largest? Have you seen the many murals, often in hidden places? We'll hear about the history of Calgary's Chinatown, Chinese Cultural Centre, Chinese culture and artistic murals in the area. Join **Peter Wong** as he shows us what makes Chinatown a proud, thriving community.

[Register](#)



Dragon Bridge mural, Chinatown

Sunday, July 25

2:00 pm — Succession Proofing Your Family Study

Jim Benedict, President of the Alberta Family Histories Society, will explain the evolution of genealogy recording, from the pencil-and-paper era to the internet 'in the cloud.' How has technology moved researching methods from dusty libraries into virtual research centres? This interactive discussion with the audience will explore methods of preserving research in the digital age, so that your successors can continue with your research.

[Register](#)



7:00 pm — Invasion of the Infill

Every year older homes in inner-city communities are replaced. Is this an invasion in our inner-city communities or just a healthy upgrading of the housing inventory to meet current housing needs for people of all ages and backgrounds? What about heritage? How many older homes do we need to preserve? What about diversity? Can we have both? Calgary blogger and flaneur, **Richard White**, gives his take on the evolution in our older neighbourhoods.

[Register](#)



Infill in Calgary's inner city

Monday, July 26

12:00 pm — Finding an Economic Niche: The History of Chinese Laundries in Southern Alberta

For decades in the twentieth century, laundries run by Chinese businessmen were an essential feature of Alberta's urban landscapes. These buildings served multiple important functions in Chinese-Albertan communities. **Allan Rowe** tells of the importance of Chinese laundries in Alberta's history with a particular focus on Calgary and southern Alberta.

[Register](#)



Wing Chong Laundry, Heritage Park



The Hunt House “before “ photo

7:00 pm — Looking After Your Heritage Home

An advocate and owner of a small construction firm dedicated to conserving our built heritage, **Dave Chalmers'** company has completed numerous restoration projects over the last 6 years including Calgary's Old City Hall, the McDougall Church and the Hunt House at Fort Calgary. As a born and raised Calgarian he is devoted to understanding the City's history, its built and cultural heritage and where the heck do we go from here.

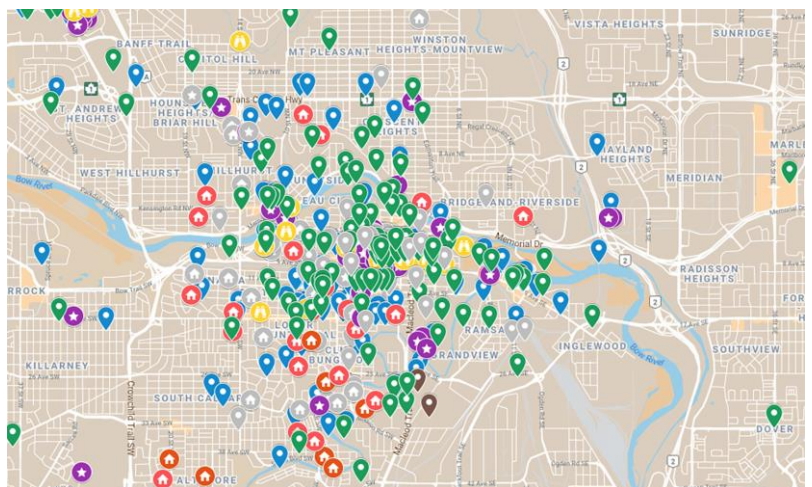
[Register](#)

Tuesday, July 27

7:00 pm — Behind the Scenes with the Mapmakers: A Panel Discussion

How do you map a city's unknown histories? Calgary mapmakers, **Kevin Allen** and **Shaun Hunter**, along with the Calgary Atlas Project's **Jim Ellis**, will talk about charting the city's cultural landscape and using maps to pin down the past. Moderated by Heritage Calgary's **Asia Walker**.

[Register](#)



Shaun Hunter's Literary Map of Calgary
Screenshot of shaunhunter.ca/map



Archive Shelves

10:00 am — Back Page Challenge

Have you ever wondered: “What was the deal with the Council schism of 1886?” Or maybe you’ve had sleepless nights pondering over what sort of issues early City Bus Drivers might have had with their uniforms? Well, then, this is your opportunity to satisfy those curiosities! Join Archivists **Carol Stokes, Kristine Lehe**w and **Bryan Bance** as they partake in an entertaining question and answer panel game featuring some of the more unusual and colourful stories found in the City of Calgary Archives.

Although the presentation will be pre-recorded, an opportunity for questions and a virtual tour of the Archives will be available at the end.

[Register](#) or call 403-268-8180 or email: archives@calgary.ca

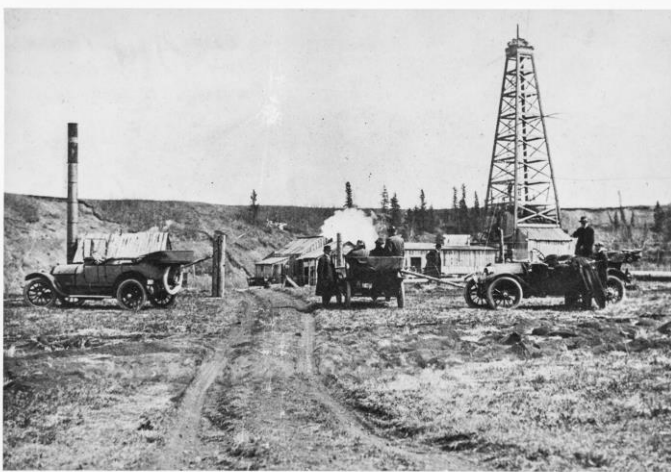
12:00 pm — The Women of Calgary City Council: A Panel Discussion

Did you know — more men named “John” have served on Calgary’s City Council than women? For the 137 years Calgary has been a municipality, only 31 women have been elected to serve on Council. To date, no woman has been elected to the mayor’s seat. This small but mighty cohort has included educators, nurses, food sustainability advocates, community organizers, business owners, and even a World War II Lieutenant Colonel. Join this panel session, comprised of **Asia Walker, Madeleine King** and **Gael MacLeod** that will be moderated by **Josh Traptow**, highlighting the many achievements of these incredible public servants in spite of obstacles they faced.

[Register](#)



Annie Gale, First Woman on Council



Turner Valley Oilfield ca. 1920
Photo courtesy Glenbow Archives NA-4139

2:00 pm — Turner Valley Oilfield Society Story Map

The Turner Valley Oilfield Society Story is compiling images and narratives about the people, places, and events that shaped the petroleum industry of western Canada. The information is on a base map of the area and will allow users to take virtual tours. Learn about this rich history from Larry Kapustka.

[Register](#)

5:00 pm — Painting Climate Change in the Canadian Rockies

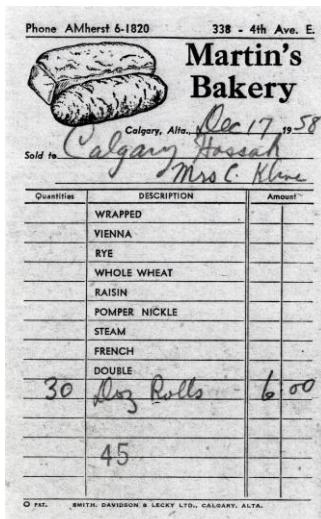
For over 10,000 years, the Rocky Mountains have offered home, refuge, and sustenance. Millions of people now depend on the health of the mountains. The future of the Rockies is imperilled. The Rockies Repeat documentary project bears witness to climate change in the Canadian Rockies. It follows a collective of women and two-spirited artists, of Indigenous and settler heritage. Revisiting iconic alpine landscapes by early Banff artist, Catharine Robb Whyte, their journey is moving, heartbreaking, and healing.

Documentary director, **Caroline Hedin**, provides a project overview, relaying the power of storytelling in the time of climate change. Get a preview of the artworks to debut at a 2022 exhibition at the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies. Learn more at www.rockiesrepeatfilm.com.

[Register](#)



Rockies Repeat Team Lining up a century old painting by Catherine Robb Whyte
Courtesy Rockies Repeat



Martin's Bakery Receipt, 1958
Courtesy Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta

7:00 pm — Reinach Avenue: Calgary's Forgotten Jewish Street

Known as Reinach Avenue from 1884–1904, 4 Avenue South was likely the only road in Calgary's history with a Jewish namesake - Baron Jacques de Reinach, a French-German banker and a director of the CPR. Join **Harry Sanders** as he leads us in a rediscovery of its forgotten Jewish history, which includes the Calgary Public Market, the Summit Hotel, James Short School, and blocks of family homes.

[Register](#)

Thursday, July 29

12:00 pm — Starting A Family History

It looked so easy on TV! Ever wonder how those TV researchers can find genealogy information? There is a bit more to it than searching the internet. Join us for a fun and painless introduction to family history research. **Christine Hayes** will cover both online and offline resources and techniques that can be applied to research anywhere in the world.

[Register](#)



Focusing a lens on Family History



A “beaver” in Bridgeland

2:00 pm — From Hats to Habitat Creators: The Changing Role of Beavers in Calgary

When Smithbilt Hats opened in 1919, most Calgarians thought beavers were good for one thing only: their pelts. Today, we recognize the importance of beavers as habitat creators, water stewards and climate change allies. As our relationship with beavers continues to evolve, **Frances Backhouse** and **Katie Bakken** explore these changing historical perspectives that help inform the future.

[Register](#)

7:00 pm — Reintroducing Fort Calgary: Stories of a National Historic Site

Fort Calgary is an important character in Calgary’s origin story. Why is this place so significant to our shared past? Join **Allison Graham** and the Fort Calgary team as we revisit our archives and collections, and dig a little deeper into the stories of this place. This session will explore some of the fascinating, layered histories and artifacts that make this site unique.

[Register](#)



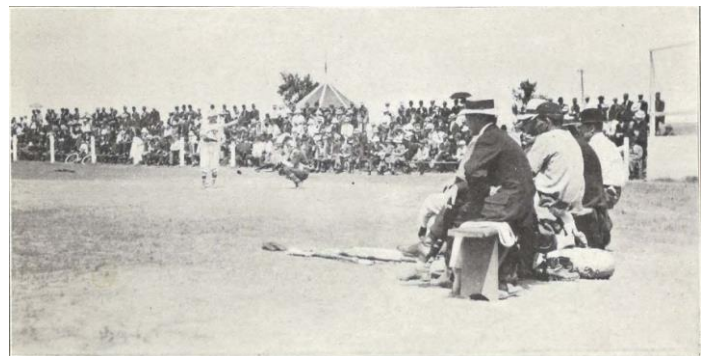
Aerial view of Fort Calgary
Courtesy of Fort Calgary

Friday, July 30

10:00 am — From Wilds to War: Mewata Park

As Calgary’s first public park, Mewata Park has served many purposes from a playground to a Canadian military parade ground, to a football stadium, and everything in between. On behalf of Calgary Parks, Know History’s historian, **Nick Gillen**, outlines the many changes this space went through during the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries and how it has become one of Calgary’s most discussed and controversial parks.

[Register](#)



Mewata Park Baseball Game 1913
Courtesy City of Calgary Report



A harpsichord in the NMC collection

12:00 pm — From the Vault of NMC

Focused on the historic collection stored in the Vault, **Jesse Moffatt**, Director of Collections and Exhibitions at National Music Centre takes viewers on a pre-taped exploration of its living musical instruments, Hall of Fame collections and the infrastructure designed for the care of rare objects in the NMC Collection. **Elizabeth Reade**, Director of Development, will host a Q&A session after the presentation.

[Register](#)

2:00 pm — Historical Photos from Glenbow Collection

Join University of Calgary, Library and Cultural Resources staff **Rob Alexander** and **Anita Dammer** as they highlight collections of iconic images from early Calgary photographers W. J. Oliver and the Rosettis Studio.

William John Oliver, 1887-1954, began his photography career in 1910 with the Morning Albertan. Bill Oliver went on to become one of Canada's most well-known adventure, nature, and documentary photographers.

The Calgary-based Rosettis Studio, owned by Joe and Kay Rosettis, operated in Calgary from 1943 to 1965. Joe Rosettis worked in various roles as a staff photographer and as a freelancer.

[Register](#)



Pack train in mountains

W. J. Oliver, Glenbow Library and Archives,
UCalgary: NA-4868-159



Brotherhood of Railway Porters
Courtesy Karen Mills, based on archive photo

2:00 pm — Mapping Calgary's Labour History

Join artist **Karen Mills** and historian **Kirk Niergarth** of Mount Royal University for a virtual 'tour' of Calgary's labour history using the map they have collaborated on for the Calgary Atlas Project. This map uses a combination of art and story to show how Calgary was built, literally and metaphorically, by workers who organized to promote the common good and community well-being.

[Register](#)

7:00 pm — Building the Sandstone City

Calgary owes its nickname — The Sandstone City — to stonecutters. These artisans used sandstone from local quarries to craft iconic buildings, transforming the city’s appearance. But these multifaceted stonecutters also changed Calgary’s cultural landscape. Join **Shari Peyerl** to learn about Calgary’s sandstone buildings and the people who made them, like the ambitious entrepreneur who climbed the career ladder, the farmer who built the Grain Exchange and sowed the seeds of political change, and the tenacious sportsmen who scored the national championship.

[Register](#)



Grain Exchange Building, Built 1909

Saturday, July 31

2:00 pm — Windows on Culture: Stained Glass at Christ Church

Christ Church Elbow Park houses some of Calgary’s magnificent stained glass windows. The church is graced by many examples from Toronto’s famous McCausland Ltd., which also made windows for Canada’s Parliament Buildings. **Frits Pannekoek** and **Catherine Evamy** will discuss these windows, which commemorate the lives of well-known Calgarians.

[Register](#)



Wedding at Cana

Courtesy Christ Church Elbow Park

Sunday, August 1



Sandstone at the CPR Quarry

Courtesy Edworthy Park Heritage Society,
photo by Anna Sanders

**10:00 am — Leaving No Stone Unturned
(or Between a Rock and a Hard Place)**

Cancelled

2:00 pm — Chinatown: Beyond Dim Sum

Did you know the current location of Chinatown is the third one in Calgary and Canada's 3rd largest? Have you seen the many murals, often in hidden places? We'll hear about the history of Calgary's Chinatown, Chinese Cultural Centre, Chinese culture and artistic murals in the area. Join **Peter Wong** as he shows us what makes Chinatown a proud, thriving community. (Repeat of July 24 program)

[Register](#)



Chinese Cultural Centre

Photo Credits: All photos that do not show credits in the caption are courtesy of Walt DeBoni.

Presentation Partners

Chinook Country Historical Society would like to thank our generous Partner Organizations for their valuable contributions to our Virtual Program

[Alberta Family Histories Society](#)

[Alberta Federation of Labour](#)

[Chalmers Heritage Conservation Ltd.](#)

[Christ Church Elbow Park](#)

[City of Calgary Archives](#)

[Diversecities](#)

[Edworthy Park Heritage Society](#)

[Friends of Fish Creek](#)

[Fort Calgary](#)

[Glenbow Western Research Centre](#)

[Heritage Calgary](#)

[I Love YYC Chinatown Society](#)

[Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta](#)

[Know History](#)

[National Music Centre](#)

[Turner Valley Oilfield Society](#)

A big thank you to Calgary Public Library and its staff that handles logistics for and hosts most of our virtual programs.

We encourage you to visit the websites of our partners for more information on their excellent contributions to our community.

VOLUNTEERS

A huge thank you to all our volunteers, our committee members, our presenters and organizers without whom Historic Calgary Week would not exist. We also thank our partners, whose own volunteers and staff bring a rich diversity to our festival and help us give life to the stories of our history. Hundreds of hours are required to research the topics, prepare presentations and to organize and run this program. All events are presented free of charge to the public.