



Multicultural History Society of Ontario Newsletter

What We've Been Up To...



Honourable Gurbax Singh Malhi,
Liberal MP for Bramalea-Gore-Malton,
with Interviewer Ravneet Dulai

Working with At-Risk Youth

In 2010-2011, the MHSO was a part of "Experience This!" a Serve! Canada program for at-risk youth between the ages of 17-24. Over the course of 16 weeks, the Serve! participants learned about oral history and completed two oral history interviews that have been added to the MHSO's collection. We are looking forward to welcoming a new group of youth in November 2011.

UTM History Students Learn About Their Heritage

Three 4th year history students from the University of Toronto Mississauga completed placements with the MHSO from September 2010 to April 2011. The interns, Felicia Daisy, Ravneet Dulai and Grigor Grigorian, conducted interviews with Afro-Caribbean teachers, Sikh community leaders and politicians, and Armenians born in Iran. These interviews are now part of the MHSO's collection for all to enjoy.

**Check us out on
Facebook,
YouTube, and
Flickr!**

Get the latest updates on MHSO activities on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/multiculturalhistorysociety; subscribe to our YouTube channel by going to www.youtube.com/user/MulticulturalHistory; and join our flickr group at www.flickr.com/groups/chinesecanadian-women/.

New Website Gives A Voice to Chinese Canadian Women

www.mhso.ca/chinesecanadianwomen

After nearly two years, the website *Chinese Canadian Women, 1923-1967* is now complete. Visit the site to learn about the experiences of Chinese Canadian women during a time of legislative discrimination. Explore fun activities, view more than 1,000 photographs and listen to compelling interviews. Thank you to all who contributed to this website and to the Community Historical Recognition Program funding program. Visit the site at www.mhso.ca/chinesecanadianwomen.

New Oral History Video Launched

www.mhso.ca/tiesthatbind/video.php

The MHSO also worked closely with the Foundation to Commemorate the Chinese Railroad Workers in Canada (FCCRWC) to produce and documentary video, *The Ties That Bind*. This project celebrates Chinese Canadian railway workers and their contributions to our nation. Watch the documentary video to hear Chinese Canadians speak about their ancestors' experiences building the CPR.



Launch of *Chinese Canadian Women, 1923-1967* website and *The Ties That Bind* video documentary

Volunteers

The MHSO is fortunate to have a wonderful team of volunteers, but we could always use more help. This is an exciting opportunity to learn new skills while gaining hands-on experience in a cultural heritage institution. If you'd like to join us, contact Britt Braaten at 416-979-2973 or by email at britt.braaten@mhso.ca.

With a MHSO membership, you will...

- Have free access to the MHSO's collection of oral history interviews, historical photographs, and documents from 56 ethno-cultural communities
- Be included on our mailing list for future events, launch parties, and newsletters

**To become a member contact us at
mhso.mail@utoronto.ca or by mail
Donations are welcome!**

Welcome!

The MHSO would like to welcome Julia Rady-Shaw as the newest member of the Board of Directors. Julia is currently working on her doctoral studies at the University of Toronto History Department, examining the role of the Protestant Church in post-World War Two Ontario.

Congratulations!

We would like to offer our congratulations to Jonathan Bengtson on his new position as University Librarian at the University of Victoria. Jonathan has been a board member and a great supporter of our collection and organization. We wish Jonathan well in all his future endeavors.



Emily Beliveau (left) and Julia Lum (right) with MHSO curator, Britt Braaten

We would also like to congratulate Emily Beliveau and Julia Lum. Both were invaluable to the success of the *Chinese Canadian Women, 1923-1967* website. Emily is now the assistant curator at the Huron Historic Gaol in Goderich, Ontario. Julia will be attending Yale University to undertake her PhD in Art History. Congratulations to both and we wish them all the best!

We Appreciate Your Support!

Your support is very important to the MHSO, allowing us to preserve and make accessible our collection, operate workshops and collect new resources. Without your help, the MHSO's could lose its irreplaceable collection of oral history interviews or be forced to eliminate its educational programs. Please support us so we can continue our important work.

If you'd like to make a donation by cheque, please make all cheques payable to the Multicultural History Society of Ontario and mail to:

901 Lawrence Avenue West, Suite 307
Toronto, Ontario, M6A 1C3

To make a donation by credit card, please visit the MHSO profile on CanadaHelps.org by searching for "Multicultural History Society of Ontario" at www.canadahelps.org.

Contributions over \$15 are tax deductible as permitted by law.

Future Activities

Nearby History

This fall, the MHSO will be partnering with a new University of Toronto Scarborough undergraduate History course: *Nearby History: The Method and Practice of Local History*. The MHSO is pleased to be involved in this course as a community placement partner. Five students will work with our Scarborough-based collection to produce a community history project.

Digitization

The MHSO is racing against time to digitize the 3,800 oral history interviews cassette tapes in its collection. Help the MHSO raise the \$140,000 we need to digitize our entire oral history collection. With your help, we can make sure that this unique collection is not lost forever. For more information about how you can help, contact the MHSO.

In the Works...

Hacking History is a fourth year undergraduate course offered at the University of Toronto Scarborough. It studies the connection between history, community and digital media. The MHSO sees an opportunity to partner with the *Hacking History* students to produce an online component to our Oral History Museum, thereby reaching a wider audience within Ontario and Canada.

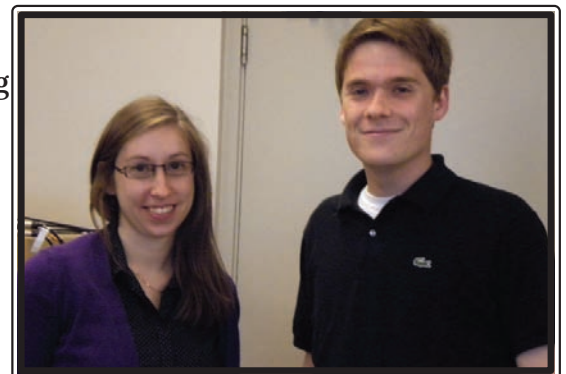
The East Asian Library, University of Toronto has expressed interest in aiding us in the digitization of our Asian oral history collection. We will continue to update you as this relationship develops.

Library and Archive News

The MHSO collection has moved! The Kelly Library has provided ground floor space for our library and archive. This move has increased the accessibility of our collection to the public. We thank the Kelly Library for their generosity and ongoing support.

Summer Students

This summer, the MHSO has hired Matthew Howe, a past volunteer, with funding received from Summer Experience Program through the Ministry of Tourism and Culture. Matt is now organizing the MHSO's digital collection in order to facilitate future digitization.



Haley Smith (left) with Matthew Howe

Haley Smith has also joined the MHSO team this summer as an intern from the University of Toronto, Master of Museum Studies. Her placement is focused on community engagement, with an emphasis on at-risk youth.