



The CABHC Patch

News from the Community Archives

Who were these Softball Champions?

February 2023



CABHC: 2023-003 Belleville High School girls' softball team, 1926



This photograph of a Belleville High School girls' softball team was recently transferred to the Community Archives. It was found among the records of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and depicts the winning team in the Eastern Ontario softball championship of 1926.

The photograph was taken by the Panoramic Camera Company which was based at 239 Victoria Street in Toronto. At this date, the firm was run by Frederick Stanley Rickard (1890-1962). Rickard was the nephew of William James Johnston (1856-1941), who had invented the rotating [Cirkut panoramic camera](#) in 1904.

So far, the only identified person in the photo is Mary Adams Colling (1912-2009, far left). Please let us know if you recognize anyone else! Possible team member names taken from the 1926 newspapers include: G. Wilkins, Lorna Ridley, Audrey and Aileen Wilkins, G. Kelleher, Pat Jarrell, J. Adams, Evelyn Cook and Jean Ramsay.

Cirkut camera from [Graflex catalogue](#), 1918

Recent Additions to the Archives

2023-001 Photograph of COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Quinte Sports and Wellness Centre, 2022

2023-002 Records of Mapleview School (S.S. #23) and Community Centre, Murray Township, 1904-1994

2023-003 Photograph of Belleville High School Girls' Softball Team

2023-004 Publications about Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf, 2022

2023-005 Digital file by Richard Longley on architect William Thomas, 2022

2023-007 City of Belleville Council minutes, 2022

2023-008 Additional diaries and files from the estate of Gerry Boyce, 1999-2019

Second-hand history books for sale by donation

Call in to the Gerry Boyce Reading Room at the Community Archives to explore our selection of donated local history books and yearbooks. These are duplicates of items already in our library, or books relating to parts of Ontario outside the collecting area of the Archives.

These items are available for a small donation to the Community Archives.

Dangers of tobogganing 100 years ago

The newspapers of 1923 reported on the death of a young man called William Furby. Furby had been enjoying a bobsleigh ride on Catharine Street in Belleville with a group of friends when the steering rope on the sleigh broke and he lost control. The group smashed into a pole at the bottom of Catharine Street and Furby died as a result of his injuries.

In 1923 there were no public toboggan hills and the custom was to close some streets to vehicular traffic at certain times. *The Daily Ontario* noted that "with Catharine hill covered with ice the sleighs rush at a high rate of speed into Coleman street, where there is considerable vehicular traffic, with consequent danger... Not only that but motorists have been using Catharine hill as a thoroughfare during the hours of sleigh riding and in every way the public street is dangerous".

