



# The CABHC Patch

## News from the Community Archives

July 2020

### Traffic control on Belleville's Front Street

Front street has seen many changes over the two hundred years of its existence, but change was particularly rapid in the early twentieth century, with the widespread adoption of the automobile as a means of transport. In the collections of the Community Archives we can see how the problem of controlling traffic at one of Belleville's busiest intersections was dealt with over the years.

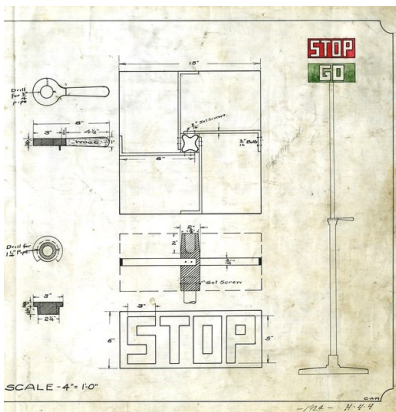


CABHC: HC01440 Front Street looking north, 1911

A photograph taken in 1911 by William James Topley

(1845-1930) shows only horse-drawn vehicles on an unpaved Front Street, with a single street light suspended above the Four Corners intersection with Bridge Street. There were paved crosswalks for pedestrians.

From 1924 we have a design by Charles Mott (1897-1969), City Engineer, for a manual stop/go sign to be used by the Belleville Police Department.



CABHC: M450-2019 Stop/Go sign, 1924

A recently-received photograph from around 1937 shows a

summer parade on Front Street at Bridge Street. By this date, the police officer with the stop/go sign had been replaced by a single suspended traffic light (with written instructions on it about when drivers should stop).



CABHC: HC08151A Front Street, c.1945

Two years later, *The Hastings Beacon* newspaper reported that four new lights would be installed, one at each corner of the intersection. These are likely the lights that can be seen in the photograph on the left here, attached to the elegantly-curved Front Street lampposts of the time.



CABHC: 2020-042/17 Front Street, c.1937

### Four Red Lights For Four Corners

The very near future will find four new red lights at the corner of Bridge and Front streets, one at each corner. At the same time three red lights will be installed at Victoria and Front streets.

CABHC: *The Hastings Beacon*, 1939

## Recent Additions to the Archives

**2020-039** Program for plaque unveiling in Victoria Park, Belleville, 1978

**2020-040** Digital photographs by Marilyn Warren of Black Lives Matter march in Belleville, 2020



**CABHC: 2020-040** Demonstration in Belleville in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, 7 June 2020 (Photo by Marilyn Warren)

**2020-041** Bay of Quinte constituency newsletter, 2020

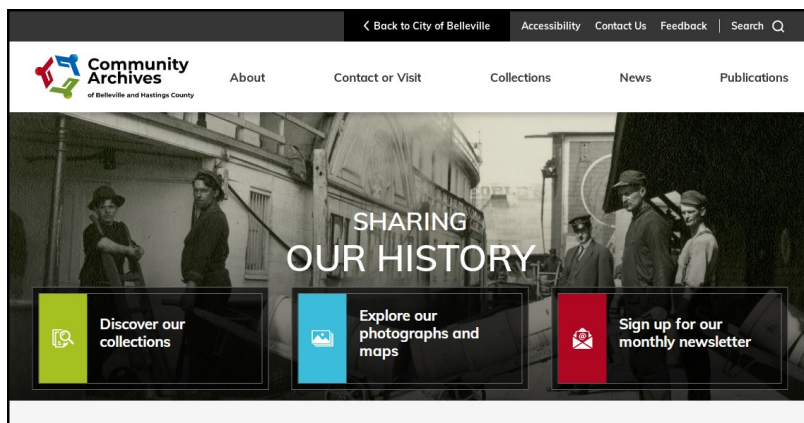
**2020-042** Photograph of flooding in Belleville and a parade on Front Street taken by Harold Thurgood, 1937

**2020-043** Printed draft of a building by-law for smaller municipalities on Ontario and related correspondence, 1952-1955

**2020-044** Digital photographs taken around Belleville by Paul Lantz showing Covid-19 shortages and restrictions, 2020

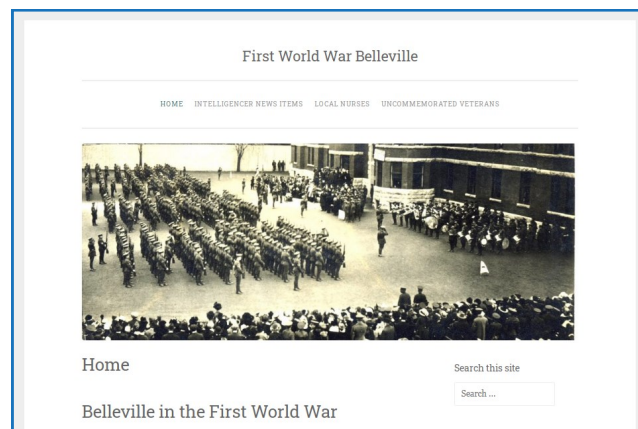
## New websites

In mid-July the Community Archives will be launching its new website at <http://cabhc.ca/>.



Preview of new Community Archives website

The First World War blog posts that were formerly part of the Community Archives website have been moved to a separate site dedicated to the local history of the conflict at <https://firstworldwarbelleville.ca/>. Here you can explore Laurel Bishop's extracts from *The Intelligencer* newspaper reports from the war and Don Brearley's histories of the Belleville and area nurses who served overseas. A search box on the home page makes it easy to find information about people and events.



First World War Belleville website