



## MEMORANDUM



**TO:** Heritage Markham Committee

**FROM:** Regan Hutcheson, Manager-Heritage Planning

**DATE:** April 8, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Education/Training  
Ontario Heritage Conference 2026  
June 18-20, 2026  
City of Hamilton, ON

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**Topic:** Ontario Heritage Conference 2026

**Background:**

- See attachment for details and registration information. Registration fee will be obtained as it was not readily available on the conference website. Assumed amounts:
  - Early Bird- Full \$290
  - Full \$390
  - Friday Only \$200 (gala dinner extra fee)
  - Saturday Only \$200
- Sponsored by Community Heritage Ontario, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and the Ontario Association of Heritage Professionals along with the local Hamilton Organizing Committee.

**Staff Comment**

- Heritage Markham Committee has allocated \$2,000 in the committee budget for training/conferences or educational seminars related to the committee's mandate.
- Early bird deadline for reduced registration ends April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- In the past, typical costs covered by the City for volunteer members include registration, accommodation and mileage to an upset amount.
- If a member wishes to attend and receive financial assistance, the name and amount of assistance needs to be included in the Heritage Markham recommendation.

**Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham**

That Heritage Markham receive as information the memo on the Ontario Heritage Conference 2026.

And That \_\_\_\_\_, be authorized to attend the Ontario Heritage Conference 2026 in Hamilton Ontario (June 18-20) to represent the Heritage Markham Committee and be

reimbursed for registration, mileage and accommodation to an upset limit of \$XXX from the 2026 Heritage Markham budget (Technical Workshops- Training for Volunteers).

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## About the event

Get your tickets at <https://cvent.me/Nyg8XR?RefId=OHC+2026>

The Ontario Heritage Conference (OHC) is a must-attend event that offers educational, inspirational, and networking opportunities to everyone involved in heritage conservation as professionals or as volunteers. Programming generally showcases broad spectrum issues within the context and realities of the local host municipality. Under the auspices of Community Heritage Ontario (CHO), Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) and the Ontario Association of Heritage Professionals (OAHP), the conference provides an excellent opportunity for regions to showcase heritage tourism venues and heritage conservation accomplishments.

### **PROGRAM At a Glance**

*Please note that the schedule and program elements may be subject to change*

#### **THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2026**

2:00 pm – 4:30 pm - Early Registration (Location t.b.d.)

5:30 pm – 8:00 pm - Early Registration (Location t.b.d.)

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm - Public Event (Panel Discussion at Magnolia Hall)

8:30 pm – 11:30 pm - Conference Meet & Greet (WSP Downtown Hamilton Office)

#### **FRIDAY JUNE 19, 2026 (LIUNA Station)**

8:00 am - 9:00 am - Registration, Networking, Breakfast  
9:00 am - 10:30 am - Conference Opening, Welcome from Conference Host Committee, Greetings, Land Acknowledgement,  
Keynote Speakers Panel (Q&A as time allows)  
10:30 am - 11:00 am - Break  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm - Session/Tour #1  
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm - Lunch  
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm - Session/Tour #2  
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm - Break  
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm - Session/Tour #3  
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm - Break  
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm - AGM (for CHO members)  
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm - Gala Dinner (with presentations)

The marketplace will be open throughout the day (8:00 am - 6:00 pm)

### **SATURDAY JUNE 20, 2026 (Sherman Avenue North)**

9:00 am – 10:30 am - Key Note Speaker Panel (Q&A as time allows) at the Playhouse Cinema  
10:30 am – 11:00 am - Break  
11:00 am – 2:00 pm - Open Studio Tours, Workshops, Demonstrations, Tours at Cotton Factory  
12:00pm – 1:30pm - Lunch provided at Cotton Factory  
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm - Walking Tours, Bus Tours, Access to Civic Museums

### **KEY CONFERENCE SITES**

*Please note that this list does not yet include off-site tour sites and civic museums.*

#### **Magnolia Hall**

##### **115 Hunter Street West, Hamilton, Ontario**

Built in 1877 in the Gothic Revival style, Magnolia Hall is a beautiful example of adaptive re-use of a former place of worship. As an Anglican church, St. Mark's served the community for over 100 years before closing in 1989 and sat vacant until its re-opening in 2025. Now owned by the City of Hamilton, the site has undergone extensive restoration, preserving the heritage character of the building and park, while adding modern services, gardens and accessibility. It now has a new life as a community arts and cultural programming space. This property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

#### **WSP – Downtown Hamilton Office**

##### **41 King William Street, Suite 401, Hamilton, Ontario**

Located only one block from Gore Park, The Empire Times is a significant revitalization project in Hamilton's central core, completed by Core Urban Inc. The project included the combination of two buildings, the addition of a glass-encased two-sided elevator servicing all floors, and the addition of a rooftop patio. Extensive interior renovations opened up large contemporary office spaces with exposed brick walls and ductwork. The Empire Times is home to a variety of restaurants and creative businesses and studios. This property is currently listed on the Municipal Heritage Register.

#### **LIUNA Station Banquet & Conference Centre**

### **360 Jamest St. N., Hamilton, Ontario**

Constructed between 1929 -1931, by the Canadian National Railway and designed by Architect John Schofield, this neoclassical style train station served both freight and passenger travel until its closure in 1993. After being left vacant for several years, the Labourer's International Union of North America (LIUNA) purchased the station and undertook renovations to reopen as LIUNA Station in 2000. The property is a designated National Historic Site, designated under the federal Heritage Railway Stations Protection Act and under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act by the City of Hamilton.

### **Workers Arts and Heritage Centre (WAHC)**

#### **51 Stuart Street, Hamilton, Ontario**

Located in the Custom House (1858-60), a National Historic Site and one of the oldest remaining 'federal' public buildings in Canada, its style and construction reflect the rise of Hamilton as a major railway and Great Lakes port. It is often cited as "one of Hamilton's foremost architectural landmarks." Designed by Frederick J. Rastrick and F.P. Rubridge, the Custom House is an excellent example of Italianate architecture. Over its history, the building has been home to many uses including Customs Department, school, YWCA, residential accommodations, vinegar factory, offices for the American Computing Company and Empire Wool Stock Company, a macaroni factory and a martial arts academy until it was purchased in 1995 and re-opened as the Workers Arts & Heritage Centre

### **Playhouse Cinema**

#### **177 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario**

Constructed in 1914, over its long history, this space has been used for Vaudeville and Motion picture, it was once Hamilton's premier Italian Cinema, has been home to Theatre and to a local youth program until it was restored by the Tutt Family. This property is now once again, an independently owned and operated, single screen cinema with its beautiful Art Deco details. This property is currently listed on the City's Inventory.

### **The Cotton Factory**

#### **270 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario**

This historic 1900 industrial complex formerly known as The Imperial Cotton Company Limited is a prime example of adaptive reuse. Spaces have been transformed into workshops, galleries, office space for creative professionals and studios for artists. This property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

*Please note that access to the 2nd & 3rd floors is available by stairs and by freight elevator (operated by an attendant). Should the elevator have unforeseen mechanical issues during the conference, this site may not be fully accessible.*

### **WHERE TO STAY**

For places to stay across the Hamilton area, please visit

**<https://tourismhamilton.com/accommodations/>**

Downtown hotel options within walking distance of the conference venues include:

[Sheraton Hamilton Hotel](#) | [Elevated Modern Hotel](#)

[Homewood Suites by Hilton Hamilton, Ontario, Canada](#)

[Hotels in Hamilton, Canada](#) | [Staybridge Suites Hamilton - Downtown](#)

[Hampton Inn by Hilton Hamilton](#)

[Stay Different at The Laundry Rooms](#)

Be sure to book your accommodations early, as rooms are in high demand for local events.

There are no reserved room blocks for the conference.

# Specific Program Details

Ontario Heritage Conference: Thursday Session & Tour Topics

**Thursday, June 18**

**Magnolia Hall**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**

[RSVP](#)



Time & Location

**Jun 18, 2026, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Magnolia Hall, 115 Hunter St W, Hamilton, ON L8P 1R1, Canada**

About the event

Get your tickets at <https://cvent.me/Nyg8XR?RefId=OHC+2026>

*Please note that the schedule and program elements may be subject to change*

## **THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2026**

As we welcome Conference attendees to the City, we invite everyone to explore Hamilton's downtown core, its attractions, heritage sites, architecture and vibrant restaurant scene. Early registration will be available for conference attendees.

All Conference attendees are invited to attend a public event to be held at Magnolia Hall.

Presented by the Hamilton Burlington Society of Architects, a moderated speakers panel will explore the topic: "Reimagining Hamilton's Waterfront: Adaptive Reuse, Remediation and Commemoration of our Industrial Heritage". This will include a look at Hamilton's abandoned Stelco lands and the future potential to re-activate and re-purpose these industrial spaces.

Following this presentation, there will be opportunities for tours and a private meet & greet for conference attendees, hosted by WSP at their restored office space in the Empire Times Building.

## **SESSION & TOUR TOPICS**

**6:30pm – 8:30pm**

**Magnolia Hall**

115 Hunter Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

**Panel Discussion:****Reimagining Hamilton's Waterfront: Adaptive Reuse, Remediation and Commemoration of our Industrial Heritage**

Hamilton's waterfront holds a complex legacy of industrial strength and environmental challenge. As the city contemplates the future of these former industrial lands, the path to adaptive reuse and remediation is both promising and uncertain. Experts will share their relevant experience and then have broader conversation about what can be done, the challenges encountered, and the innovative strategies being considered for waterfront redevelopment. The panel discussion will end with audience questions.

This session will take place in Magnolia Hall. Built in 1877 in the Gothic Revival style, Magnolia Hall is a beautiful example of adaptive re-use of a former place of worship. As an Anglican church, St. Mark's served the community for over 100 years before closing in 1989 and sat vacant until its re-opening in 2025. Now owned by the City of Hamilton, the site has undergone extensive restoration, preserving the heritage character of the building and park, while adding modern services, gardens and accessibility. It now has a new life as a community arts and cultural programming space. This property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

**8:30pm – 11:30pm****WSP – Downtown Hamilton Office**

41 King William Street, Suite 401, Hamilton, Ontario

**Welcome Reception / After Party**

WSP Hamilton invites conference attendees to join staff in their Hamilton office for drinks and light fare. The office is located at the top floor of the former Empire Times building.

Located only one block from Gore Park, The Empire Times is a significant revitalization project in Hamilton's central core, completed by Core Urban Inc. The project included the combination of two buildings, the addition of a glass-encased two-sided elevator servicing all floors, and the addition of a rooftop patio. Extensive interior renovations opened up large contemporary office spaces with exposed brick walls and ductwork. The Empire Times is home to a variety of restaurants and creative businesses and studios. This property is currently listed on the Municipal Heritage Register.

FRIDAY

Fri, Jun 19

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LIUNA Station

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!



Time & Location

**Jun 19, 2026, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**LIUNA Station, 360 James St N, Hamilton, ON L8L 4M7, Canada**

About the event

Get your tickets at <https://cvent.me/Nyg8XR?RefId=OHC+2026>

*Please note that the schedule and program elements may be subject to change*

### **FRIDAY JUNE 19, 2026**

Friday's conference events will be centred out of Liuna Station Banquet and Convention Centre, located along Hamilton's James Street North in Hamilton's historic North End. This location is just a short walk away from Hamilton's waterfront and with the West Harbour Go station situated directly across the street, commuters will have easy access to the conference site.

LIUNA Station will be the hub of our Conference activities for the day, including keynote, speaker panels, a marketplace and both self-guided and guided walking tours. During the event, attendees will see a showcase of adaptive reuse projects related to industrial heritage properties and be offered access to a variety of session topics that will explore key issues impacting built heritage and heritage landscapes across the province. Walking tours will take attendees to local heritage sites including, the Worker's Arts and Heritage Centre (WAHC), the Hamilton Industrial Trail, James Street North and the Copley Buildings.

The evening will be capped off by the annual Gala Dinner to be held in the Grand Ballroom at LIUNA Station. This space was once the main concourse that served as a bustling waiting area for train travelers until its adaptive reuse as a conference centre.

### **SESSION & TOUR TOPICS**

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**

**Registration, Breakfast, Networking and Vendor Marketplace**

(Note: Vendor Marketplace open 8am – 6pm)

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**

**Welcome Keynote: Adaptive Reuse**

A panel will discuss the importance of historic industrial spaces, their potential for adaptive reuse and the design challenges faced along the way. Speakers will explore the Niagara Parks Power Station conversion to a hands-on museum and the adaptation of Hamilton's Cotton Factory into workshops, galleries, office space for creative professionals and studios for artists.

*Note: sessions qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

**11:00 am - 12:30 pm – Morning Options (Tours and Sessions)**

**Chose 1 of the following options:**

**Preventing Demolition by Neglect**

Demolition by neglect can be expected to increase as building owners continue to struggle with a failing real estate market. To prevent neglect municipalities, have to navigate the complex relationship between the Municipal Act, The Heritage Act and The Building Code. This session will explore some of the tools and tactics that are used in the management of neglect of heritage buildings in the context of the City of Hamilton and Town of Oakville and their effectiveness.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

**Conservation of Heritage Resources through Circularity: Strategies for Rehabilitation and Salvage**

“The greenest building is...one that is already built,” a phrase coined by architect Carl Elephante, captures the spirit of this session where architects, buildings scientists, deconstruction experts and heritage masonry specialists discuss how participating in the circular economy through the conservation of existing buildings and the reuse of historic building materials can reduce our carbon footprint. The construction and demolition industries are linear economies, using resources to make products that ultimately end up in the landfill, whereas the circular economy aims to eliminate waste, circulate salvaged products and materials and regenerate nature. By rehabilitating historic buildings and circulating salvaged materials for reuse, we can eliminate unnecessary waste, even unseen waste like a product's total greenhouse gas emissions from extraction to disposal, also known as “embodied” or “upfront carbon.” Join these experts to learn more about rehabilitating historic buildings, the process of deconstruction and salvage when restoration isn't possible and how measuring embodied carbon allows us to understand the environmental impact of the built environment.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

**From Union to Hamilton, case studies of industrial heritage projects in the GTHA**

Industrial heritage sites across Ontario present complex challenges where aging historic structures and landscapes must adapt to contemporary infrastructure and development demands. These sites include a wide spectrum of cultural heritage resources including built heritage properties, cultural heritage landscapes, and archaeological sites, each carrying distinct historical, architectural, and community values. WSP demonstrates how heritage conservation and infrastructure development can not only coexist, but how appropriate

heritage conservation can add value to infrastructure development. By embedding conservation principles in early project stages, industrial heritage sites can evolve to meet modern needs while preserving the character and stories that define Ontario's cultural landscape.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Walking Tour – Historic James Street North and the Copley Project**

Built in three phases between 1856 and 1911, the Copley Building at 56 York Boulevard is a survivor of Hamilton's "Stone Age". Associated with the City's textile industry for over a century and a half, this landmark Renaissance Revival commercial building will soon reopen featuring residential units, mixed use spaces and a boutique hotel. You are invited to come tour the Copley and view the ongoing adaptive reuse as it progresses.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Walking Tour – Central Neighbourhood: Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Properties**

Join us on a walking tour of Central, one of Hamilton's four original neighbourhoods. On our route we will visit the surviving industrial buildings that dot this area, including the Felton Brush Factory, the Hamilton Bridge Works complex, and the former Customs House (now the Worker's Art and Heritage Center). Learn about the interesting histories of these buildings and their successful adaptive reuse to new purposes.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Unstructured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Walking Tour - Industrial North-End Waterfront Trail and Workers Arts & Heritage Centre (WAHC)**

Explore some of Hamilton's Industrial North End history, include a tour of the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre. WAHC is located in the Custom House (1858-60), a National Historic Site and one of the oldest remaining 'federal' public buildings in Canada. Its style and construction reflect the rise of Hamilton as a major railway and Great Lakes port. It is often cited as "one of Hamilton's foremost architectural landmarks."

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Unstructured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

## **1:30 pm - 3:00 pm – Afternoon Option A (Tours and Sessions)**

**Chose 1 of the following options:**

### **Designating Industrial Buildings**

Designating an industrial building can be a very different sort of proposition than designating a house, school or church. Join our presenters as they explore some recent (and not so recent) industrial designations to discuss the challenges, successes and insights gained in protecting industrial heritage.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Success Stories in Industrial Adaptive Reuse “No Name” Preserving our Culture & Heritage**

Discover how visionary projects are transforming old industrial spaces into vibrant hubs of innovation, culture, and sustainability. This panel brings together experts to share inspiring success stories of adaptive reuse in industrial settings. Explore how these projects preserve heritage, reduce environmental impact, and revitalize communities by creatively repurposing

existing structures. From abandoned factories to warehouses, learn about the challenges overcome, innovative design solutions, and the economic and social benefits generated.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Preserving Our Cultural Heritage Landscapes**

Hamilton's Monument Trees offer an entry point into understanding the city's natural heritage and broader issues of climate change, revealing how each significant tree acts as a sign or marker of layered ecological, cultural, and urban design history. This talk will explore the role of Monument Trees within Hamilton's shifting landscape, connecting past land use to contemporary urban restoration and climate resilience strategies. Drawing on our studio's ongoing research, this work highlights how field documentation, ecological study, and community engagement shape our approach.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

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*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Unstructured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

## **3:30 pm – 5:00 pm - Afternoon Option B (Tours and Sessions)**

**Chose 1 of the following options:**

### **Conservation of Heritage Resources through Circularity: Policy and Process**

This session focuses on how existing heritage policies and municipal processes can be leveraged to advance circularity in practice. The discussion will examine how current documentation, conservation, and demolition review frameworks already provide a foundation for circular approaches — and how they can be strengthened to support full building reuse, adaptive retention, and structured material recovery.

A short opening presentation will outline a practical progression, 1. Aligning circularity with existing heritage policy tools, 2. Prioritizing full building reuse and retention strategies, 3. Introducing Salvage Feasibility Assessments to inform demolition and capital planning decisions, 4. Moving from building-level conservation to material-level reuse through clearer reporting and process integration.

The session will then transition to a moderated panel discussion with representatives from the City of Brampton and the City of Hamilton, who will share how documentation requirements, salvage reporting, and circular economy objectives are being integrated into municipal policy and approvals workflows. Together, the panel will explore how heritage professionals can move from policy alignment to practical implementation, and how structured reuse processes can support both conservation outcomes and broader sustainability goals

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **From Traditional Knowledge to Contemporary Craft**

To illustrate examples of how learning traditional knowledge informs the practice of craft skills based on a respect and understanding of traditional materials, methods and applications for conservation initiatives

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **Finding Historical Facts with Digital Research**

How to access digital versions of important heritage resources including the 1880 County Atlas series, Ontario Fire Insurance Maps and Historical Census data. “Hands on” demonstrations of how to access basic information available on each site, then how to use what you have learned along with what you already know to uncover further historic details – not unlike solving a mystery. Participants could opt to use their own digital devices to follow along and access their own relevant resources.

*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

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*Note: session qualifies for 1.5 hrs Unstructured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

**5:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

## **Community Heritage Ontario – AGM**

Members of the CHO are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting for an organizational update, which will include approval of financial reports and elections to the CHO board.

**6:00pm – 9:30 pm**

## **Gala Event & Dinner**

Liuna Station – Grand Ballroom

## **SATURDAY**

**Sat, Jun 20**

|

**Playhouse Cinema**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**

[RSVP](#)



Time & Location

**Jun 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Playhouse Cinema, 177 Sherman Ave N, Hamilton, ON L8L 6M8, Canada**

About the event

Get your tickets at <https://cvent.me/Nyg8XR?RefId=OHC+2026>

*Please note that the schedule and program elements may be subject to change*

The historic Sherman Avenue Industrial area will act as the hub for Saturday's conference events, where we will kick off the day with a keynote session at the historic Playhouse Cinema.

Following our time at the Playhouse, conference attendees will make their way a short walk down the street to the Cotton Factory. This historic 1900 industrial complex formerly known as The Imperial Cotton Company Limited is a prime example of adaptive reuse. Industrial spaces have been transformed into workshops, galleries, office space for creative professionals and studios for artists.

Throughout the day, attendees can explore open studios, view heritage displays, participate in mini-workshops and craftperson demonstrations, enjoy lunch and then continue to explore Sherman Avenue North and other nearby repurposed industrial venues and civic museums, with a mix of self-guided and guided tours.

## **SESSION & TOUR TOPICS**

### **9:00 am – 10:30 am**

Playhouse Cinema - 177 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario

#### **Plenary Session: Heritage Insurance – Myths vs. Realities**

The availability & affordability of insurance for designated heritage property has become so problematic that owners are requesting removal of designations. Many insurers are refusing to insure designated property or are overestimating replacement values due to misunderstanding risks & requirements. A panel from various fields will highlight positive actions by owners and municipal heritage planners that could help encourage a better understanding and more positive attitude in the insurance industry.

*Note: sessions qualifies for 1.5 hrs Structured OAA Continuing Education Credit*

### **11:00 am – 2:00 pm**

The Cotton Factory - 270 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario

#### **Open Studio Tours & Traditional Trades Fair**

The Traditional Trades Fair will showcase the traditional skills and trades that preserve, restore and adaptively reuse historic buildings. This event is open to all delegates and includes demonstrations, exhibits and open studios. Students from the Willowbank heritage conservation Diploma program, Lori LeMare, Lower City Joinery and other specialized tradespeople will be on site doing live demonstrations and opening their studios and workshops. The event takes place in the Cotton Factory, a repurposed textile mill that is Hamilton's largest creative hub and venue. Delegates are free to explore the building on their own or can sign up for one of the guided tours.

### **Lunch provided at the Cotton Factory 12:00 pm – 1:30pm**

### **2:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

#### **Self – Guided Tours & Experiences**

More information to be provided

## **WORKSHOPS**

### **11:00 am**

### **Workshop: Monument Trees**

The Cotton Factory - 270 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario

This workshop will engage participants in hands-on identification of native tree species using leaves and seeds, building practical ecological literacy. A propagation activity will further connect learning to action, introducing simple techniques for growing native trees and supporting local forest restoration initiatives.

## **GUIDED TOURS**

### **11:15 am / 12:15 pm / 1:15 pm**

**Guided Tour: The Cotton Factory** - 270 Sherman Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario

A guided tour illustrating the history and architecture of the Cotton Factory. This historic 1900 industrial complex formerly known as The Imperial Cotton Company Limited is a prime example of adaptive reuse. Spaces have been transformed into workshops, galleries, office space for creative professionals and studios for artists. This property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

*Please note that access to the 2nd & 3rd floors is available by stairs and by freight elevator (operated by an attendant). Should the elevator have unforeseen mechanical issues during the conference, this site may not be fully accessible.*

### **2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Bus Tour – Re-Imagining Places of Industry**

Departing from the Cotton Factory

Bus tour of industrial heritage buildings in Hamilton.

### **2:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**Bus Tour – Industrial Heritage: Tour of Hamilton's Waterfront including the 1859 Hamilton Waterworks**

Departing from the Cotton Factory

This bus tour will explore the importance of industry, both then and now, around Hamilton Harbour. The tour will include a guided driving tour of Port Authority lands with stops at both the 1859 Hamilton Waterworks (Museum of Steam & Technology National Historic Site), as well as the designated Beach Canal Lighthouse and Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage, currently under active restoration.

The 1859 Hamilton Waterworks National Historic Site stands as a locally designed and built landmark, incorporating cutting-edge mid-century engineering. As a key infrastructure element, it was instrumental in driving Hamilton's industrial development. Similarly, the development of Hamilton Harbour was a vital requirement for the city's growth. The Light Station bridges the harbour's diverse commercial, industrial, residential, and recreational functions, though it currently reflects the complex challenges of lighthouse preservation and

creating new public access heritage sites. Additionally, the Cottage remains a relatively intact example of both public works construction and a typical working-class residence. These sites collectively illustrate how Hamilton has transitioned through three distinct eras of industrialization over the last two centuries. Evidence of these transitions remains visible today, preserved within the urban landscape and the surviving industrial heritage resources located throughout the city. (This tour will last 3 hours)