

Walkerton & District Chamber of Commerce

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Friday, August 6, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

New mural unveiled in Walkerton

Members of the Walkerton Image Committee unveiled their latest project today – a historical mural on the side of one of Walkerton's most visible downtown buildings.

Well-known mural artist Allen Hilgendorf, currently of Bancroft, Ontario, created the 24 by 12 foot mural on the west wall of the building located at the corner of Durham and Jackson Streets. Using a scene from an actual photograph, he painted the Walkerton Automobile Garage next to the J.A. Hartman, Practical Horse Shoer building, circa 1910. Hilgendorf also included an automobile, a pair of horses, a wagon and several men, women and children in the scene.

Completed just this week, the mural is said to come to life due to the intricate detail Hilgendorf is known for.

"I took great pleasure in bringing this bit of Walkerton history to life, and leaving something behind that the community can be proud of and enjoy for years to come," said Hilgendorf. "It was fun trying to choose and incorporate just the right images of people and animals to make the scene look as close as possible to what an average day may have been like."

Walkerton resident J.A. Hartman owned both of the buildings shown in the mural. In the early 1900s, the side-by-side businesses were located on Durham Street, just west of the bridge.

Image Committee vice-chair Neil Kirstine said Hilgendorf did a wonderful job in bringing the scene to life.

"This is the kind of project that differentiates us from other small towns," he said. "This mural, in combination with the other on-going projects on our main street, gives people a reason to come back to Walkerton."

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