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Announcing

Lunch-Bucket Lives
Remaking the Workers’ City

By Craig Heron

“Quite simply, a masterpiece.” Dr. Ian McKay, Queens University

Lunch-Bucket Lives takes the reader on a bumpy ride through the history of Hamilton’s working people from the 1890s to the 1930s. It ambles along city streets, peers through kitchen doors and factory windows, marches up the steps of churches and fraternal halls, slips into saloons and dance halls, pauses to hear political speeches, and, above all, listens for the stories of men, women, youths, and children from families where people relied mainly on wages to survive.

Heron takes wage-earning as a central element in working-class life, but also looks beyond the workplace into the households and neighbourhoods—settlement patterns and housing, marriage, child care, domestic labour, public health, schooling, charity and social work, popular culture, gender identities, ethnicity and ethnic conflict, and politics in various forms—presenting a comprehensive view of working-class life in the first half of the twentieth century.

About the author

Craig Heron is a professor of history at York University. One of Canada’s leading labour historians, he is the author of numerous works on Canadian history, including The Workers Festival: A History of Labour Day in Canada, and Booze: A Distilled History.

Turn over for praise of Lunch Bucket Lives.

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Over 100 photos
$39.95

History | Labour & Unions | Canadian Studies
Praise for *Lunch Bucket Lives*

“Expansive in reach, engaging in style, and filled with fascinating local details, *Lunch-Bucket Lives* is ‘total history’ at its best.” – **Steve Penfold**, professor, Department of History, University of Toronto, and author of *The Donut: A Canadian History*

“With an eloquence and liveliness unique among Canadian social historians, Heron integrates gender, class, ethnicity, race and ideology in an original and sophisticated narrative. The polished product of a half-century of devoted research and analysis, *Lunch Bucket Lives* is, quite simply, a masterpiece.” – **Ian McKay**, Professor of History, Queen’s University

“Like a well-stocked lunch bucket, this beautifully crafted and illustrated book will both nourish and delight its readers. The research is prodigious, the analysis sophisticated, the prose accessible, even moving. The most inclusive history yet of a working-class community in Canada, *Lunch Bucket Lives* brings to life the city’s many diverse men, women, girls and boys.” – **Franca Iacovetta**, University of Toronto

“Craig Heron, one of Canada’s leading social historians, delivers in *Lunch-Bucket Lives* an outstanding histoire totale of Hamilton’s workers in the first four decades of the twentieth century” – **Gregory S Kealey**, Professor Emeritus, University of New Brunswick

“All readers of *Lunch-Bucket Lives* will be stimulated by the rich history the author paints.”— **Buzz Hargrove**, Co-Director, Centre for Labour Management Relations, Ryerson University; Former National President, Canadian Auto Workers Union

“Rodolfo Walsh, Argentinean writer killed by the dictatorship in 1976, said ‘bosses don’t want workers to know their history because workers that don’t know their history are always starting again.’ *Lunch-Bucket Lives* is a complex, detailed and rich description of working class life that deserves to be read.”— **Jorge Garcia-Orgales**, United Steelworkers staff representative – Global affairs

“Craig Heron captures the essence of Hamilton like few other historians; he tells the story of the city’s working class during the fifty years prior to WWII with the critical eyes of an outsider and the heart of an intimate lover.” – **Tom Atterton**, Hamilton and District Labour Council