



On June 25, the Cherryville & Area Historical Society (CAHS) unveiled a new sign to commemorate those who were interned at the Monashee Mountain Internment Camp during World War I. The sign has been erected at the Mine Hill pullout on Highway 6, 12kms East of

the Gold Panner Resort, near where the camp was located.

Between 1914 and 1920, thousands of European immigrants were imprisoned as "enemy aliens" during Canada's first national internment operations. "Their contribution to our area was hard, unpaid labour on the road over Monashee Pass," said Cherryville RDNO Director, Hank Cameron. "Monashee means 'mountain of peace', but it was a far away war that brought these victims to prison camp."

"We had a good turnout for the unveiling," said Charolette Hanaghan, President, CAHS. "The sign was blessed by the Very Reverend Roman Trynoha and Sub Deacon Paul Malysh. Wayne Cunneyworth emceed the event. Opening remarks were given by Lawrna Myers, Eric Foster MLA, and Hank Cameron, RDNO director. The sign was made possible by a grant from the Endowment Council of the Canadian First World War Interment Recognition Fund."

The sign was made locally by Stan Mielniczuk; Kerri Parnell was the artist: "I am delighted to have been approached for this project. I enjoyed



looking through the old historical photos and carefully combining aspects for a composition that pleased us all, while painting as best I could, the accuracy of the originals to properly honour those who were imprisoned. Working with Lawrna and Charolette was great, as we were able to collaborate our thoughts until we were all happy. Stan also did such a professional job in his framing to pull it all together."

Photograph below, left to right: Hank Cameron, Stan Mielniczuk, MLA Eric Foster, Kerri Parnell, Very Reverend Roman Trynoha (Ukrainian Orthodox Church), Andrea Malysh, Sub Deacon Paul Malysh, Charolette Hanaghan and Lawrna Myers

