



Ken Clayton (left) and Tom Bochsler, who both worked with George Hunter, were on hand to talk about his life and photography.

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Colleagues salute iconic photographer George Hunter

When celebrated Mississauga-based photographer George Hunter died earlier this year at the age of 92, he left behind a collection of thousands of images taken during the course of his seven-decade career. A handful of his works were on display at City Hall Thursday as two of Hunter's prominent colleagues paid tribute to the life

and work of a man who travelled the globe to document the world at its most splendid.

Ken Clayton, a producer and friend of Hunter, and Tom Bochsler, a fellow photographer, spoke about his life, techniques and influence at an event organized by Mississauga's Heritage Partners.

Hunter took photographs around the world including in Afghanistan, Algeria, China, Myanmar and the High Arctic, where he spent a month living in Inuit settlements and photographing daily life in the 1940s.

In 1954, his images of North American cities at dusk were featured in *Time* magazine.

Although his photographs of Canada's landscapes made their way onto the nation's currency and stamps, some of Hunter's most interesting works involved finding beauty in unlikely places. He was drawn to industrial scenes and spent a lot of time photographing the miners and mines around Yellowknife — a challenging environment for a photographer that Bochsler characterized as "dirty, dark or dangerous."

Yet, said Bochsler, Hunter managed to translate these scenes into something relatable that "could be understood by the average person." Some of this was down to Hunter's ability to use complex lighting set ups to achieve dramatic effects at times using as many as 20 different flash bulbs to achieve the effects he wanted.

Clayton, a longtime friend of Hunter, collaborated with him on a concert featuring the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra playing in time to an image show of more than 800 of the photographer's pictures. Clayton's memories of Hunter include hours spent listening to music and the stories of how the photographer achieved some of his celebrated photos.