One Job Town

Work, Belonging, and Betrayal in Northern Ontario

There's a pervasive sense of betrayal in areas scarred by mine, mill, and factory closures. Steven High's *One Job Town* delves into the long history of one such town located on Canada's resource periphery. Much like hundreds of other towns and cities across North America and Europe, Sturgeon Falls, Ontario, lost its primary source of industry, resulting in the displacement of workers and their families, when its century-old paper mill closed in 2002.

Through stories shared by mill workers, managers, and city officials, *One Job Town* takes us into the making of a culture of industrialism and the significance of industrial work and its loss for mill-working families. It approaches deindustrialization as a long-term economic, political, and cultural process, which did not simply begin and end with the closure of the local mill. Oral history and memory are at the heart of *One Job Town*, challenging us to rethink the relationship between the past and the present in what was formerly known as the industrialized world.

STEVEN HIGH is a professor of history at Concordia University and the author of *Industrial Sunset: The Making of North America's Rust Belt, 1969–1984*.

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WORK, BELONGING, AND BETRAYAL IN
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Steven High

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*Class is something beneath your clothes, under your skin,
in your reflexes, in your psyche, at the very core of your being.*

– Annette Kuhn, historian

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