

S. J. McKee Archives



McS 1 Board of directors

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4310>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds

Description Level: Series

Series Number: McS 1

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1900-1986

Physical Description: 1.87 m

History /

Biographical:

The A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. has had a Board of Directors since its incorporation in 1906. The first Board consisted of A. E. McKenzie, S. A. Bedford, the director of the Experimental Farm, H. L. Patmore and W. A. McCracken. Following A.E. McKenzie's death, the government of Manitoba appointed the members of the Board under the arrangements made with the establishment of the A.E. McKenzie Foundation.

According to the general by-laws (c. 1960) of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd., the Board of Directors annually, or more often if required, elected from among themselves a President, a Vice-President and a General Manager. They were also responsible for appointing an Assistant General Manager, and a Secretary and a Treasurer. If needed, they would also appoint an Assistant Secretary and an Assistant Treasurer. A majority vote of the Board was required for the election or appointment of the above officers. Those individuals elected or appointed to their offices by the Board could be removed at the pleasure of the Board. The Board also had the power to fix the salaries of all of the officers of the Company. By resolution, it could pass this responsibility to the General Manager.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

This series consists of Board minutes/meetings, management consultant reports, financial records, documents and miscellaneous records.

It has been divided into five sub-series, including: (1) Documents; (2) Minutes/Meetings; (3) Management Consultant Reports; (4) Miscellaneous; and (5) Financial Records.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 1 Board of Directors



McS 2 Office of the president/general manager

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4316>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds

Description Level: Series
Series Number: McS 2
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1910-1975
Physical Description: 2.47 m

History /

Biographical:

The offices of the President and General Manager were established in 1896 with the creation of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. These positions were held jointly by the one officer of company until 1975, when the Board of Directors of the Company divided the two positions, thereby relieving the President from management of plant operations.

Under the General By-Laws of the Company, the President, when present, presided over all Board of Directors meetings. He also signed all documents that may have required his signature and performed any other duties assigned to him by the board. The President exercised general supervision and control over the business of the Company and performed such duties as are usually associated with the office of President or Chief Executive officer of a company.

The General Manager had full power and authority to manage and direct the business and affairs of the Company. He was also responsible for employing and discharging agents and employees of the Company. After A.E. McKenzie gifted the majority of his company shares to the Government of Manitoba in 1945, the General Manager remained responsible for all operations of the Company. However, the General Manager found himself accountable to a Board of Directors comprised mainly of government appointees.

A. E. McKenzie held the offices of President/General Manager from 1896 until his death in 1964, at which time J. Lasby Lowes succeeded him. Following Lowes' retirement in 1968, A.R. Swanson was appointed by the government to fill the positions. Anthony J. Maruca became President of A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. in 1972. In 1975, the Board of Directors appointed William Moore the first individual to hold the position of General Manager without also occupying the President's office. At the same time, Mr. Pat Kelleher was named the new interim President. Following Kelleher's resignation, Moore was appointed President of the company. Keith Guelpa became President around 1984 following Moore's departure from the company to face criminal charges arising from his activities as an officer of the company. Raymond West assumed the position after Guelpa's departure.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

Series consists almost entirely of records and documents generated by the first two President/General Managers of A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. In addition to the records created by A.E. McKenzie and J. Lasby Lowes in their capacity as President/General Manager, records pertaining to the various properties owned by the Company are also included. The series also contains marketing documents, including catalogues and sales literature, as well as a reference library comprised of twenty titles dealing with business and the seed industry and some records dealing with the President/General Managers following Lowes' retirement.

The series has been divided into seven sub-series, including: (1) A.E. McKenzie; (2) J. Lasby Lowes; (3) Comptroller; (4) Properites; (5) Marketing; (6) Reference Library; and (7) Miscellaneous Publications/Correspondence.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 2 Office of the President/General Manager

Arrangement:

Arrangement: The series is arranged as follows:

- 2.1 A.E. McKenzie
 - 2.1.1 Secretary
 - 2.1.2 Legal Matters
 - 2.1.3 Correspondence
 - 2.1.4 Patents
 - 2.1.5 By-Law Campaign 1918
 - 2.1.6 Miscellaneous
- 2.2 J. Lasby Lowes
 - 2.2.1 Correspondence
 - 2.2.2 Historical Topics
 - 2.2.3 Miscellaneous
- 2.3 Comptroller
- 2.4 Properties
 - 2.4.1 Toronto
 - 2.4.2 Calgary
 - 2.4.3 Brandon
 - 2.4.4 Miscellaneous
 - 2.4.5 Parkade
 - 2.4.6 Appraisals
- 2.5 Marketing
 - 2.5.1 Catalogues
 - 2.5.1.1 McKenzie
 - 2.5.1.2 McFayden
 - 2.5.1.3 Suppliers
 - 2.5.1.4 Miscellaneous
 - 2.5.2 Seed Packets
 - 2.5.2.1 Vegetables
 - 2.5.2.2 Flowers
 - 2.5.2.3 Herbs
 - 2.5.3 Miscellaneous Sales Literature Documents
 - 2.5.4 Miscellaneous Marketing Papers/Reports
- 2.6 Reference Library
- 2.7 Miscellaneous Publications/Correspondence



McS 3 Acquisitions

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4324>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
Description Level: Series
Series Number: McS 3
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1883, 1931-1979
Physical Description: 44 cm

History /

Biographical:

This is an artificially created body of records dealing with four firms acquired by A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. An administrative history for each company can be found below.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

Included within the sub-series are financial records, correspondence, merger documents, miscellaneous documents and records. Not all of the companies contain the same categories of information. This series is sub divided into each of the major companies acquired by McKenzie Seeds throughout its years of operation. The sub-series include: (1) Brett-Young/Sabetha Seed Companies; (2) Steele Briggs Seed Company; (3) Pike and Co.; and (4) McFayden Seends.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 3 Acquisitions



McS 4 Seed Marketing Co.

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4331>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
Description Level: Series
Series Number: McS 4
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1933-1965
Physical Description: 7 cm

The Seed Marketing Company Ltd. was located at P. O. Drawer 1885, Winnipeg, Manitoba, and, later, at 382 Maryland Street, Winnipeg. Created by the A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd., this company was incorporated under Dominion Charter by Federal Letters Patent, dated March 18, 1930. As well, the company was registered only in Manitoba under the provisions of the Manitoba Companies Act.

A. E. McKenzie made the application for the charter under the name A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. and, from 1933, the Board of Directors was made up of employees of A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. Although the authorized capital stock of the company was 500 no par value shares, only 50 of these were issued and allotted at a price of \$10 per share.

According to a letter written by A. E. McKenzie to the Acting Director, Department of the Secretary of State, Companies Division, Ottawa, Ontario, the company was created with a specific purpose in mind. During the years 1930-1933, A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. accumulated a large quantity of oats for seeding purposes, at a time when crops were generally poor due to extended drought. These seeds, as well as wheat, barley and flax were supplied to farmers on a signed order in the name of Seed Marketing Co. Ltd. Parties, either individuals or municipalities, took a "Seed Grain Mortgage" from the Seed Marketing Co. as a method of payment. This enabled the farmers, who had little or no money, to plant crops. Presumably following harvest the mortgage was paid off.

On the whole the idea of supplying distressed farmers with seed through a Seed Grain Mortgage was fairly successful. In addition to selling the seed directly to the farmers, seed was also sold to rural municipalities, from whom payments were assured. The municipalities, in turn, assumed responsibility for payment from the farmers to whom they had supplied the seed purchased from the Seed Marketing Company.

The original Board of Directors was as follows: A. B. Downing, J. L. Lowes, F. B. Roberts, F. C. Thompson, and J.A. Young. Each received 1 share each in the company. H. J. Morden, a former member of the Corporation, held the other 45 shares from Winnipeg.

From 1933-1936, J. A. Young was President of the company. Following his death in 1936, the position was given to A. B. Downing, who acted as President of the Seed Marketing Company until illness forced him to step down in 1959. In 1960, J. L. Lowes became President, and the following members of A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. became Directors: R. R. West, Miss E. A. Yeo and J. R. McPhail.

The Seed Marketing Company had been kept alive under its original charter in case A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. might have cause to use it for some other purpose. Eventually, the company was considered in default by the federal government for neglecting to fill Annual Returns for the year 1962. At that time, the company was informed that it was no longer considered a subsisting corporation, and, as such, was no longer entitled to the sole use of its corporate name. That same year, A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. relinquished interest in the Seed Marketing Company Ltd., and the remaining Directors resigned their positions.

The name "Seed Marketing Co. Ltd." was also used by A. E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. on two other occasions. Around 1948, the name was used in Ontario under authority of an Extra Provincial License from the Province of Ontario, especially in labeling cartons of a Lawn Grass mixture to meet price competition in Quebec, the Maritimes and Towers Discount Department Stores.

Prior to 1948 the name was used to in the purchase of Forage Crop Seeds in northern Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

This series includes minutes from meetings of the Board of Directors and shareholders of the company. It also includes correspondence between McKenzie, Lowes, Wm. Johnson, the Department of the Secretary of State, W.E. Chiswell - Comptroller for McKenzie Seeds, Robert Steen and various other individuals dealing with the incorporation of the company, its charter and letters of patent. Some of the records deal with the failure of the company to file annual returns for the years 1963 and 1964. The series also contains financial records including annual summaries/reports, corporation income tax returns, and return of information and particulars under the Manitoba Companies Act.

Also included within the series is a book (27.5 x 38 x 3 cm) containing the letters of patent incorporating the Seed Marketing Co., the general by-laws of the company, and minutes from meetings of its Board of Directors.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 4 Seed Marketing Co.

Related Material: Information regarding the Seed Marketing Co. is located in Series 2 (Office of the President/GM), sub-series 2 (J. Lasby Lowes), Historical Topics file 23 of the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds.



McS 5 A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. photographs

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4332>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds

Creator: Known creators of the records include:

PHOTOGRAPHERS AND PHOTO SERVICES:

Alan R. Mundie
Britain Photo
Davidson & Gowen - Brandon, Manitoba
Davidson Studio - Brandon, Manitoba
Dean Photo Service - Grand Junction, Colorado
Frank Gowen - Brandon, Manitoba
Gibson Photos - Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
H.H. Allen - Brandon, Manitoba
Hi-Art Artists Illustration Boards
Irene Cullen
J.H. MacDonald-Partners Ltd.
Jerrett's Photo-Art Studio/Jerrett's Photo Service - Brandon, Manitoba
Josiph Airey
Lorne Burkell - Calgary, Alberta
O.K.W.D.W.
R.M. Coleman - Brandon, Manitoba
Sandy Black - Brandon, Manitoba
Seattle Filmworks
Smith Carter Partners, Architects, Engineers, Planners
Sun Roska Photo
The Topley Studio - Ottawa, Ontario
W.B. & I.
Winsor & Newton's Illustration Boards

PRINTING SERVICES:

Crawford Drug Store - Brandon, Manitoba
Eastman Photographic Materials Ltd. - Winnipeg, Manitoba
Leech Printing Ltd. - Brandon, Manitoba

Description Level: Series
Series Number: McS 4
GMD: graphic
Date Range: 1906-1996
Physical Description: 497 photographs
2 negatives
1 slide

History /

Biographical:

Customers and employees of A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. donated some of the records in this series. Others were taken for insurance purposes, while some of the records involve McKenzie subsidiaries. Some of the records may have been taken as advertisements or for promotional reasons. Most of the records were generated by the company itself and deal exclusively with McKenzie Seeds and its business operations or the seed industry.

Custodial History:

Photographs in sub-series 5.14, 5.15, 5.16 were donated to McKenzie Seeds by Irene Cullen, Josiph Airey, and Alan R. Mundie respectively.

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

Series consists primarily of black and white photographs pertaining to A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd and the seed industry. Included are photographs of the McKenzie Building, plant and field workers and equipment, executives, particular events at McKenzie Seeds and product photographs. A complete list of categories can be found below.

The series is arranged as follows:

- 5.1 McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. Executives
- 5.2 Construction at McKenzie Seed Co. Brandon (two files)
- 5.3 Exterior Photographs of the A. E. McKenzie Co. Building
- 5.4 McKenzie Seed Co. Plant Operations and Workers (two files)
- 5.5 McKenzie Seed Co. Equipment and Plant - Head Office 1983
- 5.6 McKenzie Seed Co. Field Operations and Workers
- 5.7 McKenzie Seed Co. Strike 1944
- 5.8 Fires at McKenzie Seed Co. 1910, 1945, 1972
- 5.9 McKenzie Seed Co. Centennial Exhibition 1996
- 5.10 Miscellaneous McKenzie Seed Co. Photographs
- 5.11 People Connected to McKenzie Seed Co.
- 5.12 Princess Anne's Visit to McKenzie Seed Co. 1982
- 5.13 Onion Set Production Book
- 5.14 Irene Cullen Photographs - McKenzie Seeds Employee Photos
- 5.15 Josiph Airey Photographs - McKenzie Product Photos
- 5.16 Alan R. Mundie Seed Production Photographs
- 5.17 Steele Robertson/Steele Briggs Seeds Photographs
- 5.18 Seed Packet Display Units Photographs
- 5.19 Product Photographs
- 5.20 Parade Photographs
-
- *5.21 Oversized Photographs
 - 5.21.1 Drawer #1: Executive Photographs
 - 5.21.2 Drawer #2: Office and Equipment/Plant Photographs
 - 5.21.3 Drawer #3: Miscellaneous Oversized Photographs
 - 5.21.4 Drawer #4: Artifacts

Notes: * The term "drawer" in the Scope and Content Filed for sub-series 5.21, refers to the oversized map drawers in the McKee Archives reading room.

Errol Black's article on the strike at McKenzie Seeds (sub-series 5.7) titled "25c an hour; 48 hours a week; more toilets; less cats: the labour struggles of the "girls" at the A.E. McKenzie Company in Brandon," was published in Prairie Forum, spring 1992 vol 17 no 1 pp. 33-59.

Finding Aid: An inventory is available for the artifacts, as well as each of the photograph sub-series.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 5 Photographs

Related Material: MG 1 (A.E. McKenzie Fonds), sub-series 1 (Brandon College Inc.) of the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds contains photographs relating to the History of Brandon College Inc. booklet.

Series 1 (Board of Directors), sub-series 5 (Financial), of the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds contains some photographs in the file entitled Steele Briggs Spring Campaign for Edmonton. The pictures are part of a sales booklet.

Steele Briggs related photographs are located in the scrapbook in Series 3 (Acquisitions), sub-series 2 (Steele Briggs) of the A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds.



McS 6 Miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4333>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds

Description Level: Series

Series Number: McS 6

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1896-1996

Physical Description: 40 cm

History /

Biographical:

This artificially created series consists of records and items that did not fit into any of the preceeding series.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A. E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

This series consists of materials used for the Centennial Exhibit of McKenzie Seeds and miscellaneous publications.

It has been divided into three sub-series, including: (1) Centennial Exhibit; (2) Miscellaneous; and (3) Scrapbooks.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
McS 6 Miscellaneous



A.E. McKenzie fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4337>

Part Of: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Company fonds
Description Level: Series
Series Number: MG 5
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1887-1989; prredominantly 1887-1968
Physical Description: 31 cm

History /

Biographical:

See biographical sketch of A.E. McKenzie under RG 3 Series 2 (Office of the President/General Manager), sub-series 1 (A.E. McKenzie).

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of custodial history of A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd.

Scope and Content:

The manuscript group contains records pertaining to A.E. McKenzie's personal life, such as personal correspondence and family documents. Records dealing with McKenzie's involvement with Brandon College, the Brandon Allied Arts Council and the Brandon Board of Trade are also included.

It has been divided into five sub-series, including: (1) Brandon College Inc.; (2) A.E. McKenzie Foundation; (3) Brandon Allied Arts Council; (4) Brandon Board of Trade; and (5) Miscellaneous.

Storage Location: RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Seed Co. Ltd. fonds
MG 5 A.E. McKenzie fonds

Related Material: RG 1 Brandon College fonds in the McKee Archives contains additional information on A.E. McKenzie, particularly his involvement with Brandon College.

A photograph of A.E. McKenzie is located in oversized drawer #5 of the Brandon College photograph series.