

# S. J. McKee Archives



## The Order of United Commercial Travelers of America (UCT) fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8224>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	5-2008
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1908-2006
Physical Description:	2 m textual records 9 b/w photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Order of United Commercial Travelers of America (UCT) is a fraternal benefits society. It was founded in Columbus, Ohio on January 16, 1888 by eight traveling salesmen (commercial travelers) for the purpose of providing accident insurance for traveling salesmen, protecting the rights of its members and aiding those dependent upon them.

UCT came to Canada in 1898 with the creation of Winnipeg Council No. 154. The organization gradually spread westward with Councils established in Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary and Brandon. Brandon Council No. 448 was granted a charter on December 12, 1908.

Brandon Council No. 448 incorporated in 1984. Soon after they purchased and renovated the UCT Hall (now East Port Hall) at 530 Richmond Avenue East. The goals of Brandon Council No. 448 are "to improve our community, meet new friends, improve fellowship, to discover the best in ourselves and others, and to derive satisfaction from helping others." UCT Brandon Council No. 448 supports a number of organizations and programs in Brandon; to raise money, the Council holds a weekly bingo (first held on May 9, 1963) and a canteen at bingos. As well, they participate in an annual ticket raffle within Manitoba.

The governing body of UCT in the United States and Canada is the Supreme Council, which is located in Columbus, Ohio. States or groups of states and provinces are divided into Grand Jurisdictions; Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta make up a Grand Jurisdiction, of which Brandon Council forms a part. The Grand charter was granted on June 10, 1911. Prior to 1911, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta formed part of the Grand Jurisdiction of Minnesota and North Dakota.

#### Custodial History:

The UCT Brandon Council #448 decided to donate their records to the McKee Archives after selling their meeting hall (UCT Hall - now East Port Hall). Records were stored in East Port Hall on Richmond Avenue East until their donation in January 2008.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of: Brandon UCT Council scrapbooks (1974-1999, 1997-2006); Brandon Council minutes (1990-1996); unidentified attendance registers (probably Brandon); Minutes of the Grand Council of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (1911-17, 1919); Proceedings of the Grand Council of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (1914-15, 1917-19, 1922-35, 1937-62, 1964, 1966-75, 1977, 1981-83, 1988-89); Minutes and Correspondence of the Grand Council of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (1958-59); Annual Reports to the Grand Council Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta from various councils (1948, 1949, 1950, 1952); Grand Council of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta documents including Cash Book (1911-1948) and Ledger (1911-1948); Proceedings of the Supreme Council (1964-68); Proceedings of the Grand Council of Illinois (1956-57); Proceedings of the Grand Council of Minnesota and North Dakota (1931, 1949); Swift Current Council, minutes (1939-45, 1959-71), membership and financial records (1937-63); Lethbridge, attendance register (1914-1930, 1933-55); Regina, membership [nd]; Miscellaneous documents: Constitution and Bylaws UCT of America, 1962; The UCT Story 1888-1988, compiled by William C. Shortt; and 9 b/w photographs, various sizes.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the UCT website available at: <http://www.uct.org/History.html> (February 2008), from "The UCT Story: Do you Know It?" by James B. Chrisp, and published in the May 18, 1986 edition of the Sunday Sun, and the Brandon Council #448 pamphlet. Description by Christy Henry and Tom Mitchell.



## Margaret Menzies collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12723>

Part Of:	MG 4 Brandon University Students
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	13-2012
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1959-2007; predominant 1983-2001
Physical Description:	18 cm textual records 1 photograph

#### History /

#### Biographical:

Margaret Menzies was born on July 30th, 1920, at a family farm located in Oakburn, Manitoba. She grew up on the family farm and attended school in both Oakburn and Shoal Lake. She married Donald Menzies on June 4th, 1941. Together they had four children. In 1959, the family moved to Brandon, Manitoba, where they lived for the rest of their lives.

Margaret Menzies was a longtime and active member of the International Toastmistress Club (ITC), and was also involved in the Consumers Association of Canada, Seniors for Seniors, as well as being a member of the Liberal Party of Canada and the Central United Church. Menzies did not graduate from high school in her early years, but managed to continue her education and receive a bachelor of arts degree from Brandon University at the age of 70.

Margaret Menzies passed away on June 9th, 2012.

#### Custodial History:

Records in the collection were brought to the S.J. McKee Archives on July 13, 2012, by Gerald Brown, on behalf of the family of Margaret Menzies.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection contains of two scrapbooks created by Margaret Menzies. The scrapbooks contain various cards, itinerary's, and other documents associated with Menzies' membership in the International Toastmistress Club. The items in the scrapbooks date from the mid 1980's to the late 1990's.

Also included in the collection are four local history books. The first is a 100 year history of the town of Oakburn, Manitoba, from 1870 to 1970, published during celebrations of Manitoba's centennial in 1970. Next is a book about the history of the town of Shoal Lake, Manitoba, which was published in 1959 on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the town of Shoal Lake in 1909. The last two books are the first and second volumes of Ripples on the Lake, which cover the history of the Shoal Lake municipality from 1884. The first volume covers the first 100 years of the history of the Shoal Lake region, being published in 1984. The second volume was published in 2007, covering the history of Shoal Lake since 1984, as well as including new information that was not published in the 1984 version of the book.

Finally, the collection contains one photograph of Margaret Menzies receiving her bachelor of arts degree from Peter Hordern, dean of arts of Brandon University.

Notes:	Biographical information provided by obituary entry in the Brandon Sun, June 16, 2012. Description by Tyler Warren (October 2012).
Name Access:	Shoal Lake Oakburn International Toastmistress Club Urban Acres Toastmistress Club
Subject Access:	women's organizations public relations Leadership communication local histories
Storage Range:	2012 accessions
Related Material:	International Toastmistress Club-Land O' Lakes Region fonds (15-2002)



## Manitoba Women's Institute collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4860>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	8-2002
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	c. 1935-1980's
Physical Description:	64 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

The first Women's Institute in Canada was created by Mrs. Adelaide Hunter Hoodless in Stoney Creek, Ontario, on February 19, 1897. The Women's Institute was created to unite rural women with the hopes that this would help women improve their homes and communities. The motto of the Women's Institute became, "a nation could not rise above the level of its homes." The group was to be non-partisan and non-sectarian to allow for maximum participation. The Women's Institute became one of the very few ways for rural women to meet and share ideas and problems with others. The Women's Institute spread throughout Canada and reached Manitoba in 1910, when Morris and Valley River, Manitoba, formed Women's Institute branches. The Women's Institute branches in Manitoba were known as Home Economics Societies until 1919, when they became branches of the Manitoba Women's Institute. The Home Economics Societies specialized in community service work. At first, the groups concentrated on home management and child care, and eventually they became involved with social and political issues. In addition to community work, the Women's Institute branches also invited many guest speakers to their meetings and promoted education and the dissemination of information to rural women on subjects such as canning, growing fruits and vegetables, dental hygiene and rural electrification. The Manitoba Women's Institute continues its work today.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

### Scope and Content:

This collection has been artificially created and consists of miscellaneous newspaper and magazine clippings, handbooks, newsletters, photos and song sheets collected by various unknown Manitoba Women's Institute branches. Some newsletters included in the collection are "Institute News" from the Manitoba Women's Institute, "National Farm Forum Guide", "Federated News" from the Federated Women's Institute of Canada and "The Country Woman" from Associated Women of the World. The newspaper clippings in the collection relate to Women's Institute branches around Manitoba and the rest of Canada.

Notes: CAIN No. 202660. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access: Reverend M.L. Goodman  
Manitoba Provincial Council of Women  
National Council of Women in Canada  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
National Farm Forum  
Federated Women's Institute of Canada  
Associated Country Women of the World  
women's organizations  
4-H  
rural women  
song sheets  
credit unions  
farm magazines  
newsletters  
women's magazines

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material:

Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## United Grain Growers collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4822>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 48-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1922-1937

Physical Description: 3 cm

History /

Biographical:

The United Grain Growers, a farmer controlled co-operative elevator association, was established in 1917, with the amalgamation of the Grain Growers Grain Company (1906), and the Alberta Farmer's Co-operative Elevator company (1913). Its original purpose was to provide a co-operative alternative to privately owned grain elevators.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Collection includes copies of correspondence between T.A. Crerar, President of United Grain Growers and Colin Burnell, President, Manitoba Co-operative Wheat Producers (1925-26); correspondence directed to the Shareholders of United Grain Growers (1926-38); minutes of a meeting between representatives of the United Grain Growers and the provincial wheat pools (1937); as well as a variety of publications about the history and activities of the United Grain Growers (1917-18, 1927, 1929, 1951, 1956).

Notes: CAIN No. 202642. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: T.A. Crerar  
Colin H. Burnell  
R.S. Law  
Grain Growers Guide  
Elevators  
Agriculture  
Manitoba

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Audrey Silvius collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4841>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 21-2000  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1959-1988; predominant 1963-1974  
Physical Description: 19 cm textual records; 4 photographs; 1 drawing

### History /

#### Biographical:

Born on February 10, 1924, in Elgin, Manitoba, Audrey Ellen Silvius (nee Honeyman) was raised in Fairfax, Manitoba on the Honeyman homestead. In 1964, she received her Indian name, Blue Star. Silvius completed her high school education in Fairfax before moving to Winnipeg in 1943, to earn her Nursing degree from Grace Hospital. She later completed her post-graduate degree in Psychiatric Nursing at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Married to Merritt W. Silvius, Audrey Silvius raised four children, David, Kay, Lorna (Downie) and Gail (Campos) while working in her chosen field. In addition to her family and her career, she was also involved with the Brandon Council of Women and the United Church in Brandon. Silvius was the first executive director of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, a founding member of the local branches of the Marquis Project and Amnesty International and initiated a project called Tools for Peace. She was also involved in various other peace and human rights organizations. In 1987, she received the Order of the Buffalo Hunt from the Province of Manitoba in recognition of her work relating to women's issues. In 1992, she was awarded a Confederation medal for community service.

#### Custodial History:

The records found within the collection were collected by Audrey Silvius from a number of people, including Jean Halliday, Grace Godmaire and Norma Walmsley, involved in various projects with her throughout the years. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives at Brandon University in October and November 2000, the records were stored at Mrs. Silvius' home.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of meeting minutes, agendas, speeches, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, written publications and newspaper clippings. Four photographs and one pencil drawing are also included within the collection.

The records deal with the creation, activities, and history of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, as well as the activities of its Board of Directors. In addition, materials located within the collection can be divided into two areas: (1) those that relate to various organizations associated with the Friendship Centre itself, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Brandon Council of Women; (2) materials related to projects of important individuals involved with the Friendship Centre, such as the South Western Manitoba Recreation Council and the 4F Club of Minnedosa. Other records deal with general aboriginal issues in Canada during the time frame of the Audrey Silvius collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202607. Description by Christy Henry (2000).

Subject Access: Council of Christians and Jews  
Brandon Council of Women  
4F Club  
Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre  
cross cultural relations  
Aboriginal issues  
community development

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into ten (10) series:

1. The Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
2. The Scout – Friendship Centre newsletter
3. The Brandon Council of Women
4. Council of Christians and Jews
5. Aboriginal Glee Club/Dancers
6. The South Western Manitoba Recreation Council
7. 4F Club of Minnedosa
8. Miscellaneous Publications related to Aboriginal Issues
9. Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings related to Aboriginal Issues
10. Photographs and pencil drawing



## Verna Gamey collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4868>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1991

Physical Description: 90 cm

History /

Biographical:

In July 1928, Verna Althea Whitfield married William Arthur Gamey (b. 1892) in Winnipeg. For the first year of their marriage they both taught at Lockport, before moving to Winnipeg in 1929. Their only child, William Roy, was born there. In 1933, the Gameys moved to the Gamey family farm located at N1/2 12-16-22, near Strathclair. Verna's nephew Robert Kerr, from Kelowna, B.C. joined the family in 1949. Art and Verna left the farm in the spring of 1956, and moved into the house formerly owned by an aunt, Miss Bella Gamey. Art Gamey was a staunch supporter of the Co-operative movement and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). He died in January 1968.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains documents relating to the Manitoba Farmer's Union, including copies of its publication "The Voice of the Farmer" (1961); the United Church of Canada, primarily Strathclair (1960-1989); the Manitoba Women's Institute and the National Institute for the Blind (1959-1976); the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture (1945-1961); the Birtle Presbyterian Church (1986-1989); the Social Credit League in Manitoba and B.C. (1947, 1953); the Manitoba Provincial Council of Women (1958-1959); the Manitoba Centennial Corporation (1966-1968); and the Shoal Lake Fair and Hamiota Exhibition (1949-1981).

Fonds also contains diaries (1923-1926); various political publications, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, primarily concerning the CCF and the New Democrats (1945-1971); the Cooperative Union of Canada (1949-1964); and the Manitoba Farm Forum (1942-1963). Included as well, are clippings from the Brandon Sun dealing with a wide variety of topics (1970-1991); publications on home/farm/highway safety (1949-1975); and the Manitoba Pool Elevators (1950-1955).

Fonds also contains correspondence to and from both Verna and Art Gamey.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from "Our Story to 1970" published by the R.M. of Strathclair and compiled by The Centennial History Committee (pp. 255-257).
Subject Access:	W.A. Gamey CCF New Democrats Social Credit League Manitoba Farmers Union Agriculture United Church Manitoba Federation of Agriculture Manitoba Provincial Council of Women
Storage Location:	1997 accessions
Storage Range:	1997 accessions
Related Material:	RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevators; Women's Institute collections: Manitoba (8-2002), Strathclair (7-2002), Rathwell (6-2002), Minnedosa (2-2002), Cordova (4-2002), Clanwilliam (3-2002), Crocus (5-2002), Douglas (20-2006), Binscarth (12-1997), Southwest A Region (26-1997); and the Greenway Fair (35-2006).





## Rathwell Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4863>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 6-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1939-1966

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Rathwell Women's Institute was formed in December 1939. Little is known about the group and it seems that it disbanded in 1966. Mrs. Thelma Forbes, the first female Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in Manitoba was a member of the Rathwell Women's Institute.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

This is a small fonds, consisting of the minutes of the group's meetings, including member lists and financial records, from 1939-1966. There is also a pamphlet called "The Story of the Women's Institutes of Manitoba 1910-1934," written by Mrs. H.M. Speechley "in loving and honoured memory of Mrs. David Watt." The fonds also includes a book by Cicely McCall called "Women's Institutes." The inscription in the book reads, "To the members of the Rathwell Women's Institute with all good wishes from the members at Amberley, Sussex, Christmas 1943."

Notes: CAIN No. 202648. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access: Mrs. Thelma Forbes  
Village of Rathwell  
Rathwell Women's Institute  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
women's organizations  
rural women

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Elm Creek/Wingham Branch United Farmers of Manitoba fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4803>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 39-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1921-1940

Physical Description: 12 cm

History /

Biographical:

The United Farmers of Manitoba was founded in 1920. It was an inclusive farmers' organization established to replace the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association. The UFM supported farmer candidates in the 1920 provincial election. In 1922, it helped elect the UFM government of John Bracken (1922-42). The UFM also participated in federal politics, supporting twelve successful candidates in the 1921 federal election. The UFM was financed by its members. Its membership varied from 15,700 in 1923, to 3700 in 1931. In 1939, the UFM became the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes documents relating to the membership, both male and female, of the Wingham branch of the United Farmers of Manitoba and the United Farm Women of Manitoba. Documents dealing with the position of the branch on prohibition c. 1922, discussion within the branch of the "wheat pool" movement, annual reports for the organization, newsletters, correspondence on matters political and agrarian, and records relating to the activities of the branch as a cooperative buying agency are also included. Fonds also contains minutes of the provincial convention of the UFM and correspondence from the central office of the UFM.

Notes: CAIN No. 202633

Subject Access: S.P. Graham  
rural women's movement  
agrarian politics  
social reform

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Strathclair Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4817>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1942-1981

Physical Description: 19 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Strathclair Women's Institute was formed in 1925. The group's meetings had many interesting speakers over the years such as agricultural representatives, ministers, reeves and lawyers. The group arranged picnics, concerts, pot luck suppers and parties. The group also held learning sessions in various areas such as law. The Strathclair Women's Institute no longer exists. The closest Women's Institute to Strathclair is the Newdale Raven's Glen Women's Institute.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains annual reports from 1942-1981, minutes from 1962-1964, standing committee reports c. 1962-1977 and resolutions c. 1960-80. A large part of the fonds includes information on Tweedsmuir competitions. Finally, the fonds includes correspondence, newspaper clippings and miscellaneous papers and pamphlets.

Notes: CAIN No. 202654. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access: Verna Gamey

Strathclair Women's Institute

Manitoba Women's Institute

Town of Strathclair

rural women

women's organizations

Tweedsmuir competitions

newspaper clippings

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Brandon Council of Women fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4823>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 34-1998  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1952-1973  
Physical Description: 66 cm textual records;  
6 photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Brandon Council of Women (BCW) was active between 1895 and 1927, when it disbanded. Principally through the efforts of Mrs. Kaye Rowe of Brandon, the BCW was officially reestablished in 1952. The Brandon Council of Women remained active until c. 1973. It brought together fifty-two women's organizations in Brandon, representing 2600 women.

#### Custodial History:

The Brandon Council of Women fonds was transferred to the McKee Archives during the 1970s. It was accessioned in 1998.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of papers and photographs of the International Council of Women (ICW), the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), the Manitoba Council of Women (MCW), and the Brandon Council of Women (BCW). The ICW papers include meeting minutes. The NCWC papers include meeting minutes, resolution lists, pamphlets, newsletters, correspondence, financial records, yearbooks, and copies of Acts pertaining to women. The MCW papers contain copies of the MCW constitution, meeting minutes, resolution lists, correspondence, and committee reports. The BCW materials comprise the largest part of the fonds, and include meeting minutes, committee reports, financial records, correspondence, short course agendas, posters, pamphlets, memos, resolution lists, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, photographs, and scrapbooks.

Notes: CAIN No. 202626  
Subject Access: Mrs. Kaye Rowe  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
National Council of Women of Canada  
Manitoba Council of Women  
International Council of Women  
Feminism  
Women's organizations  
Storage Location: 1998 accessions  
Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Crocus Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4800>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 5-2002  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1946-1984  
Physical Description: 18 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Women's Institute was founded in 1897 in Stoney Creek, Ontario, by Adelaide Hoodless. By 1913, institutes had been established in every Canadian province. In 1919, provincial representatives met in Winnipeg to form the Federated Women's Institute of Canada. The Women's Institute was designed to promote quality of life in rural Canada and to foster the advancement of rural women. The first Women's Institute in Manitoba was organized in 1910, in Morris, Manitoba. The Crocus Women's Institute was created in the fall of 1946. The charter for the group was issued on November 25, 1946. One of the first projects of the group included sending food parcels to Britain until war rationing was discontinued. The main focus of the Institute was the local school: the Institute sponsored essay contests and provided furniture for the school. The Institute also sponsored a garden club and held a garden show for many years. Finally, the group had an annual Christmas Cheer project. The Crocus WI disbanded in 1984.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains member lists in the form of roll calls from 1946-1984. There are also Women's Institute Programs from the years 1946-1984. Fonds also includes the organization's minutes, financial records and annual reports from 1946-84, a scrapbook for the years 1946-1984, and the Certificate of Organization for the Crocus Women's Institute, dated September 5, 1950.

Notes: CAIN No. 202645

Subject Access: Edith Mitchell  
Margaret Erven  
Evelyn Firby  
Edna Allen  
M. Johnston  
Irene Erven  
E. Crawley  
Florence Wilmot  
Dawn Erven  
Miss Frances Isabel McKay  
Mrs. Evelyn Luella Ames  
Crocus Women's Institute  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
rural women  
women's organizations  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material:

Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Leonard Evans collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12705>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2011

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1988-1998

Physical Description: 1.05 m

Physical Condition: Good

### History /

#### Biographical:

Leonard Salisbury Evans was born on August 19, 1929 in Winnipeg, MB and was educated at the University of Winnipeg, the University of Manitoba, Simon Fraser University and the University of Ottawa. He was employed as an economist and a professor of economics before entering political life. Evans first ran for public office in the Canadian federal election of 1953 as a candidate for the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation in the constituency of St Boniface. Evans was elected to the Manitoba legislature as a New Democrat in the provincial election of 1969 in the constituency of Brandon East. He was appointed Minister of Mines and Natural Resources in the Edward Schreyer government. Later he assumed the position of Minister of Industry and Commerce. He occupied this position until the defeat of the Schreyer government in 1977. Evans was re-elected in the provincial elections of 1973 and 1977. Following the return to government of the New Democratic Party in 1981-1988, Evans held various senior cabinet posts. Evans served as opposition finance critic from 1988 to 1999. Evans retired from active politics with the 1999 provincial election.

#### Custodial History:

These records were created during the 1990s and held in the Brandon East constituency office until they were brought to the S.J. McKee Archives by Drew Caldwell in November 2003. Drew Caldwell succeeded Len Evans as the MLA for Brandon East in the 1999 provincial election.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of correspondence between Evans and various constituents on a wide range of topics - personal and otherwise - and subject files on social, economic and political matters relevant to Brandon East.

Notes: Description by Tom Mitchell.

Access Restriction: Constituency correspondence closed for thirty years from the date of its creation.

Storage Location: 2011 accessions



## Henry Hlady collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12706>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 13-2011

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1916 - 2010; predominant 1930 -1942

Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records

9 photographs (b&w)

2 negatives

Physical Condition: Good

History /

Biographical:

Henry Hlady was born in Brandon, Manitoba on October 30, 1916, the son of Philip and Katherine Hlady, both natives of Austria. He was educated in public schools in Brandon. During the Great Depression, Hlady spent time - October 1933 to May 1934 - in work camps for the single unemployed in Riding Mountain cutting down trees and clearing bush. He sought to join the Canadian Army in 1942 but was rejected for medical reasons.

Hlady apprenticed as a carpenter with Sprattling and spent many years with Magnacca Construction before becoming a private builder. He retired in 1984 from the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation where he was employed as a building inspector.

Hlady was a life-long Liberal in politics and an active trapshooter. In 200 he was honoured by the Brandon Gun Club and made a Life Member of the American Trapshooters' Association for his dedication to the sport. Hlady was also active with the West End Community Centre and a member of the Westoba Credit Union Board of Directors.

Hlady married Mary Plowman in 1943 or 1944. Together they had three children: Ronald, Judith and Lynda. Henry Hlady died on April 8, 2010 in Brandon, MB.

Custodial History:

Records were in Henry Hlady's possession until his death when they passed to his wife Mary Hlady who donated them to the McKee Archives. Two photographs were in the possession of Hlady's daughter Judith Grievson prior to their donation to the Archives.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of various personal documents concerning Henry Hlady including a birth certificate (copy) and certificate of baptism (copy), communion certificate, public school records, certificate of medical rejection for service in the Canadian Army, newspaper clippings, obituary, and funeral program. Collection also includes documents and photographs concerning Hlady's time spent - October 1933 to May 1934 - in federal government work camps for single unemployed men in Riding Mountain, including a handwritten letter to E.S. Stozek (dated February 2008) about Hlady's memories of his time at Camp Seven and the other relief camps in the area.

Notes: Description by Tom Mitchell and Christy Henry.

Name Access: Riding Mountain

Camp Seven

Subject Access: Great Depression

work camps

Storage Location: 2011 accessions



## Cedric Vendyback collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12708>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 16-2011  
10-2012  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1972-1978  
Physical Description: 23 photographs (b/w)  
140 photographs (color)  
playbills and newspaper clippings

### History /

#### Biographical:

Cedric Vendyback was born August 28, 1923 in Leeds, Yorkshire, England and was educated at Harehills Council School till the age of fourteen - then becoming a labourer. At the outbreak of World War II, he educated himself for aircrew duties and in 1942 came to Canada where he was trained as a fighter pilot and was commissioned as an officer in the Royal Air Force until demonbilisation in 1946. He flew as a Reservist pilot from 1948 to 1968.

After Training College, Vendyback became a teacher in 1948 and in 1953 began empirical training with Alex Baron as an actor and director until becoming appointed as Associate of the Drama Board, later a Licentiate of The Royal Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. In 1963, he was elected a Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators.

In 1971, he was selected for and offered a position as a professor at Brandon University where he opened a new drama department in January 1972.

Vendyback retired in 1992 and currently (June 2012) lives in Kelowna, B.C., where he works as a free-lance director and lecturer.

#### Custodial History:

Records were in the possession of Cedric Vendyback from their creation until he donated them to the McKee Archives in 2011 and 2012.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records related to the activities of the Brandon University Drama Society (BUDS) and the Brandon University Drama Department collected by Cedric Vendyback during his years as head of the department. The Society performed plays in the then Drama Building, the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre and the Westman Centennial Auditorium.

Accession 16-2011 (1972-1978) consists of a photograph album of photographs, playbills and related newspaper clippings for Brandon University Drama Society productions staged between 1972 and 1978.

Accession 10-2012 (1972-1985) consists of: production reviews from various newspapers and playbills for BUDS productions; a historical fact sheet provided by the donor regarding the Drama Department's service to the community; student evaluation extracts; and the course description for Play Production.

Notes: History/Bio provided by Cedric Vendyback. Description by Christy Henry.



Storage Location: 2011 accessions  
Related Material: Brandon University Drama Society (RG 6, 7.1.15)



## Dorothy Cox collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12724>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 11-2012  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1878-1970  
Physical Description: 17 cm textual records  
4 color photographs  
Physical Condition: Cover of Young School minute book is moderately damaged, but pages are in good condition with only minor water damage and a few ripped pages.

### History /

#### Biographical:

Dorothy Cox (nee Frost) moved from Elm Creek to Justice in 1946 to work as a schoolteacher. In 1948, she married Laval Cox and together they had four children: Larry, Herd, Rosalie and Heather.

In 1949, Dorothy and Laval purchased Gibb Gillespie's PSV business and began hauling grain, cattle and agricultural equipment. Dorothy went back to teaching in 1959, first at Justice and then Elton Collegiate. After retiring from teaching in 1978, Dorothy started a greenhouse, which operated for 21 years.

All six members of the Cox family were active in community events and organizations. Dorothy was involved in establishing the baby band in 1951; her sons Larry and Herb were members. Along with Laval, Dorothy was a leader of the Cubs in 1955-1956 and again in 1958-1959. Laval was the leader of the local hockey club in 1958, and of a bible study group in 1960. Larry, Herb and Rosalie were avid skaters in 1960-64. Heather and Rosalie were enrolled in senior grades of Sunday school in 1970.

#### Custodial History:

Records were collected by Dorothy Cox, a resident of Justice, over a number of years. She donated them to the McKee Archives on April 4, 2012.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records related to the history of the Justice district. It includes a history of the Justice Church (1910-1970); minute and expense books for the Justice Hockey Club (1949-1966); a minute and expense book for Young Protestant School (1884-1898); a copy of the Justice 100th Anniversary community history (2009); and four color photographs of Justice Church.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the content of the collection.  
Description by James Heaman (2012).

Name Access: Justice, MB

Subject Access:	churches local histories Hockey
Repro Restriction:	Church photos taken in 1970 are subject to Canadian copyright restrictions, which researchers are required to comply with.
Related Material:	Lawrence Stuckey fonds 1-2002 (photographs of Justice school, church, elevator and houses)



## Leonard Muirhead collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12725>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	12-2012
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1937-1938
Physical Description:	1 file
History / Biographical:	

Leonard Andrew Muirhead (1918–2008) was the only child of Andrew and Isabella Muirhead. He grew up on the farm homestead in the Summerville District near Carberry, Manitoba. He graduated from Carberry Collegiate when he was sixteen. He helped out on the farm for two years after graduation then attended United College, Winnipeg, and then Brandon College. Muirhead then worked in the Financial Department at Canada Packers in Saint Boniface until 1942. In 1942 he returned home and helped his father with the farm operation. Leonard married Verle Sinclair, a local schoolteacher, on October 12, 1951. They had three daughters: Iris, Gwen, and Arla. In 1965, health reasons made him give up active farming and he began an income tax preparation business as well as selling investments for Trust Companies.

Leonard Muirhead attended Brandon College for the 1937-1938 school year. This was the last year that Brandon College was associated with McMaster University as it then became affiliated with the University of Manitoba.

### Custodial History:

The papers remained with Leonard Muirhead's papers until his daughter, Iris Muirhead, donated the papers to the S.J. McKee Archives in 2011.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists primarily of 1938 examination papers from Brandon College, when it was affiliated with McMaster University. It also contains an exam schedule and a course outline. It contains examination papers from spring 1938 for the courses of 2nd and 3rd Years Physics 2y, 3w, Bible 2k, Psychology 2a, Mathematics 2x, Mathematics 1e, a syllabus for second term English 1g2a, and an examination timetable for spring 1938 for Brandon College.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from conversation with Leonard Muirhead's daughter, Iris Muirhead in October 2012 and from obituary <http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-136216/> (accessed October 24, 2012). Description by Jennifer Sylvester (October 2012).

Name Access: Leonard Muirhead  
Brandon College  
McMaster University

Subject Access: post-secondary education  
Arts  
Mathematics  
theology  
examinations

Storage Location: 2012 accessions

Related Material: Brandon College fonds  
The Sickie 1937-1938  
The Leonard Muirhead collection is available at the Carberry Plains Archives. Leonard Muirhead also donated records related to Montrose School and Carberry 4-H Combines to the Carberry Plains Archives.



## Hubert Weidenhamer collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12347>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 6-2011

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: April 11, 1943 - July 4, 1945

Physical Description: 4 cm textual records (48 letters)  
2 photographs  
press clippings and several facimiles

Physical Condition: Good

History /  
Biographical:

Hubert Clayton Weidenhamer was born near Dand, Manitoba in 1926. He was raised in Dand and attended school in the Dand Consolidated School District. Weidenhamer enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1943. He became a member of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Following training in Canada and England Weidenhamer was sent to Italy. He was badly wounded in battle in mid-September and died of his injuries in November 1944 at age 21. He was buried in the Ancona Military Cemetery, Ancona Italy.

### Custodial History:

These records were in the possession of Bea Chapin (née Weidenhamer) following their creation in the 1940s until they were donated to the S. J. McKee Archives in January 2011.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of correspondence from Hubert Clayton Weidenhamer to his sister Bea. The letters begin in the spring of 1943. Weidenhamer had enlisted in the Canadian Army in January 1943. His letters detail his induction into military life in Fort Garry, Winnipeg and his training experience in Canada, principally at Camp Ipperwash, Lambton County, Ontario. He relates his experience of travels on leave to Detroit. Weidenhamer left Canada from Halifax in late 1943 and arrived in Great Britain in December for additional military training. In England, maintaining his morale, waiting for deployment, and coming to terms with British currency were challenges. Transferred to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Weidenhamer was deployed to Italy in March 1944. The letters dating from March 1944 to September relate in oblique fashion his's experience of military life on the Italian frontier as the Canadian Army fought its way north - "hard fighting" - and the impact of the war on Italian cities and the countryside. He was "proud" of his conduct in action. Weidenhamer's last letter is dated September 11, 1944.

Collection also includes correspondence on Weidenhamer's behalf from his military Chaplain; two press clippings dealing with his military career, and several facimiles of telegrams and correspondence from the Canadian government officials related to Weidenhamer's death and burial in Italy.

Notes:	Description by Tom Mitchell.
Name Access:	Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Camp Ipperwash Princess Pat's
Subject Access:	World War II Second World War military service military personnel Italian theatre
Storage Location:	2011 accessions



## Clarence Hopkin collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13328>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	13-2009
GMD:	multiple media
Physical Description:	18 cm 4 photographs 1 negative
Physical Condition:	Good. A number of the items in the collection show evidence of tearing around the edges, missing covers etc. The photographs show bends and tears.

## History /

### Biographical:

Clarence Frank Hopkin was born September 11, 1913 in Brandon, MB. He worked for the family bakery (Hopkin's Bakery), which was located on the southside of Rosser Avenue downtown, for the railroad in the mail cars and the Brandon Post Office. At the same time Hopkin's worked for the Post Office he and his wife operated Hopkin's Home Bakery from their house after the downtown bakery had ceased operations.

Hopkin's was a member of the First Baptist Church and a Golden K Kiwanis Club member. He took an active interest in community theatre, attending and participating in a number of plays. In 1994, Hopkin received the Mayor's Volunteer Service Award for Education in recognition of his volunteer work at Betty Gibson School where he read to and with the students there.

Hopkin married Ivy Margaret Ward on June 2, 1945 in Brandon. Ward was born in 1913 and predeceased her husband in 1986. Together they had two children: Keith and Elaine.

Clarence Frank Hopkin died in Brandon on March 17, 2009.

### Custodial History:

Records were collected by Hopkin's and possibly other family members at the house on 7th Street where the family lived for approximately 100 years. After Hopkin's death in March 2009, his daughter Elaine and granddaughter Holly contacted the Archives regarding donation of some of the materials to the McKee Archives. Visits were made to the Hopkin's house by Archives staff the week of April 13-17, 2009, at the end of which the records in the accession were officially donated to the Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records collected by Clarence Hopkin over the course his life, which document his personal interests and certain community events.

Included in the collection are: scrapbooks (mostly newspaper clippings); play programs from productions staged by the Brandon Little Theatre; cookbooks; four play scripts; copies of the BCI New Era yearbook (1926, 1928 (may not be complete - missing cover), 1929); 1946 Brandon Business and Professional Classified Directory; Brandon College/University programs from recitals, plays and convocations; materials related to the radio show broadcast by First Baptist Church; Harrison High Literary Society play programs; miscellaneous programs to events held in the city; Brandon City District Drama Festival and The Mantioba Drama League Provincial Festival programs; The Brandon Canadian Concert Association programs; information on the Brandon Street Railway and the Criddle family; advertisement cards from Brandon businesses; a typescript copy of "How Englishmen Get That Way;" and a radio broadcast talk by Christopher Ellis.

It also contains copies of: Northern-Lights and Shadows by J.S. Clark; A Bundle of Burnt Cork Comedy by Harry L. Newton; Picturesque Brandon; Petit Pettitt: Biography of a Brandon Oldtimer by Joan T. Thompson; and Pioneer Patches by Mildred Donley.

Collection also includes four photographs and one negative. Negative: Brandon Collegiate Form 3A, 1928-1929. Photographs: City Hall looking southeast; Grain elevator on Pacific Avenue; Brandon Central Fire Station; interior parlour photograph.

Notes: History/Bio information provided by Hopkin's daughter Elaine in April 2009.

Storage Location: 2009 accessions  
Photographs: RG 5 photograph storage drawer



## Michael Blanar collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13616>

Part Of: MG 3 Brandon University Teaching & Administration

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 15-2012

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1966 -1968

Physical Description: 7 cm textual records

5 microfilm reels

History /

Biographical:

See RG 6 Brandon University fonds, Series 7 Faculties and Schools, Sub-series 7.1 Faculty of Arts, Sub sub series 7.1.1 Dean of Arts for biographical information for Michael Blanar.

Custodial History:

Collection was in the possession of Dr. Michael Blanar until he donated the records to the S.J. McKee Archives in May 2002.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of textual records and five microfilm reels related to Dr. Blanar's post-graduate research. It is assumed that the records were collected during the course of Blanar's research for his dissertation entitled "Early British Travellers in French Canada (1960)."

Textual records include three Dominion of Canada notebooks containing handwritten Saulteaux verbs, and animate nouns. Included is a dark red booklet titled "Ojibwe." The book contains Ojibwa translations of English words. The book comes from St. Peter Clavers Industrial School in Spanish, Ontario, and may have acted as an instructional book as it also contains French and English. Collection also contains a transcript of an Ojibwa dictionary and three file folders titled "Manuscripts," "John Long Research," and "Maps" which contain additional research material. Contents of "Manuscript" folder are original typed manuscripts. "John Long" and "Maps" file folders contain copies of materials held at Library and Archives Canada, as well as hand drawn documents and hand written documents detailing contents of folders.

In addition to the textual records there are five microfilm reels. Three microfilm cases are labeled "The British Reference Division," one case labeled "Public Archives Canada, central microfilm operations," and the last case is from an unidentified source labeled "Longs voyages and travels". Four of the five microfilm cases are also numbered. The British Reference Division microfilm case numbered "1346 i 43" contains a copy of a book titled "The Cacique of Ontario." British Reference Division microfilm case numbered "104706640" contains a copy of a book titled "The Four Kings of Canada." British Reference Division microfilm case numbered "9073279" contains a copy of a book titled "The Indians." The Public Archives Canada microfilm case numbered "c-3006" contains copies of original documents in French and English. Documents include letters, diary pages, maps, and business ledgers. Microfilm case labeled "Longs voyages and travels" contains a copy of a book written by John Long titled "Voyages and Travels of Indian Interpreter and Trader."

Notes:

Description by Aaron McKay (October 2013). The Ojibwa language dictionary and notebook make references to Fredric Baraga (1797-1868), a missionary priest from Slovenia who recorded the Lake Superior Ojibwa language dialect. Baraga's findings were published into an Ojibwa language dictionary.

Name Access:	Michael Blanar John Long Frederic Baraga John Speed John Rocque Guy Lord Dorchester St. Peter Clavers Industrial School Mattaugwessawacks Ojibwa Ojibwe Saulteaux Lake Ontario Lake Erie Lake Huron Hudson's Bay Company Public Archives of Canada Denoyer-Geppert July Sessions 1788
Subject Access:	Aboriginal groups Ojibwa Saulteaux fur trade Hudson's Bay Company Industrial Schools
Language Note:	Collection contains records written in French and the Ojibwa/Saulteaux languages.
Storage Location:	2012 accessions
Related Material:	Records from Dr. Blanar's time as Brandon University Dean of Arts are located in RG 6 Brandon University fonds.



## Fred McGuinness collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13654>

Other Title Info:	Title based on the name of donor
Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	1-2015
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	c. 1880 - 2010
Physical Description:	Approximately 7.4 m of textual records Approximately 300 photographs (unprocessed) Other media (see Material Details)

Material Details:

- 10 sound recordings
- 17 artifacts
- 49 booklets
- 3 maps
- 3 newsletters
- 18 periodicals
- 16 pamphlets
- 35 newspapers [oversize drawer]

#### History /

#### Biographical:

Popularly known as the “voice of the prairies,” Fred McGuinness was known by many titles and honorifics: wordsmith, apiarist, author, beekeeper, brother, columnist, editor, father, historian, husband, journalist, memoirist, Morse operator, member of the Order of Canada, member of the Order of Manitoba, public speaker, publisher, radio broadcaster, son, telegrapher (CP), telegraphist (Navy), vice-president, and writer.

Frederick George McGuinness (b. 21 January 1921 – d. 22 March 2011) was born in Brandon, Manitoba. He attended Park and Earl Oxford public schools. Upon his father’s death in 1933, McGuinness worked as a paper carrier for the Brandon Sun, whose route covered the City’s downtown core. In 1937, he quit school and began working for the CP Telegraph Service initially as a telegram messenger and later as a Morse code operator.

In 1939, McGuinness enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy in Winnipeg and served as a wireless operator on the HMCS Alachassee. On 23 September 1940, McGuinness was seriously injured in a naval accident when his ship ran aground; McGuinness’ leg was broken when the ship’s tow cable snapped and he spent the next 11 months convalescing at Camp Hill Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia. While in hospital McGuinness contracted scarlet fever and diphtheria and developed osteomyelitis as a complication of his femur fracture. McGuinness returned to Winnipeg to continue his convalescence at Deer Lodge Hospital and was ultimately discharged from the navy in 1941.

Fred McGuinness’ newspaper, public speaking, and broadcasting career began after he enrolled at St. Paul’s College in 1941. At St. Paul’s, which was affiliated with the University of Manitoba, McGuinness was able to complete his high school equivalency and university preparation courses. Additionally, in 1942, he served as a Sports Editor for St. Paul’s College Crusader student newspaper.

In 1943, McGuinness began his undergraduate university career at United College, which was also affiliated with the University of Manitoba. From 1943 to 1946, McGuinness served on the student union’s Public Relations Committee; in 1945, he became chairman of the Radio Subcommittee working as the Director of the University Radio Series where he was responsible (i.e., writing, casting, directing) for a half-hour Saturday afternoon radio programme. During this period McGuinness also utilized his previous military experience to work as an Assistant Veterans Counsellor in the university, and, following a recommendation from the President of the University of Manitoba, as a speaker for the War Finance Committee in the Winnipeg Area.

In 1946, McGuinness moved to Port Arthur to work in public relations with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. He married Christine Thompson (d. 14 August 2009) in Port Arthur, Ontario on 29 June 1946. Married for 61 years, the couple had four children together: Colleen, Fred Jr., Gallagher, and Timothy.

In 1947, the couple returned to Winnipeg when McGuinness took a job as a Public Relations Officer for the National Employment Service’s Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC).

During the 1950 Winnipeg Flood the UIC office served as a communication base between



During the 1950 Winnipeg Flood the UIC offices served as a communication base between the federal, provincial, and municipal governments and McGuinness received commendation from the military for his assistance during the disaster. While employed with the UIC, McGuinness also travelled the summer fair circuit with displays promoting the UIC and its benefits. During that time, Royal American Shows also hired McGuinness as its Director of Publicity and Exploitation while the show toured with the fairs on the Canadian prairies. As part of his responsibilities McGuinness had to submit weekly reports to Billboard Magazine on the Royal American fairs. McGuinness also sold his first manuscript to the CBC in 1947, recording a 14-minute broadcast titled the "Class A Circuit" about the Royal American tour, after his summer fair schedule concluded.

McGuinness continued his work with Royal American and the UIC until he accepted a position with the Saskatchewan government in 1952 to promote its upcoming 1955 golden jubilee. McGuinness worked closely with Tommy Douglas during the jubilee preparations, driving the premier to sites throughout the province. His experience with the Saskatchewan Jubilee preparations lead to McGuinness being appointed as a provincial representative to the Canadian Centennial Commission in 1963.

Fred McGuinness worked with The Medicine Hat News for 10 years, starting in 1955, when he was hired as an assistant to the paper's publisher. In 1958, he was promoted to publisher of the newspaper. At the same time McGuinness was also appointed vice-president of Southam Company Limited. In addition to his administrative and editorial work, McGuinness also authored a column titled, "The Lighthouse" while employed by The Medicine Hat News. During his time in Medicine Hat, McGuinness was heavily involved with the Chamber of Commerce and community service organizations. His position within the community had him delivering talks to many local groups and working in tandem with the Chamber to actively solicit businesses to the City.

In November of 1965, McGuinness resigned as publisher of The Medicine Hat News and moved with his family to Winnipeg where he was appointed manager of the New Personnel and Information Division with James Richardson and Sons. At that time McGuinness began developing broadcast scripts for the CBC in earnest.

In November 1966, McGuinness was hired as associate editor and vice-president to the Brandon Sun. He moved to Brandon with his family and had a career with the paper until his death in 2011. During that time McGuinness also had an extensive career as a freelance writer and journalist for the CBC, Reader's Digest, and prairie weekly newspapers, as well as authoring several books. By the 1970s, McGuinness was writing copy for CBC's Radio Noon and Information Radio, as well as producing Ashgrove Farm, a CBC radio drama.

During his years with the Sun, McGuinness wrote a tri-weekly "Sunbeams" (sometimes spelled "Sun Beams") column using the nom-de-plume F.A. Rosser. The F.A. stood for "Fifth and," and referenced the fact that the Brandon Sun offices and publication plant occupies the city block between 6th Street and 5th Street along Rosser Avenue, and McGuinness' office overlooked the intersection at 5th Street and Rosser Avenue. The Sunbeams column was similar in style and content to McGuinness' "Lighthouse" column for The Medicine Hat News; commenting on a variety of current events, Sunbeams also included book reviews, local events, and reminiscences.

In 1979, McGuinness started writing the syndicated weekly news column "Neighorly News." He would write the column for 22 years until his age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diagnosed in 2001, became an impediment to his research, writing, and editing abilities. The column initially began with a dozen subscriptions from prairie weeklies and grew to publication in 55 weeklies.

The "Neighorly News" column evolved from the interest in and the impending cancellation of McGuinness' CBC Radio broadcast "Neighorly News from the Prairies," that he hosted from

1980 to 1983. The show was cancelled in 1983 but was picked up by Altona broadcaster CFAM later that year with McGuinness at the microphone. The radio show ended its run in the summer of 1987. McGuinness continued working with the CBC, however, and is popularly known for his work as the prairie essayist for CBC Radio's Morningside with Peter Gzowski, a position he held for 17 years.

Many of McGuinness' Morningside essays were autobiographical in nature. He often reported about life on Christmas Tree Farm, a section of land where the McGuinnesses built their dream home in the late 1970s. The couple planted a Christmas tree farm on the property and Christine maintained an extensive kitchen garden, while Fred tended honey bees. Life on the farm made its way into radiobroadcasts, Neighborly News columns, and the book *Letters from Section 17: A Collection of Morningside Essays*.

Upon his retirement in January 1987, McGuinness was made publisher emeritus of the *Brandon Sun*. A week after his retirement, he began writing a new column for the *Sun* called the "Diary." McGuinness continued writing the "Diary" until his hospitalization in 2010. The Diary column was primarily a historical retrospective of Brandon, although it also touched on broader topics of interest to McGuinness during the time period.

During the 1980s and 1990s, McGuinness co-taught an undergraduate journalism class at Brandon University with English Professor John Blaikie. Around that time, he also partnered with Brandon University History Professor Ken Coates and published a number of popular books on Manitoba social history. McGuinness also delivered community workshops on memoir writing, a past time he continued until shortly before his death.

McGuinness took an active roll in the community and cultivated his interest in local history. Consequently he was invited to guest speak and chair sessions on local history, rural development, and the economy while providing his personal insights as a newspaper publisher. His previous experience with the Saskatchewan Jubilee and Canadian Centennial Commission made him a desirable committee and board member for many local organizations and planning committees. McGuinness' lifelong commitment to prairie social history, earned him numerous awards and recognitions including an honorary doctorate from Brandon University, the Order of Manitoba, and the Order of Canada.

Fred McGuinness died on 22 March 2011 in Brandon, Manitoba.

#### Custodial History:

Records in this collection were acquired by the S.J. McKee Archives in four accruals. Prior to their donation to the Archives the materials were in the possession of Fred McGuinness.

Accession 18-2002 contains records created and collected by Fred McGuinness until the publication of *Only in Canada*, a history of the Kinsmen Club Association in Canada co-authored with BU history professor Ken Coates. During the research and writing process for the book, originals and copies of Kinsmen Club of Canada records were amassed at the McKee Archives. Coates and McGuinness added their research materials to these records circa 1987. The Kinsmen records have since been deaccessioned by the McKee Archives and transferred to Kin Headquarters in Ontario.

Accession 6-2008 contains records created and collected during the writing of the Provincial Exhibition book, *Pride of the Land*. Fred McGuinness, who co-authored the book with Ken Coates, donated these records to the McKee Archives circa 1988. The materials in the accession relating to Souris, Manitoba, were given to McGuinness by Kay Sullivan in August 2007, and were subsequently deposited in the Archives. The material in the accession related to Kemnay, Manitoba, was given to Colleen McGuinness (Fred's daughter) by Mona McKinnon (nee Corkish) in the fall of 2007. Colleen then passed the materials on to her father, who in turn donated them to the S.J. McKee Archives.

Accession 20-2009 contains records created and collected by Fred McGuinness over the course of his career as a newspaper journalist and during the research and writing period of the Brandon history book, *The Wheat City*. Records remained in his possession at his home until their transfer to the McKee Archives on July 28, 2009.

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected by Fred McGuinness over the course of his career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the S.J. McKee Archives in March 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

#### Scope and Content:

The records in this collection touch on every aspect of Fred McGuinness' life. From his childhood, his education, his war experience, his newspaper and freelance career, his work in radio and public speaking, and his family the collection covers both his personal and professional life. In addition to the records created by McGuinness, there are also records created and collected by a variety of his relatives (on both sides of the family), as well as correspondence from his readers. The collection includes newspaper clippings, research materials, letters, certificates, scrapbooks, photographs, books, periodicals, pamphlets, sound recordings, artifacts, maps, newsletters, magazines, teaching materials, workshop materials, and financial records.

Because of McGuinness' wide-ranging interests, the records include a significant number of subjects, both within his own writing and correspondence, but also within his library. They would be of particular interest to researchers who share McGuinness' passions for local history and rural topics.

The scope and importance of McGuinness' work in the prairies also resulted in a number of noteworthy honors, in particular the Order of Manitoba and the Order of Canada. The collection contains materials related to both.

The Fred McGuinness collection consists of nine (9) series further divided into subseries, including: (McG 1) Personal papers; (McG 2) Newspaper career; (McG 3) Freelance; (McG 4) McGuinness research materials; (McG 5) Monographs; (McG 6) Broadcasts, lectures, workshops; (McG 7) McGuinness artifacts and sound recordings; (McG 8) McGuinness library; and (McG 9) McGuinness photographs.

See the Arrangement Note for a more detailed breakdown of the collection's arrangement.

#### Notes:

The description of the Fred McGuinness collection was made possible by financial assistance from: The Manitoba Government Department of Tourism, Culture, Heritage Sport and Consumer Protection through the Manitoba Heritage Grants Program & The Fred McGuinness Endowment for Rural Archives, Brandon University

Information for the history/biography was compiled by the Archives and can be found in the Fred McGuinness timeline containing footnotes (see the S.J. McKee Archivist). Additional information was taken from his book, Letters from Section 17: A Collection of Morningside Essays, which is autobiographical in nature

Description by Suyoko Tsukamoto and Christy Henry (2015)

#### Finding Aid:

A file level inventory is available for each subseries, see subseries descriptions

#### Storage Location:

2015 accessions  
Oversize drawer ?  
RG 5 photograph drawer

Related Material: William Frederick McGuinness sous-fonds  
Ray Bailey fonds  
John Everitt collection  
Clarence Hopkin collection  
Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba fonds  
Lawrence Stuckey collection  
Jack Stothard collection  
Trillium Business and Professional Women's Club records  
Oriole Vane-Veldhuis collection  
William Wallace papers  
Fred McGuinness local history collection (John E. Robbins Library)  
CBC Radio Archives – Morningside  
Trent University, Peter Gzowski fonds (99-015)  
Kin Headquarters, Mississauga

Arrangement:

The arrangement was artificially created by the Archives with the intention of grouping like materials. Records within files were placed in chronological order wherever possible. An inventory of the prearranged materials is available (consult the Archivist)

McG 1 Personal papers

McG 1.1 McGuinness family papers and letters  
McG 1.2 Fred McGuinness correspondence  
McG 1.3 Fred McGuinness Ltd. business documents  
McG 1.4 Fred McGuinness certificates and scrapbook

McG 2 Newspaper career

McG 2.1 The Medicine Hat News  
McG 2.2 The Brandon Sun  
McG 2.3 Neighborly News

McG 3 Freelance

McG 3.1 Reader's Digest  
McG 3.2 Miscellaneous freelance

McG 4 McGuinness research

McG 4.1 Local history research materials  
McG 4.2 Newspaper clippings

McG 5 Monographs

McG 5.1 Pride of the Land (1985)  
McG 5.2 Only in Canada (1987)  
McG 5.3 Old Pathways, New Horizons (1995)  
McG 5.4 Manitoba: The Province & The People (1987)  
McG 5.5 The Keystone Province: Manitoba Enterprise (1988)

McG 5.6 The Wheat City (1988)  
McG 5.7 Chronicle of Canada (1990)

McG 6 McGuinness broadcasts, lectures, workshops

McG 6.1 Radio broadcast scripts  
McG 6.2 BU Journalism course  
McG 6.3 Talks and workshops

McG 7 McGuinness artifacts and sound recordings

McG 8 McGuinness library

McG 8.1 Books  
McG 8.2 Booklets  
McG 8.3 Maps, newsletters, and periodicals  
McG 8.4 Pamphlets  
McG 8.5 Magazines and newspapers (oversize)

McG 9 McGuinness photographs

6-2008 photographs  
20-2009 photographs  
1-2015 photographs