S. J. McKee Archives

Manitoba winter fair documents

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4365

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.1
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1908-1968
Physical Description:	6.5 cm
History / Biographical:	

The documents were created by members of the Board of Directors, and others involved with the management of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes several copies of the MWF Constitution, a 1908 constitution, 1909 MWFFSA shares belonging to John Bradley, a 1968 agreement for the non-military use of property, and several agreements between the MWF and several other companies spanning the dates 1934 to 1963.

Notes:	Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair minutes

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4366

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.2
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1908-1932
Physical Description:	6.5 cm

These minutes were created by the Board of Directors and the Shareholders at the meetings that they held from 1908 to 1932. The Board of Directors was created in 1908. While the collection currently houses minutes from 1908 to 1932, it is evident from Prize Lists and Programs that the Board of Directors structure evolved in the following way.

The structure of the winter fair was quite different from the summer fair. Instead of having a committee structure, the winter fair had both committees and representatives from various agricultural associations. The representatives were part of the Board of Directors. In 1908 these representatives included men from the Horse Breeders' Association, the Cattle Breeders' Association, the Sheep Breeders' Association, the Swine Breeders' Association, the Poultry Breeders' Association, the Brandon Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association, and the Manitoba Agricultural College. With the addition of representatives from the Manitoba Clydesdale Association, and the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, these committees continued virtually without change until 1930.

By the 1930s, several more representatives joined the Board of Directors including the Winnipeg Livestock Exchange, the Manitoba Percheron Association, the Canadian Shorthorn Association, and the Hereford Association. By 1935 there were also representatives from the Prairie Thoroughbred and Racing Association, the Manitoba Boards of Trade, the Western Manitoba Board of Trade, the Aberdeen Angus Association, and the Canadian Percheron Association. The Canadian Clydesdale Association joined the Board by 1940.

By 1950, several more agricultural associations had joined the Board of Directors. They included the Brandon Light Horse Society, the Brandon Chamber of Commerce, the Manitoba Veterinary Association, the Minister of Agriculture, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and the Canadian Red Poll Association. By 1955, a representative from the City of Brandon rounded out the representatives on the Board of Directors.

The first committees of the Board of Directors began in 1908 with the formation of the Brandon Winter Fair and Fat Stock Association. The committees included an Executive, Horse, Livestock, Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Poultry and Seed. By 1915 there were also Program, Prize/Accounts, Carcass, Exhibits/Public Comfort, Building, and Provincial Government committees. Most of these later committees were not long lived, or were not mentioned much past 1915. A Judging Competition Committee was added in 1925 and lasted until sometime in the 1940s. In 1950 an official Finance committee was formed, as well as a Gates/Tickets committee. By 1955, three more committees had been added including 4-H/Junior Activities, Light Horse and Heavy Horse.

By the 1960s, a Publicity committee was also added. In 1965 there were several committees formed including Police/Traffic/Parking, Concessions, Calf/Pig Scrambles, Baby Fair, Flower Show and the Fall Feeder Show and Sale. A Fashion Show committee was added by 1970. In 1975 a Property committee is also mentioned.

The 1980s appear to have been a time of great growth for the winter fair, as there was a large increase in the number of committees. By 1985 the following committees had been formed: Dance, Hitching Ring, Steer Show, Bull Sale, Western Breakfast, Egg Show, Entertainment, Exhibitor's Lounge, VIP, Cattle Parade, Calcutta, Winter Fair Sponsors, Casino and Royal Manitoba Winter Fair. These committees continued for the most part through into the 1990s.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes the minutes from meetings held from 1908 to 1932. An interesting aspect to these records is that they include the first meetings held by the newly formed winter fair Board of Directors. The early minutes are an interesting look into the formation of an organization.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair tickets

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4372

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.8
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1966-1973
Physical Description:	10 cm textual records
	tickets, badges, ribbons

History /
Biographical:

The records were created by a member of the administrative staff of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MWF, and the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series includes two files that house correspondence dealing with the issue of complimentary tickets. As well, the series includes many examples of tickets, badges, and ribbons from the winter fairs of 1966-1973.

Notes: Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair photographs

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4373

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds

Creator:	Known creators of the records include:

PHOTOGRAPHERS AND PHOTO SERVICES
Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society
Allen Photo
Avalanche Photographics
Benny Mighall
Canada Pictures Ltd., Toronto, Ontario
CKX-TV, Brandon, Manitoba
Ernie Tayler
Fred's Photo Finishing, Brandon, Manitoba
Gilbert A. Milne Photography
H. M. Salisbury, Brandon, Manitoba
H. W. Doleman, Brandon, Manitoba
Harold K. White, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Holstein-Friesian Journal
Jack Hiebert
Jerrett's Photo, Brandon, Manitoba
Jim Rose, Livestock Photographer, Toronto,
Ontario
Ken Bullock, Brandon, Manitoba
Leech Printing Ltd., Brandon, Manitoba
Novelty Manufacturing
Photo Studios of Bulman Brothers, Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba
R. M. Coleman, Free Lance Photographer,
Brandon, Manitoba
R. M. McNaught, Hamilton, Ontario
Rabinsky
Sargent, Memphis, Tennessee
Singer Studio, Britton, South Dakota
Strohmeyer
Verna Allison, Beechy, Saskatchewan
Wilkinson's Photography, Newmarket, Ontario

NEWSPAPERS AND PRINTING SERVICES

Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Brandon Sun, Brandon, Manitoba
Leech Printing Ltd., Brandon, Manitoba

GOVERNMENT

Frank Royal for the National Film Board of Canada

Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.9
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	1902-1984
Physical Description:	780 photographs and other graphic materials

History /
Biographical:

Exhibitors and participants in the fairs donated many of
these records to the Winter Fair Board. Professional photographers, hired by the Board, generated others. As well, Brandon Sun photographers took a large number of photos throughout the twentieth century. In the 1980s, the Board reprinted them and then added the reproductions to their own photograph collection. Publishing houses generated some photographs, probably as services to participants and organizers of the fairs. Finally, the Canadian government created a few of the photos.

Custodial History:

Exhibitors and participants in activities at the winter fair donated many of these records to the Winter Fair Board. The Manitoba Provincial Archives housed other records and later transferred them to the McKee Archives. Most of the records were stored in the offices of the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba until they were brought to the McKee Archives ca. 1986.

Scope and Content:

Series consists primarily of black and white photographs either taken at the Winter Fair or owned by the Winter Fair Board. Subjects included are buildings and grounds, horses, livestock, poultry and eggs, exhibits, youth activities, entertainment, and dignitaries. Almost all of the materials have been excellently preserved.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Several of the pictures of the buildings and grounds are aerial photos; these date from 1949 through the 1980s. Photos taken between 1908 and 1952 depict the winter fair building, the livestock arena, the Wheat City Arena, the horse barns, and the swine barn. Photos taken from the 1960s to the early 1980s show horse barns, the Keystone Centre, and quonsets.

HORSES

Photos of horses and horse events comprise the largest number of the graphics of RG2SF2. Unlike other winter fair pictures, types of horse photos do not change throughout the twentieth century. There are many pictures of heavy horses, including Clydesdales, Belgians, and Percherons. They are usually in harness and in teams of two, four, six, and eight. They pull wagons, landaus, and carts. Heavy horses appear in photos of shows, sales, parades, ceremonies, and draft horse competitions.

Light horse photos are also numerous. There are many photos of owners and drivers with award-winning horses. Depictions of races form a prominent part of the light horse pictures; these include portrayals of chuck wagon, chariot, bike, and barrel races. Also featured are competitions like cutting, jumping, pole bending, western riding, musical chairs, hackney, costume, unicorn, and fault and out. Finally, there are many photos of ponies, including hackney, harness, and pleasure ponies.

LIVESTOCK

There are three types of livestock shown in the photos of RG2SF2: cattle, swine, and sheep. Depicted are both sales and shows of these animals. As well, there are pictures of these animals' carcasses.

In the first forty years of the fair, people took few pictures of cattle, but after World War II, pictures of cattle became a prominent part of the Winter Fair Board's graphic records. Featured are purebred cattle such as Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, and Simmental. Dairy cows like Jersey and Holstein-Friesian are also notable. Some pictures depict people grooming their cattle.

Photos of swine date from 1927 through the 1980s, and include Yorkshire sows and boars, as well as market hogs. Sheep are depicted throughout the twentieth century. While most sheep photos are of shows and sales, there are some photos of sheep-shearing contests taken in the 1950s.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Poultry photos date between the 1950s and the 1970s. Featured are both chickens and game birds. Pictures of egg shows and competitions date from 1966 through the 1980s.

EXHIBITS

There are four types of exhibit photos: commercial, award, seed, and Baby Fair. Commercial exhibits date from the 1940s through the 1980s. They feature agricultural implements made by Ford, John Deere, Massey Ferguson, and Case. Photos dating from the 1970s depict commercial booths owned by such companies as Badger and Sprayer Monitor.

Award exhibits date throughout the twentieth century, and feature ribbons, plaques, and trophies. Placed on tables, these awards are mostly for winners in horse and livestock competitions.

Seed exhibits date from the 1950s through the 1970s. Included in the seed exhibit pictures are prize-winning wheat, potato, and canola seed pictures.

Baby Fair, or petting zoo, photos comprise a large portion of the graphic records of MG 2. Dating primarily from the 1970s, Baby Fair pictures depict chicks, pups, lambs, piglets, and other baby animals.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Most of the youth activities' photos are of calf and pig scrambles, and date from the 1950s through the 1980s. 4-H Club activities are prominent, and include pictures of boys and male teens learning how to show and judge livestock and seed. Depicted also are fashion shows put on by female 4-H members. Finally, pictures of a hula-hoop competition dating from the 1950s are notable.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment graphics date from the 1950s through the 1980s, and include ceremonies, rodeos, parades, and contests. Pictures of ceremonies depict the opening and closing ceremonies of the Winter Fair. Featured in these photos are winners of horse events, pipe and drum bands, and dignitaries giving speeches.

Rodeo pictures date only from the 1970s. Featured are men riding bucking broncos and cattle round-ups.

Parade photos, which date throughout the twentieth century, depict floats, six-horse teams pulling wagons, people riding horses, club entries—such as the Lions' Club and the Neat and Nifty Sewing Club, and marching bands.

Contest pictures include fiddling competitions and dog shows. The Winter Fair Board sponsored fiddling contests sporadically, and photos of such contests date from the 1950s through the 1970s. Dog show pictures also appear intermittently in the records, such as the Mutt Show photos of the 1950s.

DIGNITARIES

Photos of dignitaries, which date throughout the twentieth century, are mostly of men. Depicted both individually and severally are members of Winter Fair Boards, municipal and provincial politicians, and local professional and business representatives. In these pictures they are usually giving speeches, signing documents, and holding meetings. Notable are the pictures of members of associations that held meetings at the winter fairs, including the Cattle Breeders Association (1960s).

The graphic materials of RG2SF2 are useful for many purposes. For one, they offer a rich visual history of the Winter Fair. From these pictures, one can ascertain the ways in which the fair has changed and expanded throughout the twentieth century. By viewing the photos of newly built buildings, for instance, one can determine that the fair expanded in size over the years.

Also valuable is the history of western Canadian agriculture that is contained in these pictures. Over the years, the types of exhibits changed at the winter fair, thus indicating the changing nature of farming. Photos of cattle, for example, reflect the changes in types of breeds raised in the west. Exotics like Simmental only appear after the late 1960s, thus indicating that this breed began to flourish in western Canada only in the second half of the twentieth century.

The number of people contained in these pictures is formidable, and the pictures of people are valuable in many ways. By studying the pictures of dignitaries associated with the fair, one can determine who the leading agricultural personalities were over the twentieth century in Brandon. As well, the photos of exhibitors offer a wide cross section of the rural residents of southwestern Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan. From the pictures of exhibitors, one can establish who were the farmers and ranchers of this region, where they lived, and in what field they specialized.

The photographs of the Winter Fair, then, are valuable for many researchers. Not only do they offer a rich history of the fair, but they also offer a vivid history of the people and agriculture of southeastern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba.

Notes:	Item-level descriptions of the graphics of RG2SF1 through RG2SF4 are located on a searchable database. This database is entitled "Brandon Photographs" and can be read using Microsoft Access. "Brandon Photographs" is located on a 3½ floppy disk entitled "Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba fonds Series 9" included in this finding aid. The description of each photograph on this database includes the following information: accession number, title, date, place, physical description, scope and content, notes, creator, and copyright. By searching the database, individual photographs can be located easily. Detailed instructions on how to use the database are located in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair
Related Material:	Pictures of the Winter Fair may also be found on the National Archives of Canada website. The Western Canadian Pictorial Index in Winnipeg, Manitoba, houses additional graphic records of the Winter Fair.

Arrangement:

Graphics for RG2SF1 through RG2SF4 are located in boxes. Graphics larger than 24 x 35 cm are located in the image mapcase, which is located in the reading room. The graphics are filed chronologically by accession number. The arrangement is as follows:

Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds; RG2SF1-RG2SF4; Series 9
Boxes 1 through 15, as follows:

Box 1 EX0001 to EX0125
Box 2 EX0157 to EX0263
Box 3 EX0265 to EX0399
Box 4 EX0400 to EX0499
Box 5 EX0500 to EX0599
Box 6 EX0600 to EX0699
Box 7 EX0700 to EX0799
Box 8 EX0800 to EX0899
Box 9 EX0900 to EX0921
Box 10 EX1000 to EX1099
Box 11 EX1100 to EX1199
Box 12 EX1200 to EX1299
Box 13 EX1300 to EX1399
Box 14 EX1400 to EX1499
Box 15 EX1549 to EX1859

Manitoba winter fair scrapbooks

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4374

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.10
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1966-1971, 1975
Physical Description:	6 cm

History /
Biographical:

The records were created by a member of the administrative staff of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MWF, and the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series contains scrapbooks from 1966 to 1971, and 1975. The scrapbooks are mainly newspaper clippings pertaining to the winter fair.

Notes:	Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair miscellaneous

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4375

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.11
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1920, 1926, 1955, 1971
Physical Description:	6.5 cm

History /
Biographical:

See Administrative History for RG2SF2 Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the BWFLA, the MWF, and MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives located at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The series contains records that did not fit into any other series. Some of these records include, notices of meetings, a donation sheet, sketches for a RMWF logo, a speech, and an article about Robert John Wright.

Notes:	Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
	RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair financial records

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4367

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.3
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1925-1977
Physical Description:	76.5 cm

History /
Biographical:

This series was created by a committee attached to the Board of Directors of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series contains financial statements from 1925 and 1926, as well as financial records from the 1930s to 1969. There is also a transfer ledger from the years 1939 to 1953. There is a box with the statement of prizes won from 1972 to 1977.

Notes: Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair administrative files

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4368

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.4
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1980, 1982
Physical Description:	62 cm

History /
Biographical:

These files were created by a member of the administrative staff of the winter fair.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The files include the administrative records from the 1980 RMWF and the 1982 RMWF. The files encompass such subjects as Prize List Production, Concessions, Correspondence, Mailing Lists, Canvassing, Grants and Donations, and many others.

Notes:	Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair news releases

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4370

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.6
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1984-1989
Physical Description:	6.5 cm

History /
Biographical:

This series was created by the Publicity committee attached to the Board of Directors. There are no records of this committee, but it is possible to find mention of it in the prize lists and programs for the winter fair. See Appendix 2 in the printed finiding aid.

Custodial History:

The records were housed at the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University on a continuing basis.

Scope and Content:

The series include the news releases that were sent out to various media to promote the fair. The series includes the years 1984, 1985, 1987, and 1989.

Notes:	Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair original results

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4371

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.7
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1982-1985
Physical Description:	43.5 cm

History /
Biographical:

The series was created by a member of the administrative staff of the Board of Directors. It is believed that these files were originally part of a larger administrative file, but before deposit in the archives they were separated from the files and a new series was created.

Custodial History:

The records were held by the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The files include original results for the different events from 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985.

Notes:	Part of RG2SF2. Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
	RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Manitoba winter fair prize lists and programs

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4369

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF2
Series Number:	2.5
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1918-1992
Physical Description:	56 cm

History /
Biographical:

The prize lists and programs of the winter fair were created by a committee attached to the Board of Directors of the fair. This committee was in existence from c1909, shortly after the winter fair was organized.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF2 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

The series includes prize lists and programs from 1918 to 1992. The programs include daily programs, as well as individual classes and competitions. They also list the competitors for each class. The prize lists include all classes and the prize money or prize to be won.

Notes:	Inventory of the documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF2 Manitoba Winter Fair

Winter Fair building

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6487

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.62
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9" x 5.25" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows one of the Winter Fair buildings on 10th Street.

Storage Range: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Clydesdales at the Inter-Provincial Fair

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6492

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.67
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.25" x 6.5" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows a number of clydesdale horses inside a show ring or pen at the Inter-Provincial Fair in 1912. The view is from inside the ring or pen, looking at the rear of the horses, a fair building and some of the spectators.

Notes:	Photograph includes negatives.
Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Machine exhibit at the Inter-Provincial Fair

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6483

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.58
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.5" x 7.5" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows part of the machine exhibit at the Inter-Provincial Fair, held on the Brandon Fair Grounds (now the Keystone Grounds) in 1912.

Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Agricultural teams at the Inter-Provincial Fair

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6484

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.59
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.5" x 7" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows agricultural teams at the Inter-Provincial Fair, held on the Brandon Fair Grounds (now the Keystone Grounds) in 1912.

Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Stock parade at the Inter-Provincial Fair

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6489

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.64
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.25" x 7.25" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows a stock parade at the Inter-Provincial Fair held on the Exhibition Grounds (now the Keystone Grounds) in 1912. The stock parade was held at the Grand Stand.

Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Six winning head of shorthorns at the Inter-Provincial Fair

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6491

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.66
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.25" x 7.25" (b/w)

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows a number of men and cattle, including the six winning shorthorns, at the Inter-Provincial Fair in 1912.

Notes:	Photograph includes negatives.
Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

Manitoba Engines Ltd.

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions6470

Part Of:	Alf Fowler collection
Creator:	Davidson & Gowen
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	6-1999.45
Accession Number:	6-1999
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	ca. 1911
Physical Description:	9.5" x 7.25" (b/w)

History /
Biographical:

Manitoba Engines Ltd. was located at 803 Assiniboine Avenue.

Custodial History:

See fonds level description of the Alf Fowler collection for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

Photo shows the inside of Manitoba Engines Ltd.

Storage Range:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript collection - photograph storage drawer

Images

RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4352

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Sous-fonds
Fonds Number:	RG2SF1
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1903-1991
Physical Description:	3.47 m textual records; 793 graphics

History /
Biographical:

The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba has been an institution almost as long as Brandon has been a city, although under the guise of several different names. The idea of an exhibition

came from Charles Whitehead, who was the founder and first president of the fair. Whitehead was one of the earliest and most prominent businessmen in Brandon. The first Brandon fair was organized in October of 1882, by the Brandon Agricultural Society (BAS). The Board of Directors of the BAS offered up two hundred dollars in prize money, but poor weather and a subsequently small turnout of people and exhibits to the downtown location caused the fair to do poorly. Undeterred, the Board of Directors began to make plans for the second fair, in what was to become an annual event. This time, due to generous grants from the city, district, and province, the Board of Directors was able to purchase land just south of the city to hold the fair on and built a Crystal Palace to hold exhibits in. In October 1883, there were seven hundred and thirty entries, and the fair, the first to be held on the new fair grounds, was considered successful.

The Brandon Exhibition was not financially sound however, and by 1888, the Directors knew that major changes had to be made if they wanted to continue the fair. It was decided that October was not the best time to hold an agricultural exhibition because most farmers were in the middle of harvesting and did not have time to leave their farms for an exhibition. A decision was made to move the exhibition to the summer, when most farmers could get away for a few days. In July 1889, the first Brandon summer fair was held. The Directors had managed to revamp the fair in order to appeal to the wider public. The fair was a huge success, with both city and rural people attending.

The Board of Directors formally established the Western Agricultural and Arts Association (WAAA) in 1892 to take over management duties of the fair from the BAS. However, the first meeting of the WAAA was not until 1897. There is no explanation for the five year delay. The WAAA received generous donations from the various governments, and the citizens of Brandon. In 1897, the Board of Directors purchased another 42 acres of land from the city that was located beside the fair grounds. They erected a grandstand and new stables. Prize money was increased, there were special prizes offered for the first time, and special exhibition trains were available to transport fair goers at a reduced rate.

The 1897 fair was the major turning point for the Brandon exhibition. The fair appealed to both urban and rural dwellers. The Board wanted to put Brandon on the map, and accordingly, they brought forward events and entertainment that would do so. The first Traveller's Day, still running strong today, was put on in 1912. The parade associated with it was unlike any Brandon had seen before. Despite the attractions, carnivals and midways that were beginning to dominate the fair, organizers insisted that it was still primarily an agricultural event. The promotion of agriculture was still prominent at the exhibition. As local historians have written, "the exhibition symbolized the accomplishments and potential of the region, and encouraged all agriculturists to strive towards higher standards."

By 1912, all outstanding loans had been paid off, and the Board of Directors could boast an eleven thousand dollar surplus in funds. As well, the physical assets available to the summer fair were expanded dramatically in 1913. In 1913, Brandon was granted the honour of hosting the Dominion Exhibition. From the funding that came in for this prestigious event the Board of Directors was able to build a new grandstand, erect new display buildings, replace the racetrack, and generally expand and improve the fair grounds. Another 80 acres of land was bought from the city for the summer fair. The Brandon Dominion Exhibition was declared open on 15 July 1913 by Manitoba Premier Rodmond Roblin. Although it was a resounding success, the Directors ended up having to pay for parts of it out of their own pockets.

Canada entered World War One in the late summer of 1914. The WAAA reached an agreement with the military that the army could use the fairgrounds during the year if they allowed the WAAA use of the grounds for the fair week. Because of limitations put on the fair because of the war, the Brandon exhibition became more involved with the Western Canada Fair Circuit. This organization enabled the summer fair to join in the exhibitions that worked together to bring events like the midway to their exhibitions.

It was also during this time that moral reform became more prevalent in Canadian society. Due to this growing concern with moral purity and the desire for social reform, the Directors had to find ways to ensure that the summer exhibition did not cross the boundaries of good taste. There was a short-lived protest in 1913 against horseracing, but by 1916, then-president of the fair, R.M. Matheson, cast the tie breaking vote in favour of letting both the horseracing and the betting continue. By 1917, the Board had decided against allowing betting, but the horseracing was allowed to continue.

After the war ended, financial stress on the part of the winter fair brought forward a proposal to amalgamate the summer and winter fairs. The provincial government stated that they were interested in supporting an amalgamation, and the two fair boards resolved to consider the option. In spring of 1920, the winter fair backed out the deal because they felt they would lose out to the WAAA in the deal. Not to be deterred, the WAAA applied for incorporation with the provincial government. On 3 April 1920, the WAAA was incorporated as the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba (PEM). In 1920, the official title of the summer fair was changed from the Inter-Provincial Exhibition to the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

After incorporation the Board of Directors was increased to a membership of twenty. The provincial exhibition continued to increase and change with the times. The directors tried to make each fair interesting and stimulating for the people of Brandon and the surrounding areas. A Manitoba Government Building was opened in 1927, by Premier John Bracken, and an Automobile Building opened in 1927. By 1929, the Provincial Exhibition was one of the leading summer exhibitions in Western Canada. Unfortunately, 1929 was also the beginning of a decade-long Depression throughout Canada and the United States. The exhibition continued though, although at a less grandiose level. The exhibition was the site of some work relief programs throughout the thirties, but the grants were generally small.

It was also during the 1930s that people began wanting a change in the management of the Board. For many years, almost since the inception of the fair, the Board had been run by the same group of men who took turns in the various positions. In 1933, there were several men brought forward to run against the Directors at the annual general meeting. A total of forty four nominations went up for the twenty positions. After the dust had settled, seven new faces took seats around the Directors table.

During World War Two, the Provincial Exhibition managed to continue. The Board made an agreement with the military that while their buildings could be used by the military during the war, the fair would be able to take control of the buildings for fair week. While the fair remained open, its exhibits were hampered by the war. In 1942, for example, the Wartime Prices and Trades Board declared that farm machinery could not be exhibited for the duration. This was one of the fair's bigger draws, and its absence was felt greatly. As another concession to the war, the livestock show had to be reduced from five days to three, although this decision was met by protest from many of the directors. Despite these impediments, the entries into the agricultural exhibits continued to increase. Horse racing, long a bone of contention among members of the Board was almost eliminated in 1942, but a compromise was made and the Directors allowed one day of racing at the 1943 fair.

After the war, the prize money increased by up to twenty-five percent in an effort to increase the number of exhibitors. Many new events were added to the fair roster, including an annual 4-H show and farm camps for children. A Trade Show was added in 1952 and became a large success. The fair always enjoyed support from the City of Brandon, although there were the occasional tensions between the two. In 1955 the Board approved a proposal by R.A. Hodges to sponsor a Dream Home contest. While the attraction was a big success, the Directors evidently did not receive the cut of the proceeds that Hodges had promised them. The fair Board ended up fifty-five hundred dollars in debt.

In 1958 an attempt was made to break the all male hold on the directorate. While no women were elected to the Board itself, a Women's Advisory Committee was created to provide input

were elected to the Board itself, a Women's Advisory Committee was created to provide input into fair activities. The original committee was made up of Mrs. D. Elviss, Mrs. D. Graham, Mrs. G. McRae, and Mrs. F. Heeney.

It was also during this time that the Board began to face more direct competition from Winnipeg. The Red River Exhibition had been operating for several years, and its Board of Directors wanted their exhibition to be admitted into the Western Canadian Association of Exhibition. This would not have been particularly good for the Brandon Provincial Exhibition. Partly due to the Brandon Board's vigorous protests, Winnipeg was only granted an associate membership.

By the end of 1958, the Brandon fair was once again facing financial difficulties. The Provincial Exhibition was at its peak at the end of the 1950s. By 1961 the fair recorded a net loss of sixty-five hundred dollars. Because of financial problems, the fair Board had to mortgage its property for $50 000. As well, the Royal American Shows left Brandon for Winnipeg in 1966, leaving the Directors scrambling to find another midway. It took several years and several different companies before the Directors settled on the Conklin Brothers Shows. To make matters worse, the grandstand was condemned in 1974, leaving the fair without a place to hold its grandstand show. This show was replaced by the Western Canada Rodeo Circuit, in an attempt to regain patrons.

By 1966 both the summer and winter fair Boards had decided that one facility could be used to house both the summer and winter fairs. Both financially and practically, it became an increasingly good idea to merge the two fairs together. In 1969, the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba and the Manitoba Winter Fair were amalgamated to become the Manitoba Exhibition Association. Ground was broken a few years later on the summer fair grounds, and by 1972, the Keystone Centre was open for business. The official opening was at the 1973 Winter Fair. From then on, the Provincial Exhibition, Royal Manitoba Winter Fair and, later, AgEx, were housed in the same building, and run by the same board of directors.

Custodial History:

These files were housed with the WAAA, the PEM, and the MEA until c1986 when they were transferred to the S.J. McKee Archives at Brandon University.

Scope and Content:

The sous-fonds consists of textual records and photographs from the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. The textual records include prize lists, programs, minutes, financial, contracts, by laws, administrative files, original results, news releases, scrapbooks and tickets. The photographs include animal shows and events, dignitaries, entertainment, attractions, ceremonies, buildings and other events.

It has been divided into eleven series, including: (1) Documents; (2) Minutes; (3) Financial reocrds; (4) Administrative files; (5) Prize lists and programs; (6) News releases; (7) Original results; (8) Tickets; (9) Photographs; (10) Scrapbooks; and (11) Miscellaneous.

Storage Location: RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
                          RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba

Provincial exhibition of Manitoba documents

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4353

Part Of:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds
Description Level:	Series
Fonds Number:	RG2SF1
Series Number:	1.1
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1910-1972
Physical Description:	25 cm

History /
Biographical:

These documents were created between 1910 and 1972 by the administration of the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

Custodial History:

See sous-fonds RG2SF1 for custodial history.

Scope and Content:

This series includes various contracts and agreements between the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba and companies hired for the fair. These companies include musicians, entertainment, stage hands, concessions and more. The series also includes inventories, by laws, the 1920 Act of Incorporation. Most of the documents are from 1957 to 1962.

Notes:	Inventory of documents in the series is available in the printed finding aid.
Storage Location:	RG 2 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba Association fonds RG2SF1 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba