

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Frank Robb fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5133>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 22-2007

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1956 - c.1965

Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records; 155 slides

History /

Biographical:

Frank Robb was Assistant Secretary Treasurer for School District of Brandon No. 129 and Curator of the B.J. Hales Natural History Museum exhibition for Brandon's 75th Anniversary (1957). Robb left Brandon ca. 1969 and relocated to Minaki, Ontario.

Custodial History:

Frank Robb sent the slides to Fred McGuiness ca. 1986. McGuiness gave them to Eileen McFadden at the McKee Archives in April 1986.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of 155 slides taken by Frank Robb, an inventory for the slides prepared by Robb and a letter from Robb to Fred McGuiness regarding the slides and memories of Brandon ca. 1950s.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Albert Hepinstall  
John Bojarski  
Frank Robb  
Doreen Walton (nee Rookes)  
Lily Harrison

Subject Access:       B.J. Hales Museum  
                              Brandon 75th Anniversary  
                              Brandon Camera Club  
                              Royal Beardedede Ballet  
                              ladies' auxiliary  
                              First United Church  
                              School District of Brandon No. 129  
                              flooding  
                              summer fair  
                              T.A. Neelin High School  
                              Vincent Massey High School  
                              dam  
                              Experimental farm  
                              Bedford Drive  
                              Souris' swinging bridge  
                              Highway No. 1 by-pass  
                              School Teacher night classes  
                              18th Street  
Storage Location:     2007 accessions  
Storage Range:       2007 accessions  
Arrangement:  
                              Original order and numbering system.



## 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



## WARUCC fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4867>

Other Title Info: Western Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 8-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1973-2003

Physical Description: 73 cm textual records; approx. 70 photographs with negatives

History /  
Biographical:

The first conference of Western Canadian Registrars was held in January, 1952, at the University of Alberta. The four western Canadian Universities were represented by G.B. Taylor (Registrar, University of Alberta), C.B. Wood (Registrar, University of Saskatchewan) and A.D. Cairns (Assistant Registrar, University of Alberta). No attempt was made at this meeting to set up a formal organization or to plan regular meetings.

It was not until the University of Alberta and The University of British Columbia jointly hosted the "Second Triennial Conference of Registrars of Canadian Universities and Colleges" at the Banff School of Fine Arts in January 1962, that plans were made to establish a western regional organization of registrars of degree granting universities and colleges. Since the national group would meet every two years, it was agreed that the western group would meet in the intervening year.

The first official meeting of the Western Universities Registrars was held at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, in 1963. The Association was established as a regional component of the Association of Registrars of the Universities of Canada (ARUC). The second meeting was held in January, 1965 at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

Since the national group chose to forego its regular meeting in 1966 in order to hold it in Montreal during Expo 1967, the University of Calgary hosted the third western conference in June, 1966. This was the first conference to which delegates from non-degree granting colleges were invited.

The fourth western regional conference was hosted by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, 1968; the fifth at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, 1970; and the sixth, hosted by the University of Alberta at Jasper, Alberta, 1972.

During the 1972 conference a steering committee was formed to develop a structure and constitution for a formal organization. The committee consisted of Barry Browning (Registrar, The University of Manitoba), Jerry Della Mattia (Director of Admissions, Douglas College, Vancouver), Len Semrau (Registrar, NAIT, Edmonton) and John Dorgan (Registrar, University of Saskatchewan).

The next meeting was held the following year in Brandon, Manitoba. At this time the constitution was approved and the name Western Canadian Association of Registrars of Institutions of Post-Secondary Education (WCARIPSE) was adopted for the newly formalized organization. Fred Bennett, Registrar of Camosun College, Victoria, BC was selected to serve as the first chair of WCARIPSE, serving a two year term.

Institutional membership was open to all provincial and federal institutions of post-secondary education located in the four western provinces of Canada. The 1973 membership roster consisted of 42 institutional members and 94 individual members.

The western association was originally established as a regional component of the Association of Registrars of the Universities of Canada (ARUC). However, a rather serious

Association of Registrars of the Universities of Canada (ARUC). However, a major serious problem arose in 1966 when the western group agreed to include non-degree granting institutions in its membership even though ARUC membership was restricted to degree granting institutions. The issue, and some other problems closely related to it, was not settled until the ARUC Conference of 1974. At that time, the motion to extend membership to include non-university registrars was moved, subsequently carried and ARUC became the Association of the Registrars of Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC).

The University of Saskatchewan hosted the 1979 WARUCC conference in Saskatoon. In 1981, at the conference in Winnipeg, the four founding members, Alex Cairns, Douglas Chevrier, Norm Cram and Jack Parnall were presented with honorary memberships in WARUCC.

Vancouver was the site for the 1983 conference, at which time Doug Burns, Edith Allen and Alan Wallis were honored as life members of the association.

Subsequent meetings were held in Lethbridge, 1985, and in Regina, 1987. By 1987 membership had grown to 65 institutional members and 225 individual members. The constitution was amended to extend membership boundaries from the four western provinces to 88 degrees (W) longitude, providing for participation by Lakehead University and colleges of the Northwest Territories and Yukon.

The 1989 conference was hosted by The University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. In 1991 Capilano College hosted the conference at Whistler in British Columbia. In 1993 the University of Calgary hosted the conference in Calgary. In 1995 the University of Saskatchewan hosted the conference in Saskatoon. In 1997 The University of Manitoba hosted the conference in Winnipeg. In 1999 the University of Northern British Columbia hosted the conference in Prince George, British Columbia.

#### Custodial History:

Records had been in the possession of various secretaries of WARRUC until their donation to the McKee Archives in 2006.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of minutes, financial records, membership records, photographs and miscellaneous documents.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the WARRUC website at: [http://www.brandonu.ca/emu/mcleod/warucc/web\\_pages/history.htm](http://www.brandonu.ca/emu/mcleod/warucc/web_pages/history.htm) (February 2006). Some processing completed. Financial records (ie bank statements, invoices) were culled from the records. Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2006 accessions

Storage Range: 2006 accessions



## G.R. Rowe fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4799>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 60-1997

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1897-1984

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

Gabriel Richard Rowe was born in Coleman, P.E.I. in 1897. In 1918, he enlisted in the Canadian Army. After the Great War, he moved to Viscount, Saskatchewan where he was principal of a high school. In 1924, Rowe moved to Brandon where he served as principal for various schools until his retirement in 1964. G.R. Rowe attended the University of Manitoba graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1935, a Bachelor of Education 1952, and a Master of Education degree in 1957. Rowe also studied at the University of Minnesota, Harvard, and the University of British Columbia. Rowe served as President of the Manitoba Teachers' Society from 1948 to 1949. He served as a member of the International School Master Association, the Brandon's Citizens' Committee of the Arts, and the Brandon General Hospital Board. He died in Brandon on January 6th, 1968.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes photographs, certificates and diplomas, career resumes, testimonials, draft obituaries, and correspondence, relating to G.R. Rowe's professional teaching career, and in small part to his personal life.

Notes: CAIN No. 202649

Subject Access: Brandon School Division  
history of education  
educational administration  
Earl Oxford Junior High

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## James Buckley fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4830>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 11-2004  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1906-1939; predominant 1918-1939  
Physical Description: 3.5 cm textual records; one postcard; one key  
History /  
Biographical:

James Buckley was born in Amprior, Ontario in 1877. He moved to Manitoba in 1904. In 1906, he settled in Brandon, Manitoba where he was employed as a Canadian Pacific Railway conductor for thirty-six years. In the same year he arrived in Brandon, Buckley married Helenea Stavenaw. Together they had two daughters Ruth and Margaret. James Buckley was a member of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors and the Knights of Columbus. He passed away in Brandon, Manitoba on December 8, 1957.

### Custodial History:

Fonds passed into the hands of Buckley's daughter Margaret following the death of Helenea (Stavenaw) Buckley in 1959. Following Margaret's death the fonds was retained by Lesley Liversidge who donated the fonds to the Daly House Museum in 2004. The Museum then donated the fonds to the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds includes Conductors' Local Passenger tariff No. C 6 Brandon to Moose Jaw in effect June 23, 1918; Constitution of Railway Conductors of America revised and adopted May 4, 1925; CPR Rules for Heating, Ventilating, Lighting and for operation of water rising system on passenger equipment, revised January 1924; Souvenir, Canada's Great Inland Port Fort William and Port Arthur [n.d.] 127 illustrations; poster The Spirit of 1918: Sticking To It, supplement to The Graphic, The Railway Conductor, July, 1939 Royal Visit Edition; Wonderland of Canada, The Rocky Mountains Specially Selected Views of the Canadian Rockies on the Canadian Pacific Line, photographs by WM Notman & Son. Valentine & Sons, Publishing Company, Montreal and Toronto[n.d.]; Over the Kettle Valley Route British Columbia published for Canadian Pacific Railway News Service 20 pp. [n.d.]; postcard with steam engine traveling through a flooded rail-line and CNR key.

Notes: CAIN No. 202582  
Subject Access: James Buckley  
Canadian Pacific Railway Company  
railways  
transportation  
Storage Location: 2004 accessions  
Storage Range: 2004 accessions



## Gerald McKinney fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4847>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 13-1999, 10-2000  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1980-1987; predominant 1985  
Physical Description: 30 cm textual records; 44 audio tapes; approx. 30 photographs

History /

Biographical:

Gerald "Gerry" Allen McKinney was born in 1932, in Melita, Manitoba. In 1950, McKinney enlisted as a medical assistant with B Company, First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment. A participant in the Korean War, McKinney was captured and held as a prisoner of war for one year. McKinney remained in the Canadian Armed Forces until 1958. Subsequently, McKinney lived in Winnipeg where he was an advocate for workplace health and safety causes and tenant rights. He was also active in raising opposition to large water diversion schemes, such as the Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota, the Rafferty-Alemada Dams Project in Saskatchewan, and the Pelican Lake-Pembina River Diversion Project in Manitoba. McKinney was awarded the Manitoba Order of the Buffalo Hunt in 1984, for his work against the Garrison Project. McKinney was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from Brandon University in 1985.

Custodial History:

This fonds was donated to the McKee Archives by Professor Joe Dolecki in 1984.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists mainly of McKinney's correspondence and clippings from the Edmonton Journal dating from 1985; a folder of campaign pamphlets of various New Democratic Party candidates in Alberta in 1985 and newspaper clippings about the Alberta NDP. Fonds also contains a folder of newspaper clippings about various environmental issues and several booklets of articles collected by the Garrison Focus Office of Manitoba Natural Resources from 1987. Fonds contains an extensive collection of newspaper clippings about the 1985 Jim Keegstra trial in Red Deer, Alberta, and a folder of clippings about Alberta labor and strikes, as well as rally pamphlets. The fonds also includes a collection of speeches that McKinney gave from 1980-1984, and c. 30 pictures taken by McKinney of various places in Edmonton, Regina, and Ireland. Correspondence between McKinney and Professor Joe Dolecki of Brandon University and 44 audio tapes of interviews done with McKinney by Professor Dolecki in the mid-1980's are also included.

Notes: CAIN No. 202575



Subject Access:	Don Braid Gordon Wright Randy Morse Burke Barker Jim Gurnett Grant Notley Jim Keegstra Gerald McKinney Peter Lougheed New Democratic Party of Alberta Garrison Diversion Project Dandelion Political Action Committee Province of Alberta labor politics strikes environmental issues
Storage Location:	1999 and 2000 accessions
Storage Range:	1999 and 2000 accessions



## Anna Enns fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5081>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 16-2007

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: ca. 1922

Physical Description: 3.5 cm

Physical Condition: Mothergoose Primer is fragile

History /

Biographical:

Biographical information on Anna B. Enns is currently unavailable.

Custodial History:

Donated to the McKee Archives in 2005 by Anne Eaton, a relative of Anna B. Enns.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a copy of the "Mothergoose Primer" and a handwork book (1922) from the Brandon Normal School. The latter contains samples of various kinds of art and craft work.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions

Related Material: Dorothy Frances Davidson fonds (33-2007).



## J.C. Cousins fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5137>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 26-2007

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: pre-1881 settlement era - 1940s

Physical Description: 6 cm

Physical Condition: Generally good, but tattered in some places.

History /

Biographical:

John C. Cousins was the son of Thomas Cousins (b. August 17, 1882 in Truro, Nova Scotia - d. March 5, 1914) and Mary Margaret Craig (b. April 14, 1824 - d. April 25, 1903). He married Eunice Eliza Nixon from London Township, County of Middlesex, Ontario. Together they had three children: Eunice M., Eric O. and Kathleen. J.C. Cousins was Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Daly from 1905 to 1910 and Assessor for the Town of Rivers from 1931-1938.

Custodial History:

Record was accessioned in 2007 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

This document is a rambling memoir of John C. Cousins' recollections of life in the Rural Municipality of Daly from the settlement era in the early 1880s, through to the 1940s. He touches on various themes, including: his family history; the activities of the R.M. of Daly and his role as Reeve; the history of school districts in the municipality (lists names of first teachers and early students); the history of churches in the municipality; tragedies in the municipality; lists members of the Council of the municipality for the years 1885-1946; and the devastating impact of the Spanish Influenza on Aboriginal people in the municipality.

In addition, the memoir includes documentary records, such as minutes and copies of letters. There are also many photographs of both events and individuals (virtually all of the photographs are labelled and names are provided). The memoir goes beyond a simple recounting of facts. Cousins is discursive and thoughtful, often making references to developments happening in other parts of North America and Canada. There is also a link to the Maritimes, from which his family originated.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry and Tom Mitchell.

Subject Access: Pendennis  
Rivers  
Manitoba  
Harrow school  
Mayne School District  
Hunter School District No. 571  
Poplar Hill school  
Tarbolton School District  
Wheatland School District  
Westwood School District  
Bradwardine School District  
Ancrum or Wellwood School District  
Spring Valley School District  
Aetna School District  
Robinville School District  
Oakleigh school  
Lothian School District  
Rivers School District

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions



## Baker family fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8864>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	21-2008
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1884-1889; 1997; 2007
Physical Description:	200 letters 2 booklets
Material Details:	A number of the letters are samples of "cross writing"
Physical Condition:	Some of the letters are fragile, but generally the fonds is in good condition.

### Custodial History:

Ann Murdoch donated a copy of "My Dear Will" to the McKee Archives in February 2008. The formal donation of the Baker family letters occurred on September 27, 2008 at a reception in the Gathering Space at the John E. Robbins Library.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a collection of about 200 letters primarily written by William Baker (although letters written by other family members are also included), who left Liverpool and settled in Oak Lake, to his son William who remained in England. The letters offer insights on a wide range of subjects including the conditions of immigrants and the Riel "situation".

The fonds also contains a supplement to "My Dear Will: Reflections of Prairie Pioneer Life." This latter publication consists of transcribed copies of the letters in the Baker family fonds. The letters were originally transcribed by Ronald James Parsons and his wife Rita Olive Parsons (nee Blake) and published, along with some letters, photographs and other documents for family c. 1997. The booklet was updated in 2007 by Ronald and Rita's daughter, Ann Murdoch. The Supplement was prepared by Ann Murdock and her sister Dawn Powell.

Notes:	Description by Christy Henry.
Finding Aid:	My Dear Will booklet
Storage Location:	2008 accessions. Booklets and family tree stored in Rare Books: RC 3399.B73Z495 2007 v.1 and v.2.
Storage Range:	2008 accessions



## Leslie Victor Robson fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4797>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	7-1998
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1926-1975 ; predominant 1930-1940
Physical Description:	31 cm textual records; 1 b&w photograph - approx. 50 x 20cm (torn in half); 1 ribbon from the International Pool Conference of 1928

## History /

### Biographical:

Leslie Victor Robson was born in Deleau, Manitoba in 1893. Following graduation from the Manitoba Agricultural College in 1915, he began a career in farming near Deleau, Manitoba. Robson married Edna Chapman in 1917. He was active in farm organizations, the co-operative movement and the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation. Robson focused his farming activities on raising purebred polled herefords. His stock was exhibited across Canada and the United States and sold in Great Britain, Japan and Czechoslovakia. In 1977, he was made a member of the Canadian Hereford Honour Roll. Leslie Victor Robson died in 1977.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was donated to the McKee Archives in 1995 by Clarke M. Robson of Deleau, Manitoba.

### Scope and Content:

This fonds contains booklets and issues of newspapers from the Canadian prairie provinces concerning the CCF, the Independant Labor Party, the UFM, the Canadian farming co-op movement, Manitoba Pool Elevators, and the early NDP. Also included are publications of the CCF including "The Commonwealth," the Canadian Department of Agriculture, the League for Social Reconstruction, the NDP, the UFM, and Manitoba Pool Elevators. The single photograph is a group picture of mostly men taken at the International Wheat Conference of 1926 in St. Paul, Minnesota. It includes Colin H. Burnell, Fawcett W. Ransom, and Dick Mahoney.

Notes: CAIN No. 202653

Subject Access: J. W. Noseworthy  
V.S. Alanne  
Helen Watson  
Tommy C. Douglas  
Department of Agriculture  
The Commonwealth  
Canadian Cooperater  
UFM  
CCF  
Pool Elevators  
Cooperative Consumer  
Independent Labor Party

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## William J. Birtles fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4813>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 7-2003  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: c. 1880; c. 1935-2001  
Physical Description: 4 photographs;  
2 biographical sketches

### History /

#### Biographical:

William Birtles was born in Alexander, Manitoba in 1930. He received his early education at Alexander School. In 1948, he completed grade 12 at St. John's College School in Winnipeg. He undertook formal training in art, beginning in 1949, at the Winnipeg School of Art. In 1952, he graduated from the Manitoba Provincial Normal School. After teaching school in Winnipeg for three years, Birtles completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Sculpture in 1958. He obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Manitoba in 1970. Throughout his adult years, Birtles taught in various Manitoba communities, was active as an artist, showing his work and winning awards. He was also active in the Manitoba Society of Artists and associated provincial organizations. Birtles is retired and is a resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

#### Custodial History:

All of the items in the fonds were in the possession of William Birtles until their donation to the McKee Archives in 2003.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of photographs of Ms. Sarah Birtles, Rt. Rev W.W.H. Thomas D.D, the Thomas Smith farmhouse located northwest of Alexander, and a postcard containing a photograph of Westminster Abbey. Fonds also contains two biographical sketches written by William Birtles: one of Ms. Sarah Birtles - three pages - and one of Rt. Rev. W.W. H. Thomas D.D - six pages. Also includes the program of the Composite Lodge No. 64 G.R.M., A.F. & A.M. sixty-fifth Anniversary (Alexander, MB 1961).

Notes: CAIN No. 202569  
Subject Access: Sarah Birtles  
Rt. Rev. W.W.H. Thomas D.D  
Thomas Smith  
Alexander  
Manitoba  
farmhouse  
masonic lodge  
Storage Location: 2003 accessions  
Storage Range: 2003 accessions



## Valleyview Leisure Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14292>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Fonds  
Accession Number: 4-2015  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1980-2014  
Physical Description: 30 cm textual records  
Physical Condition: Most of the photos are in peel and stick albums and the albums have a number of condition issues

#### History /

##### Biographical:

Valleyview Leisure Club (VLC) began in April 1978 as a senior's activity group in conjunction with Valleyview Community Centre. The impetus for the creation of the group was a meeting between John Svenson, Regional Director for Westman Seniors, and seniors in the Valleyview area who met to discuss the organization of a seniors club. At the time the club was established, space was limited at the Community Centre because some school classes were held there during the construction of Riverheights School. However, a New Horizons grant enabled the VLC to remodel and furnish the basement area of the Valleyview Community Centre for the Leisure Club. A Grand Opening of the space was held in May of 1980; there was a special luncheon and the official ribbon was cut by Hon. Ed McGill.

The Valleyview Leisure Club was run by a board and its associated committees and governed by a constitution. Members were charged an annual membership fee, as well as user fees for the various activities. In the early years, the Club had monthly membership business meetings in conjunction with an evening meal and entertainment. The use of the basement area was varied and included: cards; shuffleboard and other games; craft activities; fundraisers; raffles; dances; and luncheons, dinners and potlucks. The space was also rented out for private functions, particularly special birthdays and anniversary's of community members. The Club made annual contributions to the parent Community Centre, as well as helping the Community Centre functions (winter carnival etc.)

In the course of time, the activities of the VLC became more focused on cribbage and bridge, with several regular groups scheduled at regular weekly time slots. At the time of the organization's disbanding, the following groups were active: Friday afternoon contract bridge - the "original" bridge group at the Centre; Tuesday afternoon cribbage; Thursday afternoon "Retired Educators" contract bridge - this group had played in vacant space at Neelin School up until around 1989. Its membership was eventually opened up to anyone who wanted to play in that time slot; Wheat City Duplicate Bridge Club - formed in the City as a sanctioned club and had a number of locations around town. When it moved to the Leisure Club, it came as a renter only, but chose in 2012 to join as VLC members; and Monday afternoon duplicate bridge - in an effort to increase the number of duplicate bridge plays, a "beginners" duplicate group was established with lessons, which proved to be a popular decision. The group thrived and most of the Thursday evening playser began to play at this time also/or instead.

The VLC hosted a Spring and a Fall Bridge Tournament each year, open to anyone, with invitations going to surrounding areas. As well as cash prizes, a cash donation was given to a local charity. In latter years these donations were \$500 per tournament. An annual Christmas Dinner was another popular event. It was a catered event, at least in the later years, and was offered at a subsidized price to members. The club also made a donation to Christmas Cheer at this time.

At some point in the organization's history the VLC came to be seen as a tenant of the Valleyview Community Centre, paying a rent of \$3000 per year for its use of the basement space, as well as some maintenance expenses. When the Valleyview Community Centre voted to raise the rent to \$12,000 per year within two years, the VLC sought other options.

The VLC settled on Prairie Oasis Senior Centre for a number of reasons. First, it offered to

provide space for each of the club's existing card groups at the same time slots with no membership fees. Second, the move would also eliminate the increasingly difficult task of fielding a board of directors to run the club. Finally, the Prairie Oasis location offered the advantage of level access; the basement location of the VLC had excluded several of the club's former members with mobility issues.

Effective September 1, 2014, the Valleyview Leisure Club was dissolved. The club disposed of equipment either by donating it to Prairie Oasis or to Valleyview Community Centre. Once all debts were cleared the Board voted to distribute the cash assets to the following local charities: Big Brothers and Sisters; Food For Thought; Humane Society; Prairie Oasis Senior Centre/Meals on Wheels; Salvation Army; Samaritan House; Seniors For Seniors Co-op Inc.; The Soup Kitchen; Westman Regional Hospital; Westman Hospice; and Y Kids.

Custodial History:

Records were created and collected by Valleyview Leisure Club and donated to the S.J. McKee Archives by Barry Reilly following the disbandment of the club in 2015.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of records created and maintained by the Valleyview Leisure Club to document their activities and membership. The records detail club events, finances, insurance and meetings.

Records include meeting minutes, agendas, posters, correspondence, budget plans, grants, constitutions, newspaper clippings, membership lists, phone directories, membership rosters, financial statements, secretarial records, photo albums and other miscellaneous records.

Notes: History/Bio information was provided by the Valleyview Leisure Club.  
Description by Amanda Gramchuk (October 2016) and Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Arrangement:

Records are arranged in chronological order





## Brandon Hills Busy Bees fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4712>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 36-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1916-1988

Physical Description: 31 cm textual records  
2 photographs

Physical Condition: Very good

History /

Biographical:

The Brandon Hills Busy Bees was formed in 1916 by eighteen women. The aim of the group was to assist with the war effort during World War One. At the end of the war it was decided to carry on the club and do community and welfare work. The Busy Bees met twice a month and, during World War Two, one meeting a month was devoted to Red Cross work.

In 1969, the younger members of the Brandon Hills Busy Bees decided to form their own organization called the Brandon Hills Community Fireflies.

The remaining members of the Busy Bees continued in their work until they disbanded as a society on September 14, 1988. At their last meeting it was decided to donate their records to the McKee Archives (minutes September 14, 1988).

Custodial History:

In the minutes for the September 14, 1988 meeting of the Brandon Hills Busy Bees, Mrs. Mollie Baker made a motion to donate the record books of the organization to the Archive at Brandon University, and for Mrs. Nell Baker and Mrs. Lillian Coate to take them there. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jean Kreller. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives in 1988 the records were in the possession of members of the Brandon Hills Busy Bees.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of minute books with membership lists, accounts, newsclippings, correspondence, and reports, recipies (Treasurer's BK 1917-1919), treasurer's books, donation records, 2 photographs (1916 and ca. 1970s), a history of the Busy Bees 1916-1976 and calendars for the Womens' Auxiliary to the Grain Growers (Oakville, MB) for 1916-1918.

The mintue book for 1976-1981 also contains the minute book of The Red Cross Emergency Unit, Brandon Hills for December 1943-1947.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2006 accessions

Storage Range: 2006 accessions

Related Material: Albert Angus Murray McPherson collection (21-2006)



## Prairie Horizons Toastmistress Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4716>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 37-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1976-1984

Physical Description: 6 cm

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of minutes, the pages of the charter dinner guest book, "Go for the Gold" membership marathon instructions and poster, and a scrapbook containing photographs, momentos and a history (summary) of the Priarie Horizons Toastmistress Club 1976-1982.

Notes: Name tags and pins culled. Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2006 accessions

Storage Range: 2006 accessions



## Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4857>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 2-1998; 3-2001

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1904-1993; predominant 1960-1970

Physical Description: 1.2 m

History /

Biographical:

The Brandon Art Club was founded in November 1907, and operated in an art studio on the top floor of the Brandon College Women's Residence. The club appears to have been the creation of Miss. H. Hancock, who became the Director of the Department of Art at Brandon College c. 1907. The club moved to larger facilities made available at the First Methodist Church; the organization remained there until sometime during the Great War when the club relocated to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church and then in 1921, to the Prince Edward Hotel. The club's first public art exhibitions were held at the Prince Edward Hotel. Art classes were held for the first time in 1928. In 1968, the Brandon Art Club merged with the Allied Arts Center, which had been formed in 1959. The Allied Arts Center was located at 1036 Louise Avenue. In April 1984, the Allied Arts Center was moved to new facilities at the Arts Center of Western Manitoba located at 638 Princess Avenue. In 1989, it was renamed the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, and began to function as a "professional, regional art gallery." The Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba relocated to 2-710 Rosser Ave. c. 2001.

Custodial History:

These records were created at different times between 1907 and 1993, and remained in the possession of the administration of the above mentioned organizations until May 2001, when they were donated to the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains administrative records, minutes, personal files, correspondence, newsletters, photographs, summaries of collections and exhibits, scrapbooks, programs, submitted papers, and other miscellaneous records. All are a record of the growth and evolution of the Art Club, its administration, and of the art community in Brandon.

Notes: CAIN No. 202584

Subject Access: H. Hancock

Brandon Allied Arts Council

Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba

Brandon College

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions

Related Material: The A.E. McKenzie Company fonds (RG 3 MG 1, 1.3) located in the McKee Archives contains some records, primarily correspondence and minutes, relating to the Brandon Allied Arts Council.



## Westman Multi-Cultural Council fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4877>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 8-2004

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1975-2003; predominant 1997-2003

Physical Description: 2.5 m textual records; computer discs; VHS tapes

History /  
Biographical:

An administrative history for the Westman Multi-Cultural Council is currently unavailable.

Custodial History:

The Council continued until ca. 2001. It was disbanded because the Federal government ceased providing grants to the Council. The records remained in the custody of Arnis Kaulins, the Council's last president. He donated them to the Archives in 2004.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains records of various ethno-cultural associations affiliated with the Westman Multi-Cultural Council, as well as material relating to the history of the Council, its constitution, membership directories, grant applications, records concerning the administration of Council activities, meeting minutes and financial records.

Storage Location: 2004 accessions

Storage Range: 2004 accessions

Arrangement:

Files numbered 44-49, 92-99 and 125-129 were not included in the original inventory from the West-Man Multicultural Council. To maintain original order they have also been excluded from the inventory below and the WMC filing system remains in place.

Box 1 – Files:

1. Irish Association of Western Manitoba
2. Irish Association of Western Manitoba #2
3. Western MB Jewish Association
4. Welsh Society of Western MB
5. Immigrant Association of Western MB
6. Hartney Multicultural Association
7. Latvian Group
8. Laotian Society
9. Brandon Greek Cultural Association
10. Lukkenfest
11. Ethnic Organizations – Rural West-Man
12. Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg
13. Canada-India Friendship Association
14. Polish Gymnastic Sokol Association
15. Rivers Ukrainian Society
16. West-Man Highland Dance Association
17. MB Multicultural Resources Centre
18. WMC Flay Display
19. WMC History
20. WMC Logo (Multicultural Folder)
21. Charitable Status
22. Constitution
23. Ad-hoc Constitution Committee
24. Multiculturalism Act
25. Immigration Act

26. Multiculturalism Secretariat
27. Applications for Race-Relations Co-ordination
28. Applications
29. Secretary/Bookkeeper
30. Ad-hoc Nomination Committee
31. Personnel Policies
32. Legal
33. Corporation Act Forms
34. Incorporation Papers
35. Pamphlets, Songs etc.
36. Entrepreneurship Awards
37. Citation for Citizenship Award
38. Goal Aidon Scholarship Fund
39. Quote of Accounts
40. List of Schools
41. Membership Applications and Lists (\*RED BINDER\*)
42. Reports and Other Info (\*BLUE BINDER\*)

Box 2 – Files:

50. WMC Directory
51. 2004 Applications of Funds
52. Other Donations Grants
53. Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations
54. Brandon Area Community Foundation
55. Race-Relations 2001-02
56. Canadian Heritage
57. Ethno-cultural community Support Program
58. Multicultural Grants Advisory Council
59. Record of Employment Forms
60. T-4 and T-4A Forms 2001
61. GIFI Forms
62. Wages – Income Tax
63. Wages – Secretary/ Bookkeeper
64. Travel/Staff
65. Telephone/Fax/Internet
66. Rent
67. Postage
68. Photocopier
69. Office Supplies and Stationary
70. Office Equipment/Repairs
71. Miscellaneous
72. Meetings/General
73. Meetings/Annual
74. Insurance
75. Equipment Rental
76. Dues, membership, Subscription
77. Community Development
78. Cultural Programs
79. Bank Charges
80. Audit/Legal Fees
81. Advertising and Printing
82. GST
83. Miscellaneous
84. Accounts Receivable
85. Bank/Plan 24 Admin
86. Petty Cash

- 87. 1999 Account Book
- 88. 2002 Reports

FLOPPY DISKS:

- A – West-Man Logbook
- B – Workbook for Community Planning
- C – CHRC “20 Years” Logo
- D – Annual General Meeting
- E – Y2000 AGM
- F – Constitution/1999 Membership List
- G – Activity Report
- H – WMC Budget 1999
- I – AGM 1999
- J – Documents
- K – Documents
- L – Documents
- M – Documents
- N – Documents
- O – Documents

Box 3 – Files:

- 100. Meeting Minutes 1999-2000
- 101. AGM 1999
- 102. AGM 2000
- 103. Annual Report 2001
- 104. AGM 2002
- 105. AGM 2003
- 106. 2003/04 Annual Report
- 107. Annual Reports (copies)

Box 4 – Files:

- 108. ESL Classes
- 109. Various Organizations
- 110. Travellers Day Parade
- 111. Rural Forum
- 112. Race-Relation Coordinator 2002
- 113. Race-Relations Coordinator 2003
- 114. Potluck Dinner
- 115. Newspaper Clippings
- 116. International Dinner
- 117. IDERD
- 118. Brandon West-man Regional Winter Festival

Box 5 – Files:

- 119. Fair (Food Fair)
- 120. Ethnic Cooking Class 2002-03
- 121. Ethnic Cooking Class
- 122. Contact Reservations
- 123. Citizenship and Heritage Week
- 124. Meeting Minutes 2001-2003

VHS Tapes  
CD-ROM Discs

Box 6 – Files:

- 131. Invoices 1999-2000
- 132. Invoices 2000-01
- 134. 2001-2002 Audit
- 136. 2003 Audit

Box 7

- VHS Tapes
- CD-ROM Discs



## Westridge Senior Citizens Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4881>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 3-2006  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1981-2005  
Physical Description: 5 cm textual records; 2 colour photographs

History /

Biographical:

The Westridge Senior Citizens Club was established in 1981, in response to an invitation from the President of the Westridge Community Centre. The club was funded through a New Horizons grant. During its existence the club provided a variety of recreational and social opportunities to its members.

Custodial History:

The records were retained by the club's recording secretary, Miss. Myrtle W. Grieve, following the disbandment of the club. She donated the records to the S.J. McKee Archives in October 2005.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of membership lists, minutes and financial records of the Westridge Senior Citizens Club during the period of its existence from October 1981 to its disbandment in September 2005.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.  
Storage Location: 2006 accessions  
Storage Range: 2006 accessions



## Brandon Square Dancing Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4909>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 12-2007  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1951  
Physical Description: 44 photographs (4 x 6" b/w); 1 file  
Physical Condition: Fair. The photos have some crackling on the surface. Some of them also have what appears to be pencil marks on them.

History /

Biographical:

The Brandon Square Dancing Club was started by E.J. "Curly" Tyler as part of his degree program at the University of Utah. Part of his obligation for his degree was to organize a recreation group, so he organized the Square Dancers. The club operated for two years under Tyler's direction, with the individuals he taught receiving certificates for proficiency. After he ceased to be its leader, the Brandon Square Dancing Club continued for a number of years. Much of the dancing took place at the Ag Extension Centre.

Custodial History:

Photographs turned up somewhere in the old Original Building at the time of the renovations (mid 1990s) and were brought to the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of 44 black and white photographs of the Brandon Square Dancing Club. The majority of the photographs depict actual dancing. There is also one file with photocopies of the photographs. These photocopies identify individuals in the photographs.

Individuals in the photographs include: Edith Laycock; Bill Clement; Bea Lissaman; Reg Lissaman; Jean Hawley; Mrs. Murray Simmons; Murray Simmons; Dood Cristal; JoAnn Myers; Bob Myers; Jim Creighton; Muriel Cumming; Frank Cowan; Dean Finch; Birk Birkinshaw; Bill Baynton; Gil Wankling; Hugh Knowlton; Hilda Evanson; Archie Evanson; Gwen MacKay; Don (D.R.) MacKay; Burt Hurst; Ena Skafel; Einar Skafel; Marian Jones; Ray Jones; Joan Tyler; Curly Tyler; Bea Matheson; Murray Matheson; Bill Coleman; Gladys Wankling; Percy Finch; Lois Gibson; Ken Pratt; Jack Findlay; Phyl Harwood; Ozzie Pullow; Jean Pullow; Ann McDiarmid; Barb Brodie; Mal Brodie; Bud McDiarmid; Doris Boyd; Ethel Morrison; Dr. Arhurst; Mrs. Arhurst; Bob McPherson; Mary Gooden; Ron Godfrey; Elizabeth Godfrey; Gordon Cummings; George Gooden; Marg Purdy; Kay Findlay; Jack Coleman; Betty Coleman; Marion Unicume; Nels Unicume; Bob Hawley; Nan Coleman; Jack Purdy; Kay Birkinshaw; Lyal McGill; Norm Emerson; Shirley Emerson; Zana Hurst; Ethel Morrison; Leo Kennedy; Hazel Jones; Dr. R.C. Jones; Jim Blencowe; Betty Knowlton; Wesley Nelson; Marian Nelson; Pauline Tennant; Dave Dick; and Bob McMullan.

Notes: George Gooden provided the names on the photographs. Description by Christy Henry.

Repro Restriction: Copyright restrictions apply

Conservation: Photographs have been removed from original matting.

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions

Arrangement:

Photograph number 40 is missing using the original numbering system. The numbers on the photographs have been adjusted accordingly (ex. old #43 is now #42). The numbers on the photocopies have also been adjusted to reflect the new numbering system.

## Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir fonds





<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14288>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Fonds

Accession Number: 8-2001, 13-2016

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1965-1980, predominant 25 May 1965 - 30 September 1976

Physical Description: 12 cm textual records  
6 b/w photographs (loose)  
1 artefact

Physical Condition: Some of the items in the scrapbook have come loose from their pages, some documents are stained from a liquid, likely coffee

#### History /

#### Biographical:

In 1965, Chris Verhoef, member of the Overture Concert Association, Allied Arts Centre, and Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts, called for a meeting of Western Manitoba citizens interested in the prospect of a Philharmonic Choir for the region. The meeting took place on 26 May 1965; the steering committee that gathered, led by Margaret Goodman, undertook the formation of the Choir. The Choir would have an Executive consisting of at least four members, and a committee consisting of a minimum seven members. Each executive member would be elected on an annual basis. The Choir's executive, in collaboration with the conductor, would determine the choir's repertoire for the year. The establishment of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir (WMPC) sought to encourage amateurs to sing for enjoyment, provide the opportunity for a choir to perform choral compositions in collaboration with a symphony orchestra and promote and sponsor the musical arts in the Western Manitoba region. Membership to the choir would be open to all citizens of the region, and members would be accepted based on the discretion of the conductor. The first meeting of prospective members took place on 27 September 1965 in St. Matthews Cathedral parish Hall where more than 90 people gathered and registered to become a member of the WMPC.

Chris Verhoef led the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir into its first season as President of the choir's Executive Committee. For the organization's first season, the WMPC hired two members of the Brandon College School of Music: Lucien Needham for the position of conductor and Louise Chapman for the position of accompanist. Brandon College, as well as other donors sponsored the choir for its first season. The Choir held its debut performance in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO) on 12 March 1966, and the Choir's performance of Vivaldi's Gloria and Handel's Dettingen te Deum attracted an audience of more than 1400 people. The performance was well received by the public. The debut performance's success earned the Choir a recommendation for a grant from the Manitoba Centennial Corporation that would sponsor a special concert during the centennial year. Furthermore, the Canada Council supported the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, by the means of special funds, to make the Symphony's appearance with the Philharmonic Choir possible.

For the WMPC's second season, membership rose to 111 amateur singers. Verhoef remained as President of the Executive, while the Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts provided sponsorship. Following the Choir's performance of Schubert's Mass in E-flat Major on 17 November 1966, the membership increased to 132 singers. On 20 January 1967, the WMPC's first taped broadcast was released over CBC and CKX. The broadcast's success resulted in an offer from CBC to record another broadcast for a similar release. The Kiwanis Club of Rivers invited the Choir to perform in Rivers on 25 January 1967. On 7 April 1967, the Choir performed Haydn's oratorio, The Creation, in the Brandon College Gymnasium.

The choir elected Murray Ames as President to lead it through its third and fourth seasons. In

its third season, the WMPC, conducted by Leonard Mayoh, performed Handel's Messiah on 22 November 1967 in the Brandon University Gymnasium. The Choir's spring concert, named the "Chris Verhoef Memorial Concert," in honour of Chris Verhoef who had passed away December 1967, featured works by Bach, Brahms and Perry. Held on 9 March 1968, in the Brandon University Gymnasium, the concert featured Brandon university student James Stewart as soloist and was received with great praise. In addition to the memorial concert, the WMPC also established a \$500 scholarship for a Brandon University music student to honour Verhoef's substantial contribution to the community.

The first concert of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's fourth season was held on 10 December 1968, in the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre at Brandon University and featured selections from Handel's Messiah. A piano trio comprised of Francis Chaplin (violin), Malcolm Tait (cello) and Gordon Macpherson (piano), as well as a brass trio, also performed at the choir's winter concert. In its fourth season, the WMPC performed two concerts in the second half of its season. On 15 February 1969, in cooperation with CKX Radio and Television, the choir performed works by Mozart, Hindemith, and Mahler in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra conducted by George Cleve. Later in the season, the choir performed Brahms' Requiem Mass, once again in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. R. Parker filled the position of President of the Executive for the duration of the Choir's fifth, sixth and seventh seasons. The fifth season saw the WMPC performing four concerts. Conducted by Leonard Mayoh, it opened its season on 11 October 1969 with a performance at the Grand Finale of the Grand Opening of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium, performing the overture to Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*. Their Christmas concert, also conducted by Mayoh, took place on 10 December 1969. The Choir's third concert of its fifth season was held on 31 January 1970, in cooperation with CKX Radio and Television, and featured works by Mendelssohn, Ravel, and Schubert, in collaboration with the WSO under the direction of conductor George Cleve. The season concluded with another concert in collaboration with the WSO on 7 March 1970, conducted by Leonard Mayoh. This concert featured works by Vaughn Williams, Handel and Poulenc.

Seasons six and seven consisted of two concerts each. The Choir held its fifth annual Christmas Concert on 5 December 1970. Led by Leonard Mayoh, it performed its spring concert on 10 April 1971 in collaboration with members from the Winnipeg Symphony, featuring selections by Bach and Mozart in the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. In its seventh season, the Choir performed Bach's Christmas Oratorio on 4 December 1971 in the Central United Church. For its final concert of the year, the WMPC revisited a piece that had been the main focus of its second season: Haydn's oratorio, *The Creation*. The Choir performed this Haydn masterwork on 8 April 1972 under the direction of Piero Gamba.

Helen Riesberry led the choir through its eighth and ninth seasons as President of the Executive. In its eighth season, the WMPC held its annual Christmas concert on 12 December 1972 in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in the style of a sing-along led by Mitch Miller. The choir's spring concert featured another masterwork, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, conducted by Piero Gamba. The WMPC and members of the WSO performed the Requiem Mass on 28 April 1973 at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. Despite the lack of attendance at rehearsals since the Christmas concert, the WMPC presented an overall effective performance of the challenging Requiem Mass.

In its ninth season, Derek Morphy took over the position of conductor from Leonard Mayoh. Morphy had his debut performance as conductor with the WMPC at the annual Christmas concert on 17 December 1973. In March 1974, in collaboration with members from the WSO, Morphy led the Choir in its performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio, *Elijah*, in the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. Later in the season, the choir performed a concert entitled "Reflections," a choral programme for Lent and Easter, accompanied by organist Arthur Bower.

Nearing the end of its ninth season, the Philharmonic Choir encountered severe financial challenges. The Choir released a notice in the newspaper that the anticipated \$3000 grant from the Manitoba Arts Council had been cut to \$1000, leaving the Choir \$3100 in debt. The notice explained that the Choir needed funds in order to enable operation and continue hiring the WSO for concerts. The WMPC executive and committee held a Leonard Mayoh Night in an attempt to gain funds and donations. Although the Manitoba Arts Council raised the grant to \$2000 and the City of Brandon contributed \$500, the Choir's financial situation remained in a dire state as its ninth season came to a close.

The Choir elected Edith Hayden to lead it through its tenth and eleventh seasons as President of the Executive. The opening of the tenth season challenged the WMPC. In addition to its financial woes, the Choir's Executive struggled to overcome the lack of attendance at rehearsals and the shortage of male voices. The WMPC had experienced membership issues in earlier seasons as well. In its third season, despite a membership of 130 individuals, the choir had struggled to create a balanced sound due to a lack of male membership and therefore a lack of lower voices. In its sixth season, the Choir opened their concert year with an appeal for members. In an effort to improve the choir's financial affairs, the Choir Executive and conductor decided against hiring the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for the time being. In an attempt to improve the situation, Derek Morphy wrote a letter to the members of the Choir outlining his concern that he may not be meeting their expectations as a conductor but hoped to generate positive and hopeful prospects for the future of music-making together.

The Choir's annual Christmas concert featured a collaboration with the Brandon School Division Music Department and Brandon School Orchestra and Band Association, as well as dancers choreographed by Barbra Enhes. The WMPC performed Haydn's Mass in D minor at its spring concert on 27 April 1975, accompanied by Arthur Bower. By the end of the season, the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's financial situation had begun to improve.

The WMPC hired conductor Peter Allen to lead the Choir through its final season of operation. The Choir held its annual Christmas concert in the Central United Church on 7 December 1975, and featured Vivaldi's Gloria, accompanied by pianist Barry Anderson. The choir performed Deller's Psalm 148, Telemann's Cantata for the Fourth Sunday after the Feast of the Three Kings, and Dvorak's Stabat Mater at its spring concert held at the Central United Church on 25 April 1976.

Despite its best efforts, the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's first rehearsal of its twelfth season saw just 26 members in attendance. As a result of lack of membership, the Choir Executive decided to disband the WMPC for its 1976/1977 season, with plans to reassess the situation in September of 1977 for the prospect of a 1977/1978 season. Matters were further complicated by financial considerations; by June 1977 the choir's financial situation had worsened as a result of the administrative fees that the WMPC covered for the duration of its unexpected inactive 1976/1977 season. Unlike past years, there were not any ticket sales to cover such expenses.

Following its year off, membership interest in the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir did not increase and the decision was made not to return for another season. In 1980, the WMPC revoked its registration as an organization and officially ceased to exist.

#### Custodial History:

Records in the 8-2001 accession were donated to the McKee Archives in 2001, by three representatives of the Philharmonic Choir: Dr. Bill Paton, Botany Department, Brandon University; Mrs. Edith Hayden, WMPC President; and Mary Davidson WMPC Archives Committee. Records in accession 13-2016 were given to Terry Stamper in the School of Music by Marilyn Hayden and then transferred to the McKee Archives on September 21, 2015.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of records that document the origin, activities, and ultimate disbandment of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir. These records were created and accumulated during the eleven year existence of the WMPC.

Records include: the organization's constitution and history from 1965-1968; financial records, which include grants received from the Manitoba Arts Council, Canada Council, and City of Brandon, as well as materials documenting the organization's financial struggles from 1974-1976; minutes from executive and committee meetings from 18 June 1973 to 24 June 1974; correspondence in the form of letters between the president of the executive and the choir members, and between the conductor of the choir and its members; membership lists from each season of the WMPC; and concert programmes from every major Christmas and Spring concert that the organization performed. Fonds also contains newspaper notices, advertisements and reviews of various performances, as well as posters advertising performances of the WMPC in the 1967/68, 1970/71, 1971/72 and 1973/74 seasons; the posters advertise the choir, collaborators, patrons and featured works.

Also included in the fonds is a scrapbook detailing the choir's history. Each page of the scrapbook is decorated with hand painted images of plants native to the southwestern Manitoba region. The scrapbook includes concert programs and photographs of the choir from all years of the organization's operation. The scrapbook also contains an assortment of informal photographs from various WMPC events. There are also six black and white group photos of the WMPC from various seasons.

Finally, the fonds contains one artifact, a leather bag/zippered file folder with "WMPC" printed on it.

Notes: History/Bio information was provided by representatives of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir. Copies of the history can be found in the fonds. Description by Jessi Gilchrist (October 2016).

Name Access: Chris Verhoef  
Margaret Goodman  
St. Matthews Cathedral  
Lucien Needham  
Louise Chapman  
Manitoba Centennial Corporation  
Canada Council  
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra  
Brandon College  
Kiwanis Club  
CKX  
Helen Reisberry  
Mary Donovan  
Tom Inglis  
Humphrey Davies  
Muriel Bain  
H.V. Kidd  
Eileen Christ  
Brandon College Auditorium  
CBC Radio  
J.M. Donovan

Murray Ames  
Dr. R. Parker  
Henry Stein  
Ernie Pearn  
Gerry Streuber  
Dorothy McLean  
Mayme Tucker  
Margaret George  
Bob Blair  
Bud Keenan  
Marilyn Johnston  
Sister Mary Rose  
Lou Brown  
Jeanine Baker  
Muriel Patmore  
Leonard Mayoh  
Jim Cory  
Eric Davies  
Phil Ricou  
Elaine Dechka  
Lester Spinaze  
Archie Miller  
High Rest  
Lorna hamilton  
Ruth Cutforth  
Ollie Timkiw  
Thelma Findogasson  
A. Bayne  
Dick Vanderveen  
Lee Donnelly  
M. Rogosin  
Ken Nichols  
Manitoba Arts Council  
Piero Gamba  
Mary Graham  
Reuben Gurevich  
Leonard Stone  
Brandon Area Foundation  
Arthur Bower  
Derek Murphy  
Judy Pringle  
Irma Peters  
John Martens  
Robert Publow  
Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts

Brandon Musical Supply  
P.A. Kennedy  
Bond Books  
Brandon Public Library  
Phylis Thomson  
Hilda Miller  
Arthur Janzen  
Walter Deller  
Nora Needham  
Jean Dorian  
Margaret hammond  
Eileen Blain  
Brian Bailey  
Brandon College Gymnasium  
Brandon University School of Music  
G.R. Rowe  
Sylvia Richardson  
Peter Koslowsky  
Nelson Lohnes  
James Stewart  
Francis Chaplin  
Malcolm Tait  
Gordon Macpherson  
J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre  
Lorne Watson  
Donald Henry  
Lawrence Jones  
Alice Hekster  
Walter Hekster  
Hilda Dridger  
Elizabeth Grant  
Dorothy Froese  
Robert Ford  
James Mendenhall  
Colin Cooper  
Allison Ryles  
Joy Crawford  
Audrey Farnell  
Maxine Miller  
Smith Miller  
Brandon Sun  
Barbra Ehnes  
Brandon School Division Music Department  
Brandon School Orchestra and Band Association  
Barbra Landry

Subject Access: philharmonic choirs  
 amateur choirs  
 amateur musicians  
 symphony orchestra  
 philharmonic  
 classical music performance ensemble  
 cultural organizations  
 music  
 community organizations

Storage Location: 2001 accessions

Related Material: School of Music records  
 Lorne Watson collection  
 Lawrence Jones collection  
 Brandon Women's Musical Club fonds  
 Francis Chaplin collection  
 Brandon Festival of the Arts fonds  
 Fred McGuinness collection  
 CKX fonds  
 Music and the Brandon Community collection



## Grand Valley School District #206 fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4717>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 38-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1935, 1945, 1968

Physical Description: 6 cm

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, reminiscences, historical information about Grand Valley, name and address lists for students and teachers, invitations to Grand Valley School District reunions (1935 and 1968), the program for the dedication ceremonies and reunion picnic (1968), and the guest book for the 1968 reunion and cairn dedication. The latter includes 3 photographs.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2006 accessions

Storage Range: 2006 accessions