

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4859>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 10-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1932-1972

Physical Description: 20 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon was created in November 1932. The club grew out of a meeting of business and professional women who were interested in forming an association. Guest speakers at the meeting were Miss Hilda Hesson, the Vice President of the Federation of Canadian Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and Miss F. Ingram, the President of the Winnipeg Business and Professional Women's Club. The objective of the Brandon club, according to its constitution, was the "promotion of educational, service, and social facilities for the business and professional women." The club consisted of active and associate members and belonged to the greater Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club. The first President of the club was Miss Margaret Gemmell, with approximately 80 women attended the club's first meeting. The club established sub-committees on a variety of subjects including current events, sports, bridge instruction, public speaking, dress making, photography, stitch craft, manual training, and physical culture. The club also put on exhibitions, participated in drama festivals, held rummage sales and an annual Christmas party. During the Second World War, it established a War Effort Department. This department organized activities such as sewing and knitting in support of the war effort. The War Effort Department also raised money for charities such as the Red Cross. During its meetings, the club often heard local and national speakers or watched films. Women of many different vocations joined the club including florists, teachers, salesclerks, nurses, and housewives. Over the years, additional departments were added to the club including those named poetry, pottery, woodcraft, and drama.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains three small scrapbooks, which cover the years 1932-1939, 1939-1949, and 1950-1959, respectively. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun, the Winnipeg Free Press, and the Flin Flon Daily Miner. The scrapbooks also contain exhibition and meeting programs from the Brandon Club. Fonds also contains meeting minutes for the years 1932-1972.

Notes: CAIN No. 202576

Subject Access:	Miss Margaret Gemmel Miss Marjorie McKenzie Dr. Jane Turnbull Miss Muriel Bowen Miss Jessie Crawford Mrs. Robert Darrach Miss Margaret Clay Hilda Hesson Miss Jenny Gemmell City of Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs women's organizations women's clubs Manitoba women scrapbooks
Storage Location:	2002 accessions
Storage Range:	2002 accessions
Related Material:	Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002); Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002); Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trillium Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).



## Rathwell Women's Institute fonds

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

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 6-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1939-1966

Physical Description: 6.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

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

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

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

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

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

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

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

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



## Strathclair Women's Institute fonds

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

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1942-1981

Physical Description: 19 cm

History /

Biographical:

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

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

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

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

Subject Access: Verna Gamey  
Strathclair Women's Institute  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
Town of Strathclair  
rural women  
women's organizations  
Tweedsmuir competitions  
newspaper clippings

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

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

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

## Manitoba Women's Institute collection

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



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

History /

Biographical:

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

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

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

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

Subject Access:	Reverend M.L. Goodman Manitoba Provincial Council of Women National Council of Women in Canada Manitoba Women's Institute National Farm Forum Federated Women's Institute of Canada Associated Country Women of the World women's organizations 4-H rural women song sheets credit unions farm magazines newsletters women's magazines
Storage Location:	2002 accessions
Storage Range:	2002 accessions
Related Material:	Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:  Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Brandon College/Brandon University Women's Auxiliary fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14290>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Fonds
Accession Number:	18-2016
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1955-1975
Physical Description:	24 cm of textual records 3 scrapbooks containing newspaper clippings

## History /

### Biographical:

The Brandon College/Brandon University Women's Auxiliary was founded on February 17, 1955, with the purpose of a) foster[ing] good public relations between the university and the community, and to stress the importance of Brandon University to Western Manitoba; b) to gain a better knowledge of the functioning of Brandon University and; c) to improve the surroundings of the College/University's students and the university at large. They were to hold four regular meetings per annum, with an annual meeting in April, and one fund-raising tea a year. The organization raised money through these teas, as well as through receptions, with the intention of donating to the college/university and surrounding community, contributing to the furnishing of residences and offices at the college/ university, as well as facilitating an annual community visitation day for the public to tour the university. The organization's name was change from the Brandon College Women's Auxiliary to the Brandon University Women's Auxiliary along with the renaming of the school itself on July 1, 1967. The organization was sometimes referred to simply as the Women's Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary was run by an elected President and Board of Executives. Its members, who were all mothers of Brandon College/Brandon University students, paid an annual membership fee. Subcommittees within the organization included those in charge of social organization, membership management, program management, phoning management, press and publicity management and project management; all of these were fronted by their own individual leaders from within the members, under the board of executives. The organization ceased meeting in 1975; the minutes from the final meeting reference difficulties filling executive offices before a motion was carried to disband.

### Custodial History:

Records were created and held by the Brandon College/Brandon University Women's Auxiliary until their dissolution on October 23, 1975, when a motion was passed to move the records to the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of records that relate to the organization of and activities coordinated by the Women's Auxiliary, as well as records detailing the contribution that the organization made to the university and community of and around Brandon. The records span the entire existence of the Women's Auxiliary from 1955 to 1975.

Records include meeting minutes, treasurers' statements, financial bookkeeping, correspondence, a copy of the constitution, records of members, members' addresses and phone numbers, lists of members' children attending school and their respective degree, lists of council members, event memorabilia, organization letter heads, donation receipts, newspaper clippings, advertisements, publicity reports, meeting reports, visitation records, scrapbooks and scrapbook inventories.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the records. Description by Kayliegh Penner (October 2016).

Name Access: Mrs. R.B. Alexander  
Mrs. Cumming  
Mrs. R.G. McDiarmid  
Mrs. R.K. Leiteh  
Mrs. Wesley Nelson  
Mrs. Robert Ghidorie  
Mrs. Barney Thordarson  
Kathleen Thordarson  
Mrs. Stuart Craig  
Mrs. Doris Hunt

Subject Access:       centennial visitation day  
                              women's organizations

Storage Location:     2016 accessions

Related Material:     Brandon University photograph collection (Observatory Opening)  
                              Spring 1955 Alumni News (report on the founding of the organization)

Arrangement:

Records are arranged in chronological order in four (4) subseries: 1) treasurer's books; 2) minute books; 3) textual files; and 4) scrapbooks and miscellany



## Crocus Women's Institute fonds

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

Part Of:               RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level:   Collection

Accession Number:   5-2002

GMD:                 textual records

Date Range:          1946-1984

Physical Description: 18 cm

History /

Biographical:

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

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

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

Notes:                CAIN No. 202645



Subject Access:	Edith Mitchell Margaret Erven Evelyn Firby Edna Allen M. Johnston Irene Erven E. Crawley Florence Wilmot Dawn Erven Miss Frances Isabel McKay Mrs. Evelyn Luella Ames Crocus Women's Institute Manitoba Women's Institute rural women women's organizations scrapbooks
Storage Location:	2002 accessions
Storage Range:	2002 accessions
Related Material:	Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:  Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Minnedosa Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4865>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	2-2002
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1914-1981
Physical Description:	30 cm

#### History /

##### Biographical:

The Minnedosa Women's Institute was one of the first Women's Institutes in Manitoba. The group was created on November 11, 1910, and was called the Home Economics Society until 1919, when all Home Economics Societies in Manitoba became branches of the Manitoba Women's Institute. The first president of the Minnedosa Women's Institute was Mrs. Andrew Boyd. Some early projects of the group included building a rest room and the maintenance of a country women's ward in the Minnedosa Hospital. The group also worked for the war effort during both world wars, including sewing and knitting, as well as sending clothing and food overseas. During the 1920's, the Institute held a number of baby clinics, and during the 1930's, opened a lending library. The Institute also participated with other community projects and groups such as 4-H and the film council. The Minnedosa branch is no longer active, however the Basswood Women's Institute is active in the Minnedosa area.

##### Custodial History:

Fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

##### Scope and Content:

Fonds includes many records from the Minnedosa Women's Institute, such as the group's constitution, and the meeting minutes from 1914-1981. The fonds also contains financial records from 1932-1955. There are two scrapbooks about the Minnedosa Women's Institute, with the first running from 1910-60 and the second running from 1960-80. The scrapbooks contain pictures, clippings, and stories. There is also a scrapbook dedicated to Minnedosa Village History, which covers the years 1878-1956. Finally, this fonds includes the Certificate of Organization for the Minnedosa Women's Institute, which is dated October 20, 1922, although the group was established in 1910.

##### Notes:

CAIN No. 202604. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access:	Mrs. Cooper Miss May Ewens Mrs. Cannon Mrs. Williamson Miss Mary Jones Mrs. Rooke Mrs. Talbert Sedgwick Mrs. Frank Hill Mrs. Culver Mrs. Robert Woodcock Mrs. Florence Brown Mrs. E. Wheatland Mrs. Marjorie Traquair Mrs. Lace Mrs. Lula Faye Campbell Mrs. A. Craig Mrs. Malcolm Kennedy Mrs. Nelson Clark Mrs. John Clark Mrs. John Jury Mrs. Cook Manitoba Women's Institute Minnedosa Women's Institute Town of Minnedosa rural women women's organizations scrapbooks history of Minnedosa MB
Storage Location:	2002 accessions
Storage Range:	2002 accessions
Related Material:	Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:  Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute