

S. J. McKee Archives



Keystone Centre development and construction fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4854>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 22-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1957-1974; predominant 1970-1974

Physical Description: 36 cm

History /

Biographical:

The idea of the Keystone Centre was first mentioned in 1958, at a meeting of the board of directors of the Manitoba Winter Fair. The Manitoba Winter Fair wanted a new facility because the old Wheat City Arena had a leaking roof and a deteriorating west wall. The old facility also had limited space and the Winter Fair felt it needed more space for expansion. The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba also had problems with their facilities, such as old barns and poor display areas. The idea of the Keystone Centre was put on hold until 1969, when the boards of the Provincial Exhibition and the Manitoba Winter Fair joined together as the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Wheat City Arena was sold and demolished. The original estimate for the cost of the Keystone Centre facilities was \$4.5 million and funding would be proportioned so that the federal and provincial governments would each put in one-third of the money, with the rest coming from local donations. The financial campaign for the Keystone Centre began in 1970, and construction began in November 1970. The grand opening of the Centre was in March 1973, and coincided with the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair of that year.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains many folders full of correspondence, financial statements, meeting minutes and other documents relating to the development and construction of the Keystone Centre from 1970-1974, including those from the Keystone Executive Committee, as well as the Building Committee. Fonds also contains one folder that pertains to the Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey from 1959. This folder contains the names and locations of all farmers in the Brandon area in 1959. The Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey was created in 1959, in order to make farming in the Brandon area more profitable. The survey was aided by Doane Agricultural Service from St. Louis, Missouri, who had success creating agricultural development programs in the United States. Fonds also contains folders from the Provincial Exhibition with correspondence, pamphlets, estimates, and studies from the 1960's. There is also one folder belonging to the Manitoba Winter Fair, which contains correspondence and financial statements relating to the Wheat City Arena. Fonds also contains information pertaining to the proposals made in the 1960's, for the building of the Keystone Centre, as well as one folder about the Keystone campaign from 1970-73. There is also one folder about the opening of the Keystone Centre, which contains newspaper clippings and guest lists. Finally, the fonds contains information about a court case involving Albert Bobyk and Robert Stewart. Stewart was the project manager for the Building Committee and Bobyk worked on the Keystone Center. The fonds includes a report about the trial of the two men who were charged with fraud involving their work on the Keystone Centre.

Notes: CAIN No. 202608

Subject Access: Ray Forbes
Fred McGuinness
Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey
Doane Agricultural Service Inc
Agricultural & Homemaking School of Brandon
Royal Manitoba Winter Fair
Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba
South-Western District Agricultural Society
4-H
Manitoba Department of Agriculture
City of Brandon
Keystone Committee
Keystone Building Committee
agriculture
architecture
exhibitions
swine farming
sheep farming
cereal grain farming
rural life
winter fairs

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4848>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 1-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1966-1968

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

The construction of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium was considered first during a meeting of the Brandon City Council in 1953. In 1962, the City of Brandon was given permission by Manitoba Premier Duff Roblin to proceed with the construction of the auditorium as a centennial project to celebrate Canada's centennial in 1967. Constructed on the Brandon University campus, the auditorium was completed in early 1969.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Previous custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of one scrapbook with newspaper clippings and pamphlets about the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium and its construction.

Notes: CAIN No. 202571

Subject Access: Princess Alexandra

Mr. D. R. MacKay

Mayor Magnacca

Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium

Brandon

Manitoba

centennial projects

auditoriums

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions