

# S. J. McKee Archives



## MPE C 7 Co-operatives

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10588>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE C.7

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1922-1995

Physical Description: 59cm

History /

Biographical:

Manitoba Pool Elevators was a part of and associated with many other producer co-operatives in Manitoba.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

.This sub-series consists of records from the following co-operative organizations: Canadian Poultry Pool Ltd, Canadian Poultry Sales, Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Marketing Association, Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative Ltd, The Co-operative Promotion Board, Manitoba Fish Products, Pool Co-operative Seed Association, XCAN Grain Pool

Records for the above organizations may include but do not necessarily include the following: financial records, minutes, correspondence, reports, addresses, and memoranda.

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Original order in this sub-series was rearranged by Eileen McFadden. The order established by her has been left intact.

Name Access: Pool Co-operative Seed Association

XCAN

Canadian Poultry Pool Ltd.

Canadian Poultry Sales

Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Marketing Association

Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative Ltd

The Co-operative Promotion Board

Manitoba Co-operative Conference

Manitoba Fish Products

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Series C: Subsidiary Companies and Co-operatives



## MPE D 1 Royal Commission on Co-operatives

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions11274>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE D.1

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1945

Physical Description: 1m

History /

Biographical:

This commission was appointed in late 1944 and made its reports and recommendations in late 1945. The commission's tasks were the following: (1) give a legal opinion on existing taxation legislation affecting co-operatives, (2) recommend taxation legislation in respect to co-operatives, with due regard to current tax burdens on privately owned business, (3) provide a picture of the actual structure of co-operative enterprise in Canada, its growth, and the effects of taxation upon it.

The commission's findings were, briefly: (1) Section 4, paragraph (p) of the Income War Tax Act is so ambiguous as to justify its repeal, (2) commission recommended legislation permitting both co-operative and joint stock companies to deduct patronage dividends in computing taxes, whether paid out or available on demand, (3) appendices of research staff findings that provide statistical and historical information on the origin, growth and distribution of co-operatives in Canada.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

.This sub-series contains volumes 1 - 31 of the Royal Commission on Co-operatives, the brief and report on the Commission, an outline of argument on behalf of certain co-operative organizations.

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Name Access: Royal Commission on Co-operatives

Subject Access: Commissions

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds  
Series D: Commissions, Committees and Inquiries



## MPE C Subsidiary Company and Co-operative Records

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10487>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Series

Series Number: MPE C

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1926-1992

Physical Description: 2.04 m

History /

Biographical:

As the Manitoba Pool Elevators grew as a co-operative organizations and later a corporation, it acquired subsidiary companies and became involved with other co-operative organizations. These various companies were usually acquired or formed to either reach out to other types of producers in Manitoba or to assist Pool members. MPE was also involved with larger umbrella or subsidiary co-operative organizations.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

This series has been divided into nine sub-series, including: (1) Border Fertilizer Ltd., (2) Co-enerco, (3) CSP Foods, (4) Co-op Farm Implements, (5) Co-operative Life Insurance Co. & Pool Insurance Ltd., (6) Livestock Co-operative Division, (7) Poultry and Dairy Pools, (8) The Wasagaming Foundation, (9) North Cypress-Langford Weed Control Districts

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds



## MPE C 6 Livestock Co-operative Division

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10553>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE C.6

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1926-1991

Physical Description: 26cm

History /

Biographical:

The Pool livestock advisory boards and livestock markets were organized under the MPE when MPE merged with the Manitoba Co-operative Livestock Producers Ltd in 1948. The livestock pools operated in much the same way the grain pools did. The MPE Livestock Division was overseen by the Canadian Livestock Co-operative (Western) Limited (known as the C.L.C.). Local shipping associations shipped livestock to a central selling agency in St. Boniface, although this changed with the development of the rural highway system in Manitoba and the founding of Pool Packers.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

This sub-series consists of Livestock Division records, Virden Auction Market records, Brandon Livestock Advisory Committee records, Elkhorn Co-operative Livestock records, and Swan River Livestock Association Ltd.

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Name Access: Livestock Division

Elkhorn

Brandon

Virden

Swan River

Subject Access: Livestock

Marketing

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Series C: Subsidiary Companies and Co-operatives



## MPE C 2 Co-enerco

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10510>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE C.2

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1981

Physical Description: 33cm

History /

Biographical:

Co-enerco was a co-operative energy company that resulted from the Co-operative Resources Project.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

This sub-series consists of records pertaining to the formation of Co-enerco.

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Name Access: Co-enerco

Subject Access: utilities

Co-operatives

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Series C: Subsidiary Companies and Co-operatives



## MPE C 4 Co-op Farm Implements

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10526>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE C.4

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1978-1982

Physical Description: 7cm

History /

Biographical:

Co-op Farm Implements was a subsidiary company designed to serve Pool members in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

See also fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

This sub-series consists of general documents and photographs.

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2010)

Name Access: Co-op Farm Implements

Subject Access: farm implements

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds  
Series C: Subsidiary Companies and Co-operatives



## MPE B 13 Summary of Association Operations

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10058>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MPE B.13

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1925-1987

Physical Description: 66 cm

History /

Biographical:

See fonds level description of RG 4 for history/bio of MPE

Scope and Content:

This sub-series consists of summaries of elevator operations. The records include the following:

Box 1:

Summary of Operations 1925-1968 Alexander-Gretna

Summary of Operations 1925-1968 Hamiota-Morris

Summary of Operations 1925-1968 Napinka-Woodnorth

Box 2:

Association Financial and Debt Repayment Summary 1925-1963

Association Financial and Debt Repayment Summary 1925-1963

Box 3:

Summary of Operations 1964-1968

Summary of Operations 1964-1968

Summary of Operations 1964-1968

Box 4:

Summary of Operations A-K 1925-1996

Summary of Operations L-Z 1925-1996

Elevator Points Closed A-L 1926-1987

Elevator Points Closed M-Z 1926-1987

Notes: Description by Jillian Sutherland (2009)

Name Access: Manitoba Pool Elevators

Central Office

Subject Access: Local Association

Storage Location: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Series B: Central Office records



## RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4344>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds

Description Level: Fonds

Accession Number: 16-1998, 28-1998, 16-2002

GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1874-2001, predominant 1930-1970  
Physical Description: 64.69 m textual records  
photographs  
slides  
audiovisual materials

History /

Biographical:

The forerunner of Manitoba Pool Elevators (MPE), the Manitoba Wheat Pool was created in 1924 as a mechanism to allow for the co-operative marketing of wheat by Manitoba producers by the United Farmers of Manitoba. The Manitoba Wheat Pool was initially intended to be a provisional organization until the establishment of an interprovincial Pool, but when Alberta and Saskatchewan established their own permanent Pools the United Farmers decided to do the same. The Manitoba Pool was different from the SK and AB Pools in that the municipality was the primary unit of organization; members belonged to their municipal Pool associations first, rather than having direct membership with the central Manitoba Wheat Pool. Manitoba Pool Elevators was established in 1925 as a subsidiary of the Pool in response to local members complaints about the unfair business practices of privately owned elevators. The private elevators also slowed up the shipment of grain to the Central Selling Agency employed by the Wheat Pool, acting as a barrier between the local Pools and the Manitoba Wheat Pool. Once established MPE quickly began to build new elevators and acquire privately owned elevators.

MPE's approach to marketing grain promised to stabilize the market price of grain and ensure a fair market price to producers. Initially the Manitoba Wheat Pool was very successful. However, in 1930, the Manitoba Wheat Pool found itself burdened with an unsold surplus from the preceding year that had been bought from the farmers at a price that was significantly higher than any possible return during the Depression. As a result, in 1931 the Manitoba Wheat Pool's Central Selling Agency defaulted on its bank loans. Despite attempts to save the organization, it was forced to declare bankruptcy in November 1932. The financial difficulties of the Wheat Pool had little to no effect on the Pool Elevators, and so this former subsidiary organization became the main Manitoba Pool organization. This change meant MPE had to reorganize, which they were able to do with funds from the provincial government. The company was successful enough in subsequent years that it was able to finish repaying the Manitoba government a full year early in 1949.

MPE did not limit itself to grain handling; they wished to enrich the lives of rural families through education and to provide economic stability through diversification.

MPE established a lending reference library for members and a traveling library for rural families in 1926. With the passing of the Public Libraries Act in 1948, the province took over responsibility for providing rural families with books. MPE decided that since their traveling library would no longer be needed when rural libraries were established, the best course of action was to donate their library to the Provincial government. They also established and supported programs that educated young people about agriculture and ag business.

Subsidiary companies that dealt with course grains, livestock, packing and fertilizer were established by MPE to streamline and stabilize business for its members.

1961 marked the high water mark for the number of local associations within Manitoba Pool Elevators with 225 local associations. After this date the associations began to amalgamate and consolidate. Improvements in rural roads and rail systems and increases in the size of farms and mechanization of farm labour meant that fewer elevators were needed to service all members and regions. These changes led to an organizational restructuring of Manitoba Pool Elevators in 1968. Membership became direct, and the main unit of organization became the central office. The central office administrated the Pool through districts, which were further



subdivided into sub-districts. The locals which were formally the main organizational unit came under the immediate direction of the sub-district they were located in. Local association could opt out of this system if they wished, but by 1975 all but 29 associations had become part of the new structure.

In 1998 Manitoba Pool Elevators merged with the Alberta Wheat Pool to form Agricore Co-operative, Ltd. In 2001 this organization merged with the United Grain Growers to become Agricore United, and in 2007 AU was taken over by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool; the new company is currently known as Viterra.

#### Custodial History:

The bulk of this fonds was accessioned in 1975, when the forerunner to the McKee Archives at Brandon University, the Rural Resource Center, was founded. The original mandate of the Rural Resource Center was to house the records of the Manitoba Pool Elevators. Previous to this, most of the fonds was stored at MPE's head office in Winnipeg. Many accruals to this collection have since taken place, with some of the larger ones being received in 1997, 2001, and 2002.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains records dealing with every aspect of the Manitoba Pool Elevators organization, from the events leading to its formation in the 1920's, to its amalgamation as part of Agricore beginning in the late 1990's.

Fonds includes records of the local co-operative elevator associations established in the period 1925 - 1968 under the Co-operative Associations Act including: organizational papers; minutes of executive boards; minutes of shareholders annual meetings; financial statements; correspondence; membership lists; and miscellaneous documents.

Also to be found are: documents related to the Royal Commission re the Manitoba Pool Elevators Limited ca. 1931; miscellaneous reports and submissions documents (1925 -1952); central office papers consisting of annual reports, circulars to local co-operative elevator associations and documents related to various other activities of the Manitoba Pool Elevators organization. Fonds also contains documents pertaining to the Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Marketing Association Limited and its successor, the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative Limited, and related agencies.

Other items in the fonds (dating from the 1890's to 2001) include: books acquired for the Manitoba Pool Elevator Library, including a complete run of both the Scoop Shovel (MPE's first newspaper) and the Manitoba Cooperator; photographs; slides; audiotapes; and reel-to-reel videos.

Finally, the fonds contains a small number of miscellaneous items such as banners, and company issued briefcases.

This fonds is organized into four series, (A) Local Association records, (B) Central Office Records, (C) Subsidiary Companies and Co-operatives, (D) Commissions, Committees and Inquiries

#### Notes:

Description by Mike White (2002), revised and enlarged by Jillian Sutherland (2009-2010).

History/Bio taken from F.W. Hamilton, "Service at Cost: A History of the Manitoba Pool Elevators 1925-1975" (Saskatoon: Modern Press) and from records within the fonds.

Preparation of this description made possible in part by a generous grant from the Brandon University Student's Union Work Study Program 2009.

Name Access:	<p>F.W. Hamilton</p> <p>Paul F. Bredt</p> <p>Colin H. Burnell</p> <p>John I. McFarland</p> <p>A.J. McPhail</p> <p>J.R. Murray</p> <p>W.J. Parker</p> <p>Henry W. Wood</p>
Subject Access:	<p>Manitoba Co-operator</p> <p>Canadian Agriculture</p> <p>Cooperative Unions</p> <p>Grain Trade</p> <p>The Scoop Shovel</p> <p>Winnipeg Grain Exchange</p> <p>Agricore</p> <p>United Grain Growers</p> <p>Manitoba Wheat Pool</p> <p>Canadian Cooperative Wheat Producers Ltd</p> <p>Canadian Wheat Board</p> <p>Alberta Wheat Pool</p> <p>Border Fertilizer Ltd</p> <p>Canadian Council of Agriculture</p> <p>Saskatchewan Cooperative Elevator Company</p> <p>Saskatchewan Wheat Pool</p> <p>United Farmers of Manitoba</p> <p>United Farmers of Alberta</p>
Repro Restriction:	<p>Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright restrictions.</p>
Finding Aid:	<p>File level inventory available for some boxes. The Pool Elevator library and publications are available online through the Brandon University Library catalogue.</p>
Storage Location:	<p>RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds</p>