

# S. J. McKee Archives



## McGuinness library

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13683>

Other Title Info:	Title based on the contents of the series
Part Of:	Fred McGuinness collection
Description Level:	Series
Series Number:	McG 8
Accession Number:	1-2015
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	c. 1882-2010
Physical Description:	Approximately 2 m 83 books and other materials (see Material Details Note)
Material Details:	49 booklets 3 maps 3 newsletters 18 periodicals 16 pamphlets 35 newspapers [oversize drawer]

### History /

#### Biographical:

The publications in this series were collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his career as a newspaperman. McGuinness' personal library contained over 500 volumes pertaining to local history. He regularly consulted these materials when writing his radio broadcasts, newspaper columns, and monographs. McGuinness was known to file related materials (e.g., correspondence, newspaper clippings, invitations) between book covers of various titles.

McGuinness donated a substantial portion of his personal library to Brandon University's John E. Robbins Library when he moved to River Heights Terrace (Brandon, Manitoba). That collection can be found in BU's library catalogue under the McGuinness local history collection. The titles McGuinness retained upon his move were donated to the McKee Archives by his estate in 2011.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Accession 20-2009 contain records created and collected by Fred McGuinness over the course of his career as a newspaper journalist and during the research and writing period of the Brandon history book, The Wheat City. Records remained in his possession at his home until their transfer to the McKee Archives on July 28, 2009.

Accession 6-2008 contains records created and collected during the writing of the Provincial Exhibition book, Pride of the Land. Fred McGuinness, who co-authored the book with Ken Coates, donated these records to the McKee Archives circa 1988. The materials relating to Souris, Manitoba, were given to McGuinness by Kay Sullivan in August 2007, and were subsequently deposited in the Archives.

Scope and Content:

This series contains publications collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a newspaperman. McGuinness was a well-known local history enthusiast and frequently wrote about Brandon's local history. Many of his readers forwarded booklets and pamphlets for his consideration and review.

Materials in this series include books, booklets pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers and maps. Subjects include, but are not exclusive to: the city of Brandon, the town of Souris, memoirs, family histories, Canadian Pacific Railway, and local businesses.

Accruals: Closed  
Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available  
Storage Location: All library titles, except the newspapers in the McGuinness oversize drawer, are located in Special Collections

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives.

McG 8 McGuinness library

- McG 8.1 Books
- McG 8.2 Booklets
- McG 8.3 Maps, newsletters, and periodicals
- McG 8.4 Pamphlets
- McG 8.5 Magazines and newspapers (oversize)

Documents

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## McGuinness research materials

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13667>

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the series  
Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Description Level: Series  
Series Number: McG 4  
Accession Number: 1-2015  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: c. 1881 - 2010  
Physical Description: Approximately 54 cm of textual records

### History /

#### Biographical:

In addition to his personal library, Fred McGuinness maintained extensive files on numerous topics/subjects containing newspaper clippings, magazine and journal articles, letters of correspondence, photographs, pamphlets, etc. He accumulated his local history materials by personally collecting newspaper, books, and magazine articles; by readers' forwarding materials for his interest; and from workshop participants submitting memoirs and personal narratives for his interest, review and feedback. McGuinness continued to add to his "topic" files throughout his lifetime.

Usually McGuinness kept his research materials and communications together for his respective writing assignments, however, he would often use the same research materials to write on similar topics that appeared in a number of different publications. McGuinness likely used his local history research materials for his Brandon Sun Sunbeams and Diary columns, his monographs, and possibly for his Local History Style Guide (1984), as well as in his memoir writing workshops. For his column writing, particularly for Neighbory News, McGuinness created file folders on particular topics. These held newspaper clippings collected from the prairie weeklies and once a folder was full, he wrote about the subject.

#### Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

The series consists of records created and collected by Fred McGuinness during his time as a journalist, editor, and freelance writer. The series has been divided into two subseries, including: (1) Local history research and (2) Newspaper clippings.

Local history materials consist of newspaper clippings, correspondence, biographical documents and memoirs, obituaries, and manuscript drafts on Brandon (Manitoba) topics including: origins, anniversaries, centennial, reunions, early pioneers/families, historic buildings and streets, businesses, museums, local newspapers, prominent citizens, military units, and politicians. McGuinness also maintain files on the local history of surrounding communities, including: Birtle, Beresford, Camp Hughes, Hartney, Kemnay, Russell, and Souris.

Notes: Information in the history/biography was taken from Neighborly News column (#934, November 10, 1997). Items dating to the 1880s are photocopies and transcripts of original materials

In the file level inventories, square brackets at the end of file names reference the original location of the file in the unprocessed Fred McGuinness collection. The original location is also noted on the front of each file folder

Accruals: Closed

Language Note: NNC = Neighborly News Column

Finding Aid: File level inventories for each subseries are available. See individual subseries' descriptions

Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Related Material: John Everitt collection  
Clarence Hopkin collection  
Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba fonds  
Lawrence Stuckey collection  
Jack Stothard collection  
William Wallace papers

Fred McGuinness would write/publish about a topic in a number of forums. Therefore, it is possible work and correspondence pertaining to his research materials may be found in the Fred McGuinness collection Monograph series (McG 5) and subseries: Correspondence (McG 1.2), Brandon Sun (McG 2.2), Neighborly News (McG 2.3), Miscellaneous freelance (McG 3.2), Talks and workshops (McG 6.3). McGuinness also "filed" many clippings between the pages of his books in his personal library (see McG 8 Library series)

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Series has been re-arranged according to publication period

McG 4 McGuinness research

McG 4.1 Local history research materials

McG 4.2 Newspaper clippings



## McGuinness broadcasts, lectures and workshops

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13678>

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the series  
Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection  
Description Level: Series  
Series Number: McG 6  
Accession Number: 1-2015  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: c. 1951? - 2010  
Physical Description: Approximately 42 cm of textual records

History /

Biographical:

Fred McGuinness' public speaking and broadcasting career began after he enrolled at St. Paul's College, which was affiliated with the University of Manitoba. From 1943 to 1946, McGuinness served on the student union's Public Relations Committee; in 1945, he became chairman of the Radio Subcommittee working as the Director of the University Radio Series where he was responsible (i.e., writing, casting, directing) for a half-hour Saturday afternoon radio programme. That same year, the President of the University of Manitoba recommended McGuinness as a speaker for the War Finance Committee in the Winnipeg Area.

In 1946, McGuinness moved to Port Arthur to work in public relations with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. That same year he married his wife Christine. In 1947, the couple returned to Winnipeg, when McGuinness took a job as a Public Relations Officer for the National Employment Service's Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC). While employed with the UIC, McGuinness travelled the summer fair circuit with displays promoting the UIC and its benefits. During that time, Royal American Shows also hired McGuinness as its Director of Publicity and Exploitation while the show toured with the fairs on the Canadian prairies. McGuinness also sold his first manuscript to the CBC in 1947, recording a 14-minute broadcast titled the "Class A Circuit" about the Royal American tour, after his summer fair schedule concluded.

McGuinness continued his work with Royal American and the UIC until he accepted a position with the Saskatchewan government in 1952 to promote its upcoming 1955 golden jubilee. His experience with the Saskatchewan Jubilee preparations lead to McGuinness being appointed as a provincial representative to the Canadian Centennial Commission in 1963; an appointment that had McGuinness delivering speeches provincially and internationally.

After the jubilee, McGuinness accepted a position with The Medicine Hat News in Medicine Hat, Alberta. During his decade with that newspaper as a journalist and publisher, McGuinness was heavily involved with the Chamber of Commerce and community service organizations. His position within the community had him delivering talks to many local groups.

At the beginning of 1966, McGuinness started his new appointment as manager of the newly formed personnel and information branch for James Richardson and Sons Ltd. whose head offices were in Winnipeg. At that time McGuinness was developing broadcast scripts for the CBC in earnest. McGuinness left Richardson and Sons in the fall of 1966 to become the publisher and vice-president of the Brandon Sun newspaper in Brandon, Manitoba.

In the 1970s, McGuinness was writing copy for CBC's Radio Noon and Information Radio, as well as producing Ashgrove Farm, a CBC radio drama. By 1980, McGuinness was hosting the CBC Radio broadcast Neighborly News from the Prairies. The radio program was cancelled by the CBC in 1983, but was reincarnated with Altona broadcaster CFAM later that year with McGuinness at the helm. The radio show ended its run in the summer of 1987. McGuinness continued working with the CBC, and is popularly known for his work as the prairie essayist for CBC Radio's Morningside with Peter Gzowski, a position McGuinness held for 17 years.

During his twenty years with the Sun, McGuinness took an active roll in the community and cultivated his interest in local history. Consequently he was invited to guest speak and chair sessions on local history, rural development, and the economy while providing his personal insights as a newspaper publisher.

In the 1980s and 1990s, McGuinness co-taught an undergraduate journalism class at Brandon University with English Professor John Blaikie. McGuinness also delivered community workshops on memoir writing, a past time he continued until shortly before his death in 2011.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a radio broadcaster, newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

The series contains records created and collected by Fred McGuinness during his time as a radio broadcaster, journalist, editor, and freelance writer. Records in the series consist of broadcast scripts, lecture notes, speeches, rough drafts and notes, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and other research materials for respective broadcasts, lectures, speeches, and workshops.

The series has been divided into three subseries, including: (1) radio broadcast scripts, (2) BU journalism course, and (3) talks and workshops.

Notes: Information for the history/biography was obtained from documents in McGuinness' personal papers (see his family papers McG 1.1 and the scrapbook in McG 1.4) and his book Letters from Section 17 (published by Great Plains Publications in 1999)

Accruals: Closed

Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available for each subseries, see subseries descriptions

Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Related Material: Fred McGuinness would write/publish about a topic in a number of forums. Therefore, it is possible materials pertaining to his broadcast and lecture career may be found in other series of the Fred McGuinness collection. A sound recording of one of McGuinness' UofM broadcasts can be found in McG 7

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Series has been re-arranged according to publication period

McG 6 McGuinness broadcasts, lectures, workshops

McG 6.1 Radio broadcast scripts

McG 6.2 BU Journalism course

McG 6.3 Talks and workshops



## McGuinness artifacts and sound recordings

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13682>

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the series

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Series

Series Number: McG 7

Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: c. 1985-1990

Physical Description: 17 artifacts  
10 sound recordings

History /

Biographical:

Artifacts in this series were collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a community volunteer and newspaperman. Beginning in the mid-1930s through the Second World War, McGuinness worked with the Canadian Pacific Telegraph service in Brandon and Winnipeg. McGuinness frequently wrote about those early experiences in his newspaper columns, journals, and monographs.

In the early 1950s, while McGuinness worked as a publicist with the Unemployment Insurance Commission in Winnipeg, he volunteered with community organizations such as the Winnipeg Community Chest Drive. From 1953 to 1955, McGuinness worked as an organizer for the Province of Saskatchewan's 1955 Golden Jubilee.

After the Saskatchewan Jubilee, McGuinness worked with The Medicine Hat News as a journalist and publisher from 1955 to 1965. During that time, McGuinness became heavily involved with the Medicine Hat Chamber of Commerce. His community and business connections resulted in his appointment as a fundraiser for the Medicine Hat Junior College Library, a building project intended to see the City established with its own college.

After his work with the Saskatchewan Jubilee, McGuinness was asked to be a Regional Director for the Canadian Centennial Commission from 1965 to 1967. During that time, McGuinness returned to his hometown of Brandon in 1966, to start a 20-year career with the Brandon Sun as a publisher and vice-president. McGuinness' interest in local history, of which he often wrote, made him the recipient of local ephemera from his readers.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

#### Scope and Content:

This series contains artifacts collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a community volunteer and newspaperman. The artifacts include one telegraph sounder, four letterpress blocks, five typesetter rulers, two patches, two buttons, one token, one tin box, and ten sound recordings.

The telegraph sounder and relay system was possibly a gift from Bill Flett, a CPR superintendent. In his story "Canadian Pacific" published in Letters from Section 17 (1999), McGuinness mentions receiving a package containing telegraph equipment while he was working at the Brandon Sun. The tin box in McGuinness' collection contained copies of telegraphs announcing the end of the war.

Two letterpress type blocks have the letters "WM" which may represent the initials of Fred McGuinness' father William McGuinness. J.R. Langford donated the "Colquhoun and Beattie" type plate to McGuinness, a known collector of Brandon local history. Mr. Beattie had gifted the plate to Lanford's father who worked as a barber in Brandon in 1906. The Brandon Sun letterpress is likely from the period when McGuinness worked at the Brandon Sun.

The five typesetter rulers come from a variety of typesetter and newspaper companies and include Teletypesetter (Chicago, IL), 6 Cutting Limited (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg), Mergenthaler Linotype Company (Brooklyn, NY), and The Edmonton Journal.

The two buttons in the collection come from McGuinness' time as a community-volunteer in Winnipeg, Manitoba. One button is from the Community Chest Drive, the other button is a guest badge from the 1953 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

The two patches are from the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee (1955). Photographs of Saskatchewan Jubilee events and participants wearing the patch on their blazers can be found in the McGuinness photograph collection.

McGuinness saved a Medicine Hat College Official Opening Token from October 3, 1971. McGuinness was likely at the opening as he was originally involved in the establishment of the junior college in the 1960s.

The sound recordings in McGuinness' collection largely pertain to centennial events, which McGuinness helped organize. There is one box set containing four records of the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Choir. Tucked in this volume is an additional record of the Choir recorded at CKCK, Regina, Saskatchewan. Also stored within the box set was a copy "Canada, A Centennial Song."

Accruals: Closed  
Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available  
Storage Location: 2015 accessions  
Arrangement:  
Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives

#### Documents

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Document Not Available

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McG 7 McGuinness artifacts and sound recordings inventory.pdf

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