

# S. J. McKee Archives



## 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.

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|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Access:   | Reverend M.L. Goodman<br>Manitoba Provincial Council of Women<br>National Council of Women in Canada<br>Manitoba Women's Institute<br>National Farm Forum<br>Federated Women's Institute of Canada<br>Associated Country Women of the World<br>women's organizations<br>4-H<br>rural women<br>song sheets<br>credit unions<br>farm magazines<br>newsletters<br>women's magazines |
| Storage Location: | 2002 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Storage Range:    | 2002 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Related Material: | Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:<br><br>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                   |



## Keystone Centre development and construction fonds

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

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 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

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|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Access:   | Ray Forbes<br>Fred McGuinness<br>Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey<br>Doane Agricultural Service Inc<br>Agricultural & Homemaking School of Brandon<br>Royal Manitoba Winter Fair<br>Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba<br>South-Western District Agricultural Society<br>4-H<br>Manitoba Department of Agriculture<br>City of Brandon<br>Keystone Committee<br>Keystone Building Committee<br>agriculture<br>architecture<br>exhibitions<br>swine farming<br>sheep farming<br>cereal grain farming<br>rural life<br>winter fairs |
| Storage Location: | 1998 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Storage Range:    | 1998 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |