

S. J. McKee Archives



Local history research

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13668>

Other Title Info:	Title based on the contents of the subseries
Part Of:	Fred McGuinness collection
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	McG 4.1
Accession Number:	1-2015
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	c. 1881 - 2010
Physical Description:	Approximately 42 cm of textual records

History /

Biographical:

During the Great Depression, Fred McGuinness launched his career with the Brandon Sun as a paper carrier beginning in 1933. His route had him delivering papers in Brandon's downtown core, to many of the city's, now, historic or demolished buildings. Four years later he was employed in the city working for CPR telegraphs as a messenger and then as an operator. These early Brandon experiences weaved their way into McGuinness' newspaper columns, his broadcasts, and his books. In turn, McGuinness' readers shared with him their own memories about Brandon and its local history.

McGuinness was passionate about the social history of regional communities and the province as a whole. In the 1970s, McGuinness was instrumental in helping to establish the Rural Resource Centre, the predecessor to Brandon University's SJ McKee Archives. He co-authored several monographs about Manitoba's social history with Brandon University Professor Ken Coates and published a pictorial history about Brandon. He was also a community booster and was consulted to serve on, promote and write about local, provincial and rural development initiatives. In his obituary, the last piece he would publish in the Brandon Sun, McGuinness wrote that he had a "deep and continuing interest in anniversaries."

In its editorial piece on the passing of Fred McGuinness, the Brandon Sun commented that McGuinness had a "genuine interest in the stories and memories that are part of every Canadian's experience...He loved driving through small Westman towns and communities, stopping at the local coffee shop to strike up conversations with the locals." He continued writing his Diary column for the Brandon Sun and mentoring aspiring writers in his memoir writing workshops until his death 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.

Scope and Content:

The subseries consists of records created and collected by Fred McGuinness during his time as a journalist, editor, and freelance writer. As part of his research and writing process, McGuinness kept numerous files on various subjects and continued to add to them throughout his career. He accumulated his local history materials by personally collecting newspapers and clippings, 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.

Local history materials consist of newspaper clippings, correspondence, biographical documents and memoirs, obituaries, and manuscript drafts on Brandon (Manitoba) topics including:

the City of Brandon's origins, anniversaries (75th, centennial), reunions (Victoria 1969, Toronto 1977)

historic buildings and streets (Brandon's Central Heating System, Brandon's Fire Department, Brandon Gun Club Brandon water power plant)

businesses (Assiniboine River ice harvest; Brandon woolen mills, skating arenas; Snellie brothers (Russell, MB); Meighen, Haddad, & Co., Prince Edward Hotel)

citizens and early pioneer/families (Armitage family, Beaubier family, Thomas Black, J.A. Brock, Henry Carroll, Q.C., Chalmer-Harden families, Clement family, Flora Cowan, Eliza Durston, William A. Elliott, Dr. Fleming, Hall family, Eleanor Kidd, Jack Lane, William Langdon, Lindenberg family, A.E. McKenzie, Margaret Muir, William Muir, W.S. Orchard, Mrs. Osmond (Griswold), General Thomas Lafayette Rosser, Harry Spafford, Allena Strath, George Treherne, Wallace family)

institutions (ACC, Brandon Research Station)

military units (181st Battalion)

museums (Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum)

local newspapers

politicians (R.O. Lissaman, Sir Clifford Sifton)

railways (1916 Brandon trainwreck)

religious organizations (Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, Beresford Church)

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 "We're Going to Miss You, Fred," Brandon Sun, March 24, 2011, A8

Items dating to the 1880s are photocopies and transcripts of original materials

In the file level inventories, square brackets at 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

Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available

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. Subseries has been re-arranged according to publication period

Documents



Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba history: Pride of the land monograph

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13671>

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

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: McG 5.1

Accession Number: [formerly 6-2008]

GMD: textual records

Date Range: c. 1984 - 1985

Physical Description: Approximately 1 m of textual records

1 map

History /

Biographical:

These records were produced between 1984 and 1985, the researching and writing period for the book *The Pride of the Land: An Affectionate History of Brandon's Agricultural Exhibition*. Published in 1985 by Peguis Books (Winnipeg), *Pride of the Land* is a 222-page soft cover book, containing hundreds of pictures, and 50,000 words of text.

BU faculty members Dr. Kenneth "Ken" Stephen Coates, Assistant Professor of History, and Mr. Fred McGuinness, Lecturer in Journalism, authored the book. Assisting the writers was a research team of four BU history students, which were referred to as "The Pride Team": Diane Fowler, Rob McGarva, Bruce Stafeld, and Byron Williams.

The Pride Team was tasked with collecting and synthesizing exhibition documents and other materials in city, provincial, and federal records spanning 100 years. Many local newspapers and committee minutes were consulted.

The authors cover 103 years of Brandon Fair history, starting with the first fair in 1882 followed by the development of other agricultural fairs and exhibitions in Brandon, specifically The Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, and the Ag-Ex livestock show.

Custodial History:

Records were collected and created by McGuinness, Coates, and The Pride Research Team during the process of the creation of the book, *The Pride of the Land: An Affectionate History of Brandon's Agricultural Exhibition*. The materials were donated to the S.J. McKee Archives by the authors circa 1988. The Archives accessioned the records in 2008.

Scope and Content:

The subseries consists of textual records, created and collected during the production of the monograph *Pride of the Land*. It includes research cards created by the research team, copies of newspaper articles from very early editions of Brandon newspapers (such as the *Brandon Sun*, *Brandon Daily Sun*, *Western Sun*, and *The Independent*), copies of fair/organizational minutes, photocopies of photographs used in the publication, and chapter drafts. Of particular interest are the detailed summaries of Provincial Exhibition minutes that were specifically produced for each book chapter.

Notes:

Information in the history/biography was taken from a Brandon University press release dated June 1985, about the *Pride of the Land* Project (see file 64)

Description Note: The original accession number is noted on the front of each file folder. The circled number indicates the original file order in the 6-2008 accession

Accruals:

Closed

Language Note:

Fred McGuinness often uses journalistic jargon to label his files. A "brite" refers to a short, amusing story

Pride of the Land acronyms:

PEM = Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba

RCMP = Royal Canadian Mounted Police

WAAA = Western Agricultural & Arts Association

Finding Aid:

A file level inventory is available

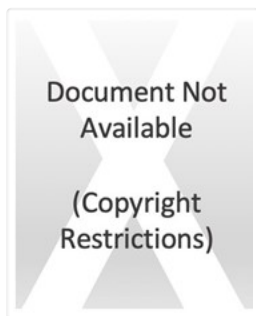
Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Related Material: Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba fonds

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Subseries has been arranged according to book chapter. McGuinness often organized his ideas and research materials by potential brite topic

Documents



Old Pathways, New Horizons: A History of the Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company monograph

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13673>

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

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: McG 5.3

Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: textual records

Date Range: c. 1995 - 1996

Physical Description: Approximately 1.5 cm of textual records

History /

Biographical:

In the spring of 1994, Fred McGuinness was contracted by Great Plains Publications to assist with the writing of the centennial publication *Old Pathways, New Horizons: A History of the Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company, 1896-1996*. Published in 1996, by Great Plains Publications (Winnipeg), *Old Pathways, New Horizons* is a 111-page illustrated soft cover book.

Custodial History:

These materials were donated to the SJ McKee Archives by the Estate of Fred McGuinness circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

The subseries consists of two draft manuscripts and two letters of correspondence. Records were generated during the writing of the book *Old Pathways, New Horizons: A History of the Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company, 1896-1996*. The book was commissioned by the Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company and published in 1996 by Great Plains Publishing Limited.

Notes: Information in the history/biography was taken from a letter dated April 19, 1994, to Fred McGuinness from Gregg Shilliday (see file 11) and publication information listed in the dust jacket of the book

Accruals: Closed

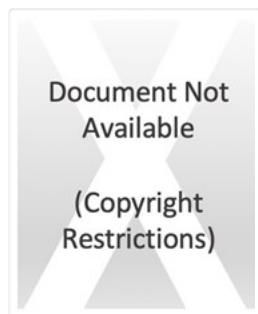
Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available

Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives

Documents



The Keystone Province: An Illustrated History of Manitoba Enterprise monograph

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13675>

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

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: McG 5.5

Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: textual records

Date Range: c. 1986 - 1987

Physical Description: Approximately 6 cm of textual records

History /

Biographical:

These records appear to have been produced between 1986 and 1987, the researching and writing period for another monograph, *Manitoba: The Province & The People*. Published in 1988 by Windsor Publications (Burlington, Ontario), *The Keystone Province: An Illustrated History of Manitoba Enterprise* is a 184-page hard cover book, containing 250 black-and-white illustrations and 40 colour photographs.

The authors cover 378 years of Manitoba entrepreneurial history, starting with the Aboriginal Peoples and the early fur trade, ensuing Red River settlement, followed by the war years, and emerging Manitoba economies. The final chapter of the book contains select profiles of Manitoba businesses, many of which were acknowledged as financial contributors to the project.

BU faculty members Dr. Kenneth "Ken" Stephen Coates, Assistant Professor of History, and Mr. Fred McGuinness, Lecturer in Journalism, authored the book. Dr. Coates accepted a position as an assistant professor of Canadian History at the University of Victoria during the book's production. BU Professor of History, Dr. William R. Morrison, was credited as the picture researcher for the publication. Free-lance writer Roger Newman was responsible for preparing the Manitoba business biographies in the final chapter. The book was produced in co-operation with the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce.

Custodial History:

Records were collected and created by McGuinness and Coates during the creation of the monographs *Manitoba: The Province & The People* and *The Keystone Province: An Illustrated History of Manitoba Enterprise*. The materials were donated to the SJ McKee Archives by the Estate of Fred McGuinness circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

The subseries consist of textual records, created and collected during the production of the monographs *Manitoba: The Province & The People* and *The Keystone Province: An Illustrated History of Manitoba Enterprise*. It includes journal articles, book chapters, Government of Manitoba industry publications, a few original photographs used in the publication, and drafts for chapter "brites."

Notes:

Information in the history/biography was taken from the *The Keystone Province: An Illustrated History of Manitoba Enterprise* dust jacket and patrons section of the book

In the file level inventory, square brackets at 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:

Fred McGuinness often uses journalistic jargon to label his files. A "brite" refers to a short, amusing story. McGuinness often organized his ideas and research materials by potential brite topic

Finding Aid:

A file level inventory is available

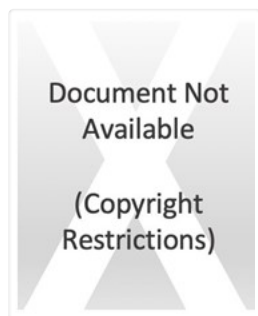
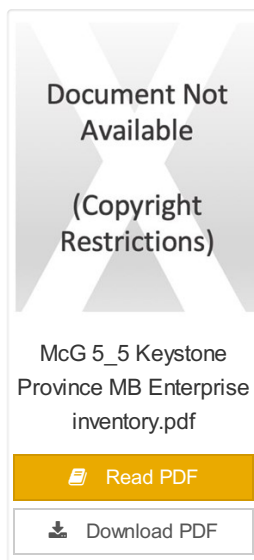
Storage Location:

2015 accessions

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Files in this subseries have been arranged according to the order in which brites first appear in the book

Documents



The Wheat City: A Pictorial History of Brandon monograph

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13676>

Other Title Info:	Title based on the contents of the subseries
Part Of:	Fred McGuinness collection
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	McG 5.6
Accession Number:	1-2015 [formerly 6-2008 and 20-2009 and unprocessed Fred McGuinness collection]
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	c. 1987 - 1988
Physical Description:	Approximately 6 cm of textual records

History /

Biographical:

These records were produced between 1987 and 1988, the researching and writing period for The Wheat City: A Pictorial History of Brandon monograph. Published in 1988 by Western Producer Books (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan), The Wheat City is a 117-page soft cover book, containing black and white images.

Western Producer Books pitched the book's concept to Fred McGuinness in the fall of 1987. This book was part of the publisher's "city series" which focused on smaller cities such as Medicine Hat and Prince Albert. It was estimated that the book would contain a 6,000-word introduction followed by approximately 80 archival photographs of Brandon spanning from early settlement to the late 1950s/early 1960s.

Brandon University history major Pam Svistovski worked as McGuinness' research assistant and McGuinness obtained images for the book from his own personal collection, the Brandon Sun, Lawrence Stuckey, the Archives of Manitoba, and the Western Pictorial Index.

Custodial History:

Records were collected and created by McGuinness during the writing phase of the monograph The Wheat City. The materials were donated to the SJ McKee Archives by the Estate of Fred McGuinness circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

The subseries consists of textual records and photographs created and collected during the production of the monograph *The Wheat City*. It includes correspondence, newspapers articles, drafts and black and white photographs from the Archives of Manitoba, Western Canada Pictorial Index, and *Illustrated Souvenir of Brandon*.

Notes:

Information in the history/biography was obtained from *The Wheat City*'s acknowledgements and a letter to Mr. Fred McGuinness from Western Producer Books, dated September 24, 1987 (McG 5.6, File 11)

Where known, archival reference numbers for photographs obtained from the Archives of Manitoba and the Western Canada Pictorial Index and considered/used in *The Wheat City* have been provided in the item level description

Accruals:

Closed

Repro Restriction:

Images published in the monograph and stored in files copyright protected by their respective organizations

Finding Aid:

A file level inventory is available

Storage Location:

2015 accessions

Related Material:

Clarence Hopkin collection

Lawrence Stuckey collection

Jack Stothard collection

Fred McGuinness would write/publish about a topic in a number of forums. Therefore, it is possible research materials pertaining to this monograph may be found in the Fred McGuinness collection subseries: Correspondence (McG 1.2), Brandon Sun (McG 2.2) Miscellaneous freelance (McG 3.2), Local history research (McG 4.1), Manitoba: The Province & The People (McG 5.4), and Manitoba Enterprise (McG 5.5)

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Subseries has been re-arranged according to picture sources

Documents

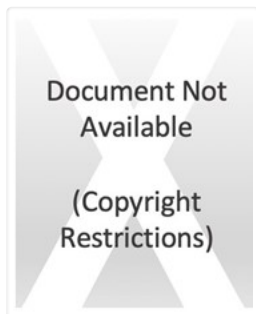
Document Not
Available

(Copyright
Restrictions)

McG 5_6 Wheat City
inventory.pdf

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BU journalism course

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13680>

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the subseries
Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection
Description Level: Sub-series
Series Number: McG 6.2
Accession Number: 1-2015
GMD: textual records
Date Range: c. 1980s - 1990s
Physical Description: Approximately 6 cm of textual records
History /
Biographical:

Fred McGuinness was a sessional lecturer in the English Department at Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba where he co-taught an introductory undergraduate course in journalism with English Professor John Blaikie. Although McGuinness had 30 years experience as a journalist, editor, publisher, and freelance writer, as well as an extensive public speaking career, the partnering was necessary because he did not have a graduate degree, a qualification necessary for teaching in a university setting. In addition to his professional experience, McGuinness was also an avid reader on topics about the process of writing and the publishing of popular writing.

McGuinness likely began teaching his journalism course at Brandon University in 1983 and continued until 1990, possibly 1996. McGuinness often referenced his class when writing his Neighborly News column. A portion of McGuinness' course involved analyzing and debating current events from newspaper headlines. McGuinness emphasized the importance of clean copy, spelling, and grammar with his editing assignments.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist, freelance writer, and sessional instructor. 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 subseries contains records created and collected by Fred McGuinness during his time as a sessional instructor and writer. Consisting of teaching materials McGuinness used in the undergraduate course he taught with Professor John Blaikie the subseries includes: lecture notes, quizzes, exercises, exams, and newspaper and magazine articles.

Notes: Information for the history/biography was obtained from documents in the BU journalism course subseries (McG 6.2), and his Neighborly News columns (McG 2.3)

Accruals: Closed
Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available
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 teaching career may be found in other subseries of the Fred McGuinness collection. Several articles McGuinness wrote for Neighborly News referenced his BU journalism students (see McG 2.3)

Arrangement:

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

Documents

Document Not
Available

(Copyright
Restrictions)

McG 6_2 BU journalism
course inventory.pdf

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Fred McGuinness at Pierre Burton book signing

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13891>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.202

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1984

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows Fred McGuinness at a Pierre Burton book signing for "The Promised Land." Mr. Burton is seated at table in the concourse of the Brandon Shoppers' Mall in front of Doigs.

Name Access: Fred McGuinness

Pierre Burton

Subject Access: Books

Authors

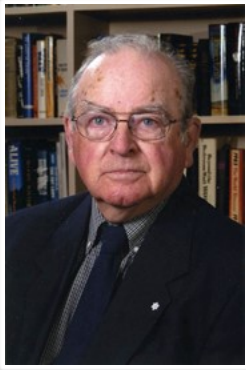
Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Arrangement:

From 20-2009 #4 plastic envelope #1

Images





Fred McGuinness headshot for Manitoba History

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14197>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Creator: Photographer: Sandy Black

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 1-2015.266

Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 2008

Physical Description: 4" x 6" (colour)

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows Fred McGuinness in a suit and tie standing before shelves of books

Name Access: Fred McGuinness

Subject Access: portraits

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Related Material: Photograph published in Manitoba History Journal 2008

Arrangement:

RR#8 photos

Images

