

S. J. McKee Archives



Series I: Library Activities

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions2>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection

Description Level: Series

Series Number: I

Start Date: 1940

End Date: 2000

Scope and Content:

This series contains three sub-series: Layouts & Furnishings, Receipt of Gifts, etc. and Archives. The first sub-series, Layouts and Furnishings, consists of photos of the Brandon College and University libraries from the 1940's to the present time. These photos highlight interesting areas of the library and include past and present library staff members. The second sub-series contains photos taken in the library during presentations of gifts, and other important events, such as the naming of the Robbins Library. The third sub-series contains photos taken in the McKee Archives, at its former location in the Jeff Umphrey Building, and since 1997, in its new location on the mezzanine floor of the John E. Robbins Library.



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 newspapers 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 Neighborly 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

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:

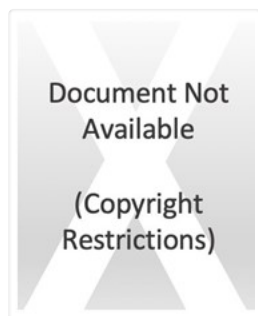
Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives. Series has been re-arranged according to publication period

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.

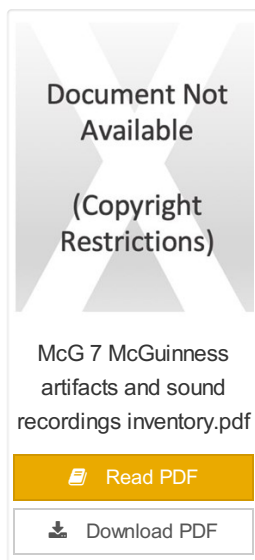
The two patches are from the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee (1955). Photographs of Saskatchewan Jubilee events and participants wearing the patch on their blazers can be found in the McGuinness photograph collection.

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



BC 15: Brandon College library

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4291>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Series

Series Number: 15

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1912-1967

Physical Description: 33 cm

History /

Biographical:

From the very beginning, Brandon College has maintained library services for its students. A professor was put in charge of the library, although in the beginning it was little more than an empty shelf in a cabinet. As it grew, there became more of a need for an administrative body. A Library Committee was created in order to keep the library running smoothly. With the construction of the A.E. McKenzie Building in 1960 came a permanent resting place for the Brandon College Library.

Scope and Content:

The records include a 3 cm book of Library of Congress Card Orders of Recent Publications from 1957 to 1960. As well, there are applications for employment, minutes from the Library Committee and Sub Committees. There is also correspondence from the Director of Library Services and accession records.

Series has been divided into three sub-series, including: (1) Minutes; (2) Director of Library Services; and (3) Library Accession Records.

Storage Location: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Series 15: Brandon College Library

Related Material: RG 6 (Brandon University fonds), series 8 (Brandon University Library Services).



BU 8: Brandon University library services

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions169>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Series
Series Number: 8
GMD: multiple media
Physical Description: 5.14 m textual records; approximately 20 photographs (Millwood display)
Scope and Content:
Series has been divided into three sub-series, including: (1) Director of Library Services; (2) S.J. McKee Archives; (3) Film Services.
Notes: Series needs to be processed.
Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds



Manitoba Pool Elevator Library collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/specialcollections1407>

Part Of: RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds
Collection: Manitoba Pool Elevator Library collection
Description Level: Series
Series Number: MPE E
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1888-1998
Physical Description: 13.7 m
History /
Biographical:

The importance of knowledge and education to the Manitoba Wheat Pool is made clear in the *The Scoop Shovel*, the official organ of the Manitoba Wheat Pool and other co-operatives in Manitoba. Established in the 1920s, *The Scoop Shovel* owed its existence to a decision by the directors of the Pool to set aside small percentage of income per bushel for educational purposes. R.A. Hoey began to hold meetings to discuss the idea that the Pool was about more than just marketing grain, and in 1926 a Department of Education and Publicity was organized within the Pool. It was directed by J.T. Hull and advised by R.A. Hoey; they expanded and supervised *The Scoop Shovel*.

They also began to accumulate the educational volumes that would become the Pool library. Hull announced in November of 1926 that the library would be open by the end of the month and reported that: "We have a good representation of works on sociology... On co-operation we have about every book that we can find published in the English language. We have also a good selection of books on economics, history, science, general literature, and rural life. In a word, we have tried to make the library one of usefulness to people whose life is on the land."

He also encouraged Pool members—who were the only ones allowed to use the library at this time—to utilize the library to educate themselves, saying "Use it, for knowledge is power". Once the library was open to all Pool members, Hull wrote a regular column for *The Scoop Shovel* called "In the Library", in which he would review books and recommend reading in response to frequent questions from members. When the library gained new books, which was almost continually, he would list them and sometimes discuss them.

The library service was a mailing one; the main collection was kept at the Manitoba Wheat Pool central office in Winnipeg and members could request a catalogue of all the library holdings. If they wanted to borrow a book or books on a specific topic, they could write to Hull and the books would be mailed out to the member and returned by mail, all postage costs covered by the Pool Library.

During the crisis of the early 1930s, the library was saved because the Manitoba Co-operative Conference believed it was vital to the success of the Pools and the co-operative movement. The Conference took over administration of the Pool library in 1931, leasing the books and equipment from the Wheat Pool. The library was formally incorporated under a charter after it changed hands, the other charters members being the Co-operative Marketing Board and the United Farmers of Manitoba.

In 1935 the service was made available free of charge to all rural Manitobans with the financial support of the Co-op Marketing Board. By 1939, Manitoba Pool Elevators had begun to prosper again, and took back responsibility for the administration and housing of the library. The traveling library was also established around this time, and hundreds of boxes were distributed to all MPE points. The boxes were rotated and refreshed twice a year.

In 1942 Hull estimated that there were approximately 4,700 books in the Pool Library with an annual circulation of 4,000 to 5,000 books. Operating the library cost around two thousand dollars per year, although the cost was split between the members of the Manitoba Co-operative Conference, at least it was in theory. The Pool library ran as a free service to all rural Manitobans, regardless of whether they were members of the Pool, and the federal government census in 1941 indicates that over half of Manitoba's population (56%) still lived in rural areas. In 1948, the majority of the Pool Library's services were rendered unnecessary by an act called the "Public Libraries Act" that had been passed by the Manitoba legislature on April 22, 1948, and would go into effect July 1, 1948. The act provided for the establishing of a provincial "Public Library Advisory Board" that would be appointed by the government. Once the board had been established, the act allowed for the establishment of municipal and regional libraries that would be the administrative responsibility of the municipality or region they served and would be supported by a land tax levied on the population that would have access to the library. All employees of the central provincial library would be considered civil servants.

When the Provincial Library was being established in 1949, the Minister in charge of education—Ivan Shultz—actively sought both the advice of those who operated the Pool Library and the physical resources of the Library. In a letter to W.J. Parker, the President of Manitoba Pool Elevators, Shultz wrote that: "We find that in looking at the province as a whole that the box library service of the Manitoba Pool Elevators is the best developed and the best distributed within the province... We would feel that to a considerable extent you had pioneered in this field and we would be using your accomplishments as a springboard for a wider coverage of the province and an enlargement of the service."

He also requested that Miss E.L. Shields—the Pool Librarian—be released from Pool employment so that the Provincial Library could hire her for a year to aid in setting up the new library system.

An agreement was reached between MPE and the Provincial Library, and the bulk of the Pool Library was transferred to the province. The Pool retained the volumes it wished to keep as reference for its employees, and donated the rest of the open shelf library to the province. The traveling library service was sold at a discount to the province, with the caveat that service not be interrupted during the transfer and that the quality of service to rural Manitoba not diminish once the Library had been entirely transferred to the government. In a letter to Ivan Shultz after the agreement to sell the traveling library had been reached, W.J. Parker wrote that: "...Manitoba Pool Elevators has maintained an open shelf library for a period of some twenty

years. These books have been made available to anyone in Manitoba, outside the City of Winnipeg, and the postage both ways was paid by the Pool. We feel it has served a very useful purpose, but that it is not primarily our function and if the government proposes to offer a more complete and universal service we are prepared to retire from the field and avoid what might be considered unnecessary duplication."

Scope and Content:

Series contains items once held as part of the Manitoba Pool Library. It has been divided into the following four sub-series: (1) MPE E 1 Manitoba Pool Library publications; (2) MPE E 2 The Scoop Shovel; (3) MPE E 3 The Manitoba Cooperator; and (4) MPE E 4 Pamphlet collection.

Notes:

Description by Jill Sutherland and Christy Henry