

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Audrey Silvius collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4841>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 21-2000  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1959-1988; predominant 1963-1974  
Physical Description: 19 cm textual records; 4 photographs; 1 drawing  
History /  
Biographical:

Born on February 10, 1924, in Elgin, Manitoba, Audrey Ellen Silvius (nee Honeyman) was raised in Fairfax, Manitoba on the Honeyman homestead. In 1964, she received her Indian name, Blue Star. Silvius completed her high school education in Fairfax before moving to Winnipeg in 1943, to earn her Nursing degree from Grace Hospital. She later completed her post-graduate degree in Psychiatric Nursing at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Married to Merritt W. Silvius, Audrey Silvius raised four children, David, Kay, Lorna (Downie) and Gail (Campos) while working in her chosen field. In addition to her family and her career, she was also involved with the Brandon Council of Women and the United Church in Brandon. Silvius was the first executive director of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, a founding member of the local branches of the Marquis Project and Amnesty International and initiated a project called Tools for Peace. She was also involved in various other peace and human rights organizations. In 1987, she received the Order of the Buffalo Hunt from the Province of Manitoba in recognition of her work relating to women's issues. In 1992, she was awarded a Confederation medal for community service.

### Custodial History:

The records found within the collection were collected by Audrey Silvius from a number of people, including Jean Halliday, Grace Godmaire and Norma Walmsley, involved in various projects with her throughout the years. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives at Brandon University in October and November 2000, the records were stored at Mrs. Silvius' home.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of meeting minutes, agendas, speeches, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, written publications and newspaper clippings. Four photographs and one pencil drawing are also included within the collection.

The records deal with the creation, activities, and history of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, as well as the activities of its Board of Directors. In addition, materials located within the collection can be divided into two areas: (1) those that relate to various organizations associated with the Friendship Centre itself, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Brandon Council of Women; (2) materials related to projects of important individuals involved with the Friendship Centre, such as the South Western Manitoba Recreation Council and the 4F Club of Minnedosa. Other records deal with general aboriginal issues in Canada during the time frame of the Audrey Silvius collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202607. Description by Christy Henry (2000).

Subject Access: Council of Christians and Jews  
Brandon Council of Women  
4F Club  
Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre  
cross cultural relations  
Aboriginal issues  
community development

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into ten (10) series:

1. The Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
2. The Scout – Friendship Centre newsletter
3. The Brandon Council of Women
4. Council of Christians and Jews
5. Aboriginal Glee Club/Dancers
6. The South Western Manitoba Recreation Council
7. 4F Club of Minnedosa
8. Miscellaneous Publications related to Aboriginal Issues
9. Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings related to Aboriginal Issues
10. Photographs and pencil drawing



## Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4859>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 10-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1932-1972

Physical Description: 20 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon was created in November 1932. The club grew out of a meeting of business and professional women who were interested in forming an association. Guest speakers at the meeting were Miss Hilda Hesson, the Vice President of the Federation of Canadian Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and Miss F. Ingram, the President of the Winnipeg Business and Professional Women's Club. The objective of the Brandon club, according to its constitution, was the "promotion of educational, service, and social facilities for the business and professional women." The club consisted of active and associate members and belonged to the greater Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club. The first President of the club was Miss Margaret Gemmell, with approximately 80 women attended the club's first meeting. The club established sub-committees on a variety of subjects including current events, sports, bridge instruction, public speaking, dress making, photography, stitch craft, manual training, and physical culture. The club also put on exhibitions, participated in drama festivals, held rummage sales and an annual Christmas party. During the Second World War, it established a War Effort Department. This department organized activities such as sewing and knitting in support of the war effort. The War Effort Department also raised money for charities such as the Red Cross. During its meetings, the club often heard local and national speakers or watched films. Women of many different vocations joined the club including florists, teachers, salesclerks, nurses, and housewives. Over the years, additional departments were added to the club including those named poetry, pottery, woodcraft, and drama.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains three small scrapbooks, which cover the years 1932-1939, 1939-1949, and 1950-1959, respectively. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun, the Winnipeg Free Press, and the Flin Flon Daily Miner. The scrapbooks also contain exhibition and meeting programs from the Brandon Club. Fonds also contains meeting minutes for the years 1932-1972.

Notes: CAIN No. 202576

Subject Access: Miss Margaret Gemmel  
Miss Marjorie McKenzie  
Dr. Jane Turnbull  
Miss Muriel Bowen  
Miss Jessie Crawford  
Mrs. Robert Darrach  
Miss Margaret Clay  
Hilda Hesson  
Miss Jenny Gemmell  
City of Brandon  
Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon  
Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
women's organizations  
women's clubs  
Manitoba women  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002);  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002);  
Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trillium  
Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).



## Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4811>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 11-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1953-1965

Physical Description: 10 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club was organized on May 14, 1959. The group received its charter on September 15, 1959 at a ceremony that included guests from Minnedosa, Neepawa, Dauphin, Brandon, and Portage La Prairie. The first president of the club was Mrs. Julie Johnson. In September 1959 the club had 15 members. The Minnedosa Club became the thirteenth Business and Professional Women's Club chartered in Manitoba. The purpose of the club was to train and educate women in business and the professions and to promote women's participation in local, provincial, and national affairs. The club included many committees such as the Public Relations, Membership, Survey and Archives, Programme and Projects, Social and Courtesy, International Affairs, Budget and Finance, Federation Promotion, Personal Development, Public Affairs, and Resolutions, Legislation and Employment Committees. The Minnedosa Club held exhibitions, hosted guest speakers, observed Business Women's Week, and held workshops for all of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs in Manitoba on a few occasions. Over the years the club made many donations to the Minnedosa Museum, the Minnedosa Centennial Committee, and charities such as UNICEF, Ramallah Fund, Children's Aid, and United Way. The Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club was very concerned with the status of women in Canada and around the world. The Minnedosa Club disbanded in May 1980. After the disbanding of the club, the women who were involved in the club formed the Just For Fun Club.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds is comprised mainly of four scrapbooks, which run from 1959-1979, 1959-1963, 1959-1964, and 1977-1979. The scrapbooks contain photos, newspaper clippings, Christmas cards, correspondence and programs. The clippings relate to Business and Professional Women's Clubs from around Manitoba, while focusing on the Minnedosa Club. Many of the clippings also focus on the status of women in Canada and the rest of the world.

Fonds also contains financial records and minutes from the years 1959-1980. There is also a copy of the club's bylaws, as well as monthly membership reports from 1976-1980. The fonds also includes a brief typed history of the Minnedosa Club, as well as other loose newspaper clippings, programs, songbooks, and correspondence. Finally, there are three guestbooks included in the collection. The first runs from 1959-1978. The second guestbook is from the Art and Ceramic Display and Tea, held on May 27, 1972. The third guestbook is from the Art and Ceramic Display and Tea, held on May 29, 1976.

Notes: CAIN No. 202581

Subject Access: Julie Johnson

Louise Card

Effie Macdonald

Mary Macdonald

Marion McCormick

Gladys Thompson

Town of Minnedosa

Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club

Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs

Manitoba Provincial Organization of Business and Professional Women's Clubs

Flin Flon Business and Professional Women's Club

Dauphin Business and Professional Women's Club

Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club

International Peace Gardens

women's clubs

women's issues

status of women

scrapbooks

newspaper clippings

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002);  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002);  
Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trillium  
Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).