Guide Abstract

This document provides an overview of significant archival holdings at UNBC available for academic research work. Northern BC Archives’ holdings include unique materials not found in other Canadian university archives that document significant developments in British Columbia and Northern Canada since the late 19th to late 20th century. A major theme of the Archives holdings is the many natural resource developments undertaken from the mid to late 20th century and their impacts on Northern BC’s economy, society, and natural landscapes. The archive repository as a whole provides a broad range of research topics applicable to a range of Humanities disciplines (i.e. History, Anthropology, First Nations Studies, and Political Science) and also may be of research interest to academics in Forestry, Natural Resources, Business and Health Sciences. Potential research areas include: Northern BC 19th century Missionary work and its impacts on First Nations culture and communities; Inter-connections and impacts of federal-regional politics; Social-political activism and feminist activism in 20th century Northern BC; Women Scientists and the Transfer of Aboriginal Knowledge; and Northern BC writers’ involvement in late 20th century Canadian literary movements. Records highlighted can be found on the Archives online database: [https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/](https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/). These unique holdings provide evidence of potential areas for future academic research that may provide new knowledge to understanding Northern BC’s development and its linkage to provincial, national and global issues of concern.
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Natural Resource Development in Northern British Columbia

*Cassiar Asbestos Mining Corporation (CAMC) & Cassiar Townsite Collection (1952-1992)*  
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/cassiar-asbestos-corporation-ltd-fonds;rad

CAMC is UNBC’s single largest archiving holding consisting of 1625+ bankers boxes of textual records; 7000 photographic items (6100+ photographs, 900 slides, microfilm); 1500+ cartographic items; electronic holdings, and sound & moving image holdings relating the history of this asbestos company and townsite. Established in 1951 by Conwest Exploration Company Ltd. CAC opened the asbestos mine and mill in 1952 in northern BC and constructed a townsite for its workers. For 40 years Cassiar was a thriving one-industry town of 1200+ people, with an operation as an open-pit mine, but in 1988 it began construction of an underground mine which became operational in 1990. The unprofitability of this underground operation contributed to CAMC’s bankruptcy in 1992. Most employees were laid off and the entire town, mine, and mill infrastructure were auctioned off. UNBC acquired the records in 1992.

Records include materials related to CAMC’s early explorations, mine and plant construction, engineering, extraction operations, as well as records related to administration, labour, corporate events, and union activities. Townsite records include visual representations of townsite construction, including the creation of health, education and community services including Cassiar’s private hospital, school, library, as well as townsite images. Photographs include documentation of natural and man-made landscapes within the Cassiar region of Northern BC. The Archives has digitized 1000+ photographs subdivided into 4 subseries: Exploration & Development, Construction, General (Mining) Operations & (Townsite) Community Operations, and Corporate Affairs. See Links: https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographic-material;rad

**Research Significance of Holdings:** The Cassiar records has the potential to provide new research areas related to the technological, social, environment and health impacts of industrial developments in Northern Canada in the latter part of the 20th century. Records are applicable to academic research in both Humanities and Social Science disciplines (i.e. History, Geography, Environmental Planning, Health Research, particularly environmental impacts on health). Records provide insight into the operations of natural resource extraction operations in Northern Canada & reflect developments from mid to late 20th century of the ‘boom & bust’ period of one Northern BC community. Records document diverse activities and various administrative and operational departments within CAMC: construction & engineering; mining operations; tallies of extractions; administration, employee records including health and accident records (300+ X-rays); day-to-day operations of mining work; mining equipment; as well as documentation of labour and union activities; corporate events & visits by dignitaries (including Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau c.1969 & by MP Iona Campagnolo c.1974). Records include documentation of litigation against CAMC and/or its parent company regarding work related injuries and environmental related diseases. Records also document the town’s development and include materials on: town planning; construction of municipal services, construction of municipal and social service buildings (community centre, hospital), and records of school construction. Such records document community life and community memory of its workers and residents. The holdings also contain a near complete run of the Cassiar community newspaper (c.1954-c.1991) that UNBC Library has digitized and is on-line: https://library.unbc.ca/archives/digital-collections/documents/cassiar-newspapers
Northern Exploration and Surveying in Northern BC

Prentiss Gray Photographic Collection (1926-1932)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/prentiss-gray-collection;rad

Prentiss Nathaniel Gray, (1884-1935) of Oakland California, was the archetypical model of a heroic hunter of big game. After receiving accreditation for outstanding military service during WWI, he embarked upon a highly successful career as an international banker for J. Henry Shroder Banking Corporation. In exchange for securing the bank’s first $100,000 profit, Gray was granted unlimited vacation time which he effectively used to travel the world in search of big game. This thirst for adventure was combined with Gray’s penchant for documenting his expeditions in writings, illustrations, and photographs, which ultimately were the basis for two Boone and Crockett Club publications, one of which entitled From the Peace to the Fraser: Newly Discovered North American Hunting and Exploration Journals, 1900 to 1930 document his expeditions in Alberta (1926) and BC (1927 & 1928). During Gray’s 1928 big game expedition to the Barbara Lakes in B.C., he was accompanied by H.G. Dimsdale, an Edmonton civil engineer; together they undertook a feasibility assessment for a railroad route along the BC-Alberta border. Gray also developed the official measurement and scoring system for trophy animals and served as the first editor of the Boone and Crockett Club’s Records of North American Big Game. Collection consists of 760+ images in 3 photo albums depicting Gray’s travels throughout Northern BC and Alberta and 6 computer discs consisting of digital copies of these photographs.

The Phipps-Mackenzie Collection (1920-1990)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/phipps-mackenzie-collection;rad

Alfred Phipps and James Mackenzie were surveyors who accompanied noted BC surveyor, Frank Cyril Swannell on surveys of BC in the early 1920s-1930s. Swannell is noted as being one of the only BC Government employed surveyors who had experience in triangulation surveys, and who conducted “exploratory surveys” in large blocks of wilderness. The photographic albums holds +/-400 images created primarily by surveyor Jim Mackenzie most of which are related to surveying northern BC in 1929, 1930 and 1935. It includes loose photos which reflect Phipps involvement in the Bedaux Expedition in 1934. Research Significance: The Phipps-Mackenzie Collection contains journals, reports and photographs related to the infamous Bedaux Sub-Arctic Expedition of 1934. Led by an eccentric and shrewd businessman, Charles Bedaux, the expedition from Edmonton to Telegraph Creek used ‘cutting edge’ all-terrain Citroen vehicles to traverse the terrain. In a hand-written memoir and typed notes Phipps documents his version of events as one of the crew members. He records observations about the terrain, surveying activities, and ultimately the causes for the expedition’s failure. These documents have been digitized and are accessible on-line: https://library.unbc.ca/archives/digital-collections/documents/phipps-bedaux-expedition. These records provide a perspective that could shed new knowledge about the well-known expedition, and provide opportunity for new research on the subject.

Research Significance: Both of these collections provide visual documentation of natural landscapes of Northern BC and Alberta including flora and fauna. Such photographs and cartographic materials may generate and provide opportunities for comparative analyses of previous landscape conditions with contemporary environments, creating a benchmark for documenting natural habitat and changing environments or industry practices.
Transportation Development and Impact in Northern BC

Prince George Railway & Forestry Museum Society Collection (1894-1999)

The Prince George Railway & Forestry Museum Society Collection consists of textual, photographic & cartographic records related to regional developments of Canadian National, Pacific Great Eastern, BC Rail, and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways in Northern BC, including Prince George, Peace River Region, Terrace, Bulkley Valley, Hazelton and Prince Rupert. See on-line finding aids. Extent: 7.68 m textual records; 24 maps; 28 blueprints; 150 loose photographs; 10 negatives; 1 photo album. See links to individual Railways Series:

Canadian National Railway Series (1914-1993)
The Canadian National Railway series consists of administrative records, safety records, and correspondence between departments, labour records, related to train movements, maintenance records, and ephemera. It includes publications concerning unionized labour, railway operation, maintenance of way, handling of hazardous materials, safety, & Royal Tours of BC 1939 and 1959.

Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Series (1900-1939)
The Grand Trunk Railway & Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Series consists of administrative records, correspondence between railways, as well as cartographic & technical drawings depicting GTP and GTPR plans of rail lines in BC. Other records include 50+ photographs of equipment, rail lines and accidents. See also R.A. Harlow Collection – GTP Surveying Collection (1914-1952) 40+ b & w photographs and album of 80+ photographs of early GTP rail developments particularly in the Prince Rupert and Bulkley Valley region.

Pacific Great Eastern Railway
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/pacific-great-eastern-railway-pge
Pacific Great Eastern Railway Series consists of correspondence between departments, records pertaining to train movements, and ephemera. Also includes publications concerning the topics of unionized labour, railway operation, and public interest. Also consists of maps and technical drawings depicting Pacific Great Eastern Railway lines and structures.

British Columbia Railway Series (1962-1998)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/british-columbia-railway-bcr
The BC Rail series consists of promotional material, time tables, fare rates, items pertaining to daily train movements and BCR operations. It includes employee manuals, employee examination material, employee seniority listings, and union agreements.

David Davies Railway Collection (1899-2013)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/davies-railway-collection;rad
The David Davies Railway Collection encompasses all facets of railway history in British Columbia and the Yukon, consisting of research material accumulated over fifty years, including monographs, periodicals, articles, clippings, photographs, maps and plans. Also includes sources on 20th century railway unions and strikes. Physical description: 6 metres of textural records; 51 architectural and technical drawings; 1 sound recording, and ca. 4000 photographs.

Research Significance of Transportation Related Archival Holdings: These two rail-related archival collections provide textual, cartographic and photographic evidence of exploratory ventures in BC’s Northern regions. Of
significance are rare bodies of records from the early 20th century when entrepreneurs looked to develop transportation links and both provincial and national governments looked to invest in BC's North in the hopes of economic prosperity and increased settlement.

**Forest Industry Development in Northern BC**

*Northwood Pulp & Timber Limited fonds (1963-1999)*  

This fonds consists of 14,700+ color, and black & white photographs and negatives; 3,600+ color slides; 35 cm of sound and moving images (including 3 - 16mm color films, 3 mini DVs, 6 CDs, and 19 VHS video cassettes); and 1.26m of textual records. Photographs document a wide variety of Northwood’s forestry operations: Northwood Pulp & Timber’s original construction (1964-65), subsequent expansion (1980-1981); aerial perspectives; silviculture and forest harvesting practices; sawmill and pulp mill general operations; logging camps; the building of logging roads and bridges; Northwood’s unique equipment i.e. locomotives, snowplow and refurbished 1942 fire engine; mill machinery details; employees at work; service awards and certifications events; corporate portraiture; office "spirit" events; corporate outreach activities and community programming images. Over 2100+ images have been digitized and are accessible on-line: [http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographic-material-2;rad](http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographic-material-2;rad)

It includes unique promotional videos and films depicting tours of pulp mill operations and slash-burning practices implemented by the forest division. The 16mm films depict forestry practices, and early sawmill operations at Eagle Lake Sawmill in 1963 depicts sawmill operations from harvesting trees to finished lumber products. Textual records consist primarily of materials documenting service awards events, minutes of meetings and documented functions of the corporate club, single issues of *Northwood News* and *Northwood Notes* (c.1980-1995) informing employees about pulp mill expansion, and updates on promotions and departures. Consult archivist for in-house inventory

Northwood Pulp was established in 1961 when Canadian corporation, Noranda Mines Limited, diversified into the BC forest industry and purchased the Sinclair and Upper Fraser Sawmills, east of Prince George. After their purchase, and the proliferation of others, there became an excess of waste wood products generated by milling in the central interior of British Columbia. To meet this specific waste reduction need, and to expand into a new wood fibre market, the Mead Corporation and Noranda Mines built Northwood Pulp Mill in 1964-1965. In 1999, the Canadian Forest Products (Canfor) acquired all shares of Northwood Inc.; a purchase which included Northwood Pulp Mill, Prince George Sawmill, North Central Plywoods, Rustad, Houston and Upper Fraser operations, the Kyahwood Forest Products joint venture and J.D. Little Forest Centre.

**Research Significance of Holdings:** Northwood’s corporate archive is of interest to researchers of forest industry policy and practices conducted within BC over a 30 year period when North Central BC experienced a major boom in forestry operations c.1960s-1990s. When reviewed also in the context of the personal business archive of Northwood’s former CEO Adam Zimmerman, the records provide a rarely documented perspective on Canadian forest industry policy and practices in the late 20th century.

*Adam Zimmerman fonds (1957-1996)*  
http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/adam-zimmerman-fonds;rad

Records consist of textual records related to Adam Zimmerman (1927-1916) related to his executive career with Noranda Inc., MacMillan Bloedel, & Northwood Pulp & Timber. Zimmerman joined Noranda Inc. in 1958 and held a number of senior administrative positions, serving as President & CEO (1982-87), Vice Chair of Noranda Inc. (1987-1992), and CEO, Noranda

The records consist primarily of Zimmerman’s administrative and business papers during his tenure as a senior level executive with Noranda Inc., Noranda Mines Ltd, and Macmillan Bloedel Ltd., particularly in Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia with the majority of these records relating to the senior level operations of these companies. It includes 6+ metres of records related to the development of Northwood Pulp & Timber Ltd. (1965-c.1984) including its regional operations throughout North-Central BC. The records document also Noranda’s successful and unsuccessful attempts at business acquisitions in forestry and mining operations internationally, particularly in Mexico, Brazil, The Netherlands and Tasmania.

Materials includes 3+ metres of records generated by Zimmerman in his directorship / or chairman positions on forest industry association boards including notes, general correspondence, minutes, grey literature notably from the Canadian Forest Industries Council, the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, the Forest Sector Advisory Council and other similar industry associations. Much material relates to the issue of the softwood lumber dispute and Zimmerman’s direct involvement in the lobbying efforts regarding Canada / U.S. Free Trade issues. The fonds includes extensive correspondence between Zimmerman and various levels of government regarding the lobbying of government on forestry policy and correspondence with various environmental lobbying groups in the 1980s including correspondence with well-known environmentalist David Suzuki’s office. Subjects include all facets of business operations pertaining to Canadian forestry and mining sectors including labour issues, environmental impacts of industrial developments, industry and effects on the Canadian economy, the free trade debate, the softwood lumber issue etc. Also includes Zimmerman’s speeches and correspondence related to his involvement in charities, foundations and corporate fundraising initiatives with Canadian educational institutions, non-profit societies and with federal election campaigns.

Research Significance: This is a highly significant archival holding of national interest pertaining to late 20th century business operations in Canada’s natural resource industries. It provides a wealth of material for future academic and public research related to natural resource development in Canada and British Columbia and its impact on the Canadian economy, labour interests, international relations and environmental developments. It will also be of great interest to those researchers interested in the history of business in Canada as it provides rare insights into the activities of Canadian business executives in late 20th century Canada.

The Zimmerman archive consists of 24.6 metres. An in-house inventory has been created. A finding aid is under development as of September 2017. Consult the Archivist for more information.

*Aleza Lake Research Forest Archival Records Collection*
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/aleza-lake-research-forest-archival-records-fonds:rad

The ALRF Collection contains significant materials covering a wide range of topics related to forestry research and forest management practices in Central BC from the 1920s-1980s documenting BC’s earliest and longest-running experimental research forest in the province. By 1930, the Research Division was the most active throughout Canada. It includes administrative materials, unpublished scientific and technical reports, timber sale records, general forestry related reports and 200+ Photographs of the Experimental Station dating from its inception in 1924. Its most significant records include experimental plot files from 1928-1958 and sample plots from Hutton, Penny, and Foreman that record growth and mortality of white spruce balsam and soil types.

After 38 years of operation, ALES was formally closed in 1963 but in the late 1980s, there was a push for the Research Forest to be re-opened because of its potential for forest management research and demonstration. In 1992, the Research Forest reopened and, as the renamed Aleza Lake Research Forest, in 2001 it became the fourth university research forest in British Columbia managed by the ALRF Society, with a partnership between UNBC, UBC, BC Ministry of Forests and the BC Ministry
of Sustainable Resource Management. Today, the central mandate of the Research Forest is to provide multidisciplinary programs focusing on partial cut harvest systems, biological diversity, climate change, and environmental monitoring in small forest tenures.

**Parker Bonney Photograph Collection (1913-1945)**
http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/parker-bonney-fonds;rad

This collection documents forest surveys undertaken by Bonney with the BC Forest Service including surveys in the Prince George Forestry Division and the Nass River Watershed. Bonney was one of the first surveyors to survey the Nass River Watershed and the Headwaters of the Skeena and became the District Forester for Prince Rupert (1926-1945). Collection consists of +/-600 images depicting forestry expeditions undertaken.

**Environmental Impacts of Resource Development in Northern BC**

**Kemano Completion Project Dispute Collection (1974-2001)**
http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/nechako-alcon-development-project-fonds;rad

This collection consists of 6.3 metres of textual records regarding the Kemano Completion Project collected by four DFO scientists involved in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans review of Alcan’s project. The majority of the material consists of copies of publications related to the scientists’ research and activities, many of which were written or annotated by them, such as reprints of journal articles, draft scientific reports, government publications, and newspaper clippings. Original scientific research records comprise raw data, field notes, memoranda, and draft reports. Records include correspondence regarding the Nechako River court action between DFO, Alcan, and the province and the scientific reports that were created in anticipation of the case. Also includes significant material emanating from the BC Utilities Commission Kemano Completion Project Public Review, such as correspondence, BCUC newsletters and news releases, exhibits and evidence submitted to the review panel, documents produced for the hearings, and final reports. In addition, includes records and publications relating to various other groups affected by the Kemano Completion Project or arising because of it, such as the Cheslatta Carrier Nation, the Rivers Defense Coalition, the Nechako Fisheries Conservation Program, the Nechako Watershed Council, the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund, and the Nechako River Alliance. Includes records gathered by DFO scientists involved in the Kemano Completion Project Review. Collection donated to Northern BC Archives in 2003 from former DFO scientists Harold Mundie, Don Alderdice, Gordon Hartman, and Cole Shirvell.

Research Significance: Of research interest to academic researchers including those of environmental history of BC and Canada, the environmental movement in Canada, and the analysis of the scientific impacts of industry development, particularly impacts on rural communities including First Nations communities.

http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/kemano-fonds;rad

Includes records of the Kemano public hearings and court case between Alcan, the province, and DFO and provides historical context to the Kemano Complete Project Dispute Collection records.
**John Holzworth Field Report (1923)**

With the permission of The Smithsonian Archives, NBCA digitized the report for research access: [https://library.unbc.ca/archives/digital-collections/documents/holzworth-field-report](https://library.unbc.ca/archives/digital-collections/documents/holzworth-field-report)

Originally submitted to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and currently housed at The Smithsonian Institution Archives (SIA), this field report describes **“Mountain Sheep and Caribou Distribution”** in Northern British Columbia in 1923. It consists primarily of reports, notebooks, notes, photographs, maps, and related materials documenting biological field research conducted by staff naturalists of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and its predecessor, the Bureau of Biological Survey.

**Research Significance**: Data includes detailed descriptions of the specimens caught, land and water transportation routes taken in the Peace River region, weather observations, and commentary on communities and peoples encountered during the expedition to hunt and collect bighorn sheep and caribou specimens in the area. Also provides documentation of the Beaver First Nation camps and images of early 20th century homesteaders near present day Tumbler Ridge.

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**Political and Social History of Northern BC and Canada**

**The Honourable Iona Campagnolo fonds (1937-2007)**

[https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/honourable-iona-campagnolo-fonds;rad](https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/honourable-iona-campagnolo-fonds;rad)

This body of work has been designated by the Department of Canadian Heritage as archival records of outstanding provincial and national significance. Physical description: textual records 30 metres, +/-1700 images and other materials.


- **Iona Campagnolo fonds – Political Career Series** [http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/political-career;rad](http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/political-career;rad)

This series consists of correspondence, campaign advertisements, news clippings, itineraries, reports, scrapbooks, speeches, newsletters, ephemera, memoranda, invitations, commercial publications, party publications, certificates, agendas, press releases, minutes and background information all pertaining to Iona Campagnolo’s political career as M.P. for Skeena; Minister of State Fitness and Amateur Sport in the Trudeau Government, and President of the Liberal Party of Canada; as well as, pertaining to her continued interest in the political state of Canada. Includes the original signed letter of resignation to Campagnolo, then President of the Liberal Party of Canada by Pierre Trudeau as Prime Minister of Canada in 1984 after his infamous ‘walk in the snow’ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Trudeau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Trudeau)

- **Iona Campagnolo fonds – Photographs Series** [http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographs-12;rad](http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographs-12;rad)

Series includes 1700+ images related to Campagnolo’s personal and professional life; majority relates to her career in federal politics: as Liberal Party Candidate for the Federal Riding of Skeena (1974) including images of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and Margaret Trudeau and M.P. Jean Chretien to Northern BC to campaign for Campagnolo. Images of tours as MP for Skeena

**Research Significance**: The Iona Campagnolo fonds documents social, political, economic, cultural events significant to BC and Canada in the latter half of the 20th century and document Campagnolo’s career as Federal MP, Skeena riding; Cabinet Minister in the Pierre Trudeau Government; President, Liberal Party of Canada; and post-political career in non-governmental organizations; as Chancellor of UNBC and as BC’s 27th Lieutenant-Governor. Records are of interest to academics in Political Science, Canadian and BC History, and Women and Gender Studies.

In 2011 the remainder of The Honourable Iona Campagnolo Archives (+/−25 metres) was transferred by Library and Archives of Canada to The Northern BC Archives and is identified as the Political Papers Series. Those Series document official activities and that of her office in her roles as Member of Parliament for Skeena, BC (1974-79), as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (1974-1976), as Cabinet Minister and as Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport under the Trudeau government (Sept. 15, 1976-May 22, 1979).

**Research Significance of The Political Papers Series**: this series provides context to the federal political history of British Columbia and particularly that of the geographic region of Northern British Columbia in the 1970s. Such records document the inner workings of the Canadian Parliamentary system, the linkages between regional–federal issues of concern, and the impact of that of a Member of Parliament to bring regional issues to the federal level for debate and action. Also the records document the activities of Campagnolo as a federal politician and cabinet minister that reflect political, social, and economic issues of concern to the federal government in the 1970s. Records includes Campagnolo’s extensive correspondence with other federal Ministries that document a wide range of issues that Campagnolo dealt with as an MP and Cabinet Minister. Subjects include: Aboriginal Affairs; Western Economic Development; Anti-Inflation Board; Agriculture; Natural Resources and the Environment; Women’s Rights; and Immigration.

Other Records document the history of the creation of the position of Canada’s first Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport in Canada; and the origins of the Canadian government’s philosophy on sport fitness and athletics, its interactions with Canadian sports and athletics organizations and also documents Canada’s activities on the national and international scene in both the participating and hosting oforganized sports and athletics. Records describe the activities of three associated government initiatives: ParticipACTION, Loto Canada and the National Sport Recreation Administration Centre. Campagnolo’s speeches document her political and personal philosophy about Canadian ‘national life’ delivered as an MP or Cabinet Minister and later as an advocate and consultant. They consist of 200+ speeches that she personally wrote throughout the course of her public service life. Records document opinions on the state of the federal Liberal party in the 1970s and the Liberal Party’s loss of the federal election in 1979, including Campagnolo’s correspondence to Pierre Trudeau on her personal election loss. Such records provide insights into the internal workings of one of the major political parties in Canada in the 1970s.

The Iona Campagnolo Political Papers Series is of specific research interest to academics in Political Science, Canadian and BC History, Women and Gender Studies, International Studies and Recreation and Sports History.
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/h-g-t-harry-perry-fonds;rad

Perry was involved in provincial politics (1920-1945), including the BC Post-War Rehabilitation Council. Perry founded the local faction of the Liberal Party in Prince George & Peace River area and was the first President of the Fort George District & PG Local Liberal Associations (1912-1958). He was Chairman of the Joint Committee for Incorporation of PG and the owner and editor of several regional newspapers: Fort George Tribune, The Prince George Citizen, The Nechako Chronicle and the Prince Rupert Daily News. Perry went on to provincial politics for the Liberal Party and was Speaker of the BC Legislature for Fort George (1920-1928; 1933-1945). During his political career he served as Secretary and Chairman of the Municipal and Agricultural Committees of the Legislature and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (1924-1928). He also was Provincial Minister of Education (1941-45) and President of the BC Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association and attended its overseas conference in the UK in 1935. He is best known as Chairman of the provincial government’s Post-War Rehabilitation Council (1942-45), the first of its kind in Canada. He played an instrumental role in many infrastructure projects: development of a highway south to Cariboo Region; building of the Peace River Highway; reservation of 1 million acres of land in Central B.C. for veterans and extension of Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Physical Extent: 3.18 m of textual records and other material

Records series: 1) Photographs; 2) Political Activities; 3) Business Ventures; 4) Personal Life; and 5) Miscellaneous Historical Information Files and includes Speakers' Decisions (1877-1943) from the BC Legislative Assembly and Perry's annotations. A sub-series includes materials relating to his son Frank Perry and his unsuccessful political campaign. See also The Peace River Expedition Photograph Collection contains a photo album relating to an exploratory 1928 Peace River expedition taken by HGT Perry and others regarding a proposed extension of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway to Prince George and the Peace River Region. https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/peace-river-expedition-photograph-collection;rad

Ray Williston fonds (1914-1999)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/ray-williston-fonds;rad

Ray Williston (1914-2006) was principal of the Prince George Junior-Secondary School and a school inspector for the Prince George/Peace River area from 1945-1953. In 1953 he was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for Prince George and served as Minister of Education from 1954-1956 and Minister of Lands and Forests from 1956-1972 in the B.C. Social Credit government under Premier W.A.C. Bennett. In the latter role he encouraged the development of a pulp economy from unused forest resources in the interior of B.C. in conjunction with government hydro-electric projects. After leaving government he became Chair and President of the British Columbia Cellulose Company and held a number of directorships in B.C. and New Brunswick. In addition he did consulting for the Canada International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Williston Lake in Northern British Columbia is named in his honour. Physical Description: 90 cm textual and other materials (c.1914-1999)

The records include photographs, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and memorabilia, correspondence, reports and other textual material. The photographs relate to Mr. Williston’s life from childhood to the late 1990s, the scrapbooks document Mr. Williston’s years in political office, and the textual materials relate to both Mr. Williston’s public life and private interests. See also an accrual of photographic materials related to his years in provincial government.
Missionary History and Impact on First Nations History in Northern BC

Archdeacon W. H. Collison fonds (1870-1986)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/archdeacon-w-h-collison-fonds;rad

William Henry Collison (1847-1922) of County Armagh, Northern Ireland was educated at the Church of Ireland Training College in Dublin; in 1872 he read of the Church Missionary Society’s need for recruits and entered the Church Missionary College. The CMS decided that his qualifications made him a suitable assistant for William Duncan, the lay missionary in charge of the North Pacific mission, centred at Metlakatla, B.C. Along with his wife Marion Goodwin, a deaconess and trained nurse, they reached Metlakatla in late 1873. As well as preaching, his duties included visiting and teaching. He became interested in the Haida peoples when a group from Masset visited Fort Simpson (Lax Kw’alaams) in 1874 & 1875. During these visits Collison began to evangelize Chief Seegay and obtained permission to open a mission there. After the Collisons’ move to Masset, he expanded his knowledge of Haida, eventually translating portions of the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer and composing hymns in this language. In 1878 he was ordained deacon and priest and assigned the "spiritual charge" of Metlakatla, Kincolith, and Haida Gwaii. In 1891 Collison was unanimously selected as the new diocese of Caledonia’s first archdeacon.

In 1893 Collison introduced a native branch of the Church Army, a strongly evangelical Anglican organization that emphasized enthusiastic worship, and promoted native leadership within the church-sponsored society. This Army was characterized by its brass band which assisted in the very musical, evangelistic mission services. Marion Collison’s role was equally significant as she taught European domestic skills to the native women, and as nurse she helped avert a smallpox epidemic. **W.H. Collison was the longest serving Church Missionary College (CMS) missionary in the North British Columbia Mission and was the only remaining missionary funded directly by the CMS.** Collison’s interaction with the First Nations peoples to which he ministered was complex. He respected the converts, became fluent in Tsimshian, Haida, and Nisga’a, and was sensitive to the importance of the clan system. However, he fiercely opposed potlatching and traditional native medicine, and encouraged the Nisga’a at Kincolith to accept the Indian Advancement Act of 1884, which replaced traditional hierarchies of power with a system of elected chiefs and band councils supervised by an Indian agent.

The Collison fonds consists of records documenting his life and work with North Coastal First Nations communities in Northern British Columbia. Physical description: 76 cm textual records; 315 photographs, 4 maps Record types include: manuscripts, sermon notes, correspondence, oral history summaries, monographs, cartographic items, photographs and postcards. Also an unpublished manuscript authored by W.H. Collison of the retelling of First Nations stories and his speech booklet containing notes of traditions and events he witnessed along the North West Coast of B.C. Photographs depict Collison family members, North Coastal First Nations communities, means of transportation along North Coastal British Columbia, and various church structures and religious events. These rare photographs are digitized: See link to http://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/photographs-13;rad

Reverend R.W. Large Photographic Collection (ca. 1900-1960)
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/reverend-large-fonds;rad

Large was a Methodist minister and doctor on the Northwest Coast of BC from 1898-1920. He worked at the Methodist hospital and mission in Bella Bella until 1906. He then went on to work at Rivers Inlet Hospital in Ocean Falls until he moved to Port Simpson in 1910, where he worked until his death. **Reverend Large was the only known observer to document the community of Bella Bella from 1898 to 1906.** The Collection consists of 130+ photographs depicting Northwest Coast communities
including Bella Bella, Rivers Inlet, Port Simpson, and Prince Rupert c.1900-c.1920. The collection includes postcard images of ships on the North Coast. See: https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/reverend-r-w-large-photographs;rad

**Research significance:** The entire body of Reverends Collison’s and Large’s Archives are of great research significance to researchers of early missionary history of British Columbia, as well as to researchers of First Nations history and the impacts of missionary expeditions on First Nations communities in Northern BC.

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**Social and Environmental Activism in Northern BC**

*Bridget Moran fonds (1935-1999)*
https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/bridget-moran-fonds;rad

This body of work has been designated by the Department of Canadian Heritage as archival work of outstanding regional and provincial significance. Physical description: textual records 3.96 metres and other materials illustrating Bridget Moran’s careers as a writer, a social worker and social activist. On-line finding aid:

Bridget Moran (née Drugan) (1923-1999) was a prominent social activist, social worker, writer and mentor who spent most of her adult life in British Columbia. In 1951 Moran immigrated from Ireland to British Columbia where she began a career as a social worker; first in welfare offices in Haney, Salmon Arm and Vernon, and then in 1954 in Prince George where she took a position as District Supervisor of Welfare Services for a large section of the Central Interior of BC. Moran worked as a social worker for 10 years based out of Prince George attending to the welfare service needs of BC’s Central Interior population. Her career with the public service came to a very public end when she was suspended from her position in 1964 after she wrote an open letter in a Vancouver newspaper criticizing Premier W.A.C. Bennett’s Social Credit government for what she saw as gross neglect in addressing the needs of child welfare in the province. Although Moran eventually won reinstatement after a two year battle, she was told there would be no work available for her in the BC Ministry of Social Services. She continued her career in social work; first, for the Prince George Regional Hospital, and later with the University of Victoria Social Work Department as a practicum instructor for social work students in Prince George. In 1977 she practiced social work with the PG School District, retiring in 1989.

Moran then pursued a career as a writer. In 1988 she wrote *Sai’k’uz Ts’eke: Stoney Creek Woman: The Story of Mary John* [1988] based on extensive oral histories that Moran conducted with Elder Mary John about life on the Stoney Creek reserve. Her second book *Judgment at Stoney Creek: Sai’k’uz Ne ba na huz’ya*, [1990] is based on her account of the inquest into the death of Coreen Thomas and provides an in-depth analysis of tenuous white-native relations in rural BC in the 1970s. Moran’s book, *A Little Rebellion* [1992] provides an auto-biographical account of her public dispute with the Bennett government. The book *Justa: A First Nations Leader, Dakelhne Butsowudihzulh’un* [1994] is based on extensive oral interviews Moran conducted with Tl’azt’en Nation member, Justa Monk, who transformed his life and was elected Tribal Chief of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council. Moran was commissioned by the Elizabeth Fry Society to write the case history of “Theresa” a battered woman, for the book *Don’t Bring Me Flowers* [1992]. Her book *Prince George Remembered from Bridget Moran* [1996] provides excerpts of oral history interviews that Moran conducted in the late 1950s with white settlers providing memories of their arrival in Prince George c.1911-c.1920.

These archival records illustrate Moran’s careers as writer, social worker and social activist primarily within Northern BC region. Types of records reflective of her career as a writer include: unpublished manuscripts, notebooks, oral history interviews and transcripts and VHS recordings of classroom talks given by Bridget Moran, Mary John and Justa Monk. Records
reflective of her career as a social worker and activist include: work journals, correspondence re: social policy. The fonds is divided into 4 series: 1) Published and Unpublished Materials; 2) Career Related Materials; 3) Personal Papers and Correspondence; and 4) Honours and Awards.

**Research Significance:** The records document social and political events of significance to Northern British Columbia particularly related to Social Welfare issues and First Nations in BC in the latter half of the 20th century.

**Walt Taylor fonds (1951-2001)**
[https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/walt-taylor-fonds;rad](https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/walt-taylor-fonds;rad)

The records illustrate activities of Walt Taylor (1919-2002) as a social activist in the Okanagan region of B.C. in the 1970s, and his involvement with political-environmental activist movements in the Bulkley Valley-Telkwa-Smithers area c.1980s-1990s. The Taylor fonds includes records of the Skeena Round Table for a Sustainable Society, the Northwest Study Conference Society and the Waging Peace Society; as well as, background research compiled for Taylor's publication "Waging Peace for a Living: An Action Plan for survival of life on earth", (Victoria: Trafford Publishing, 1999). Physical description: textual records 5.1 metres. Types of records include correspondence to and from activist organizations; circulars to society members; background papers on social activist issues; background reports on BC First Nations environmental and land claims issues, background studies on environmental & economic impacts of industrial developments proposed for Northern BC, newspaper clippings, and various publications.

**Research Significance:** These records are of significance relating to proposed economic developments, such as open-pit mining, fishing and forestry policies and nuclear power; and documents pertaining to political-environmental actions conducted by Northern BC stakeholders such as First Nations (Gitskan and Wet'su'wet'en) and NGO's such as the Telkwa Educational Action Committee of Householders.

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**Women in Science and Gender Studies**

**Dr. Marianne Ainley fonds (1973-2008)**

Dr. Marianne (Marika) Ainley (1937-2008) was a former chair and professor of the Women’s Studies Program at the University of Northern British Columbia. She originally trained as a chemist in Budapest, Hungary before immigrating to Montreal, Quebec in 1958. She worked as an industrial chemist and laboratory assistant while completing an undergraduate degree at Sir George Williams University (now part of Concordia University), after which she completed a graduate degree at the Université de Montréal and at McGill University on the history of ornithology. Once Dr. Ainley had completed her graduate work, her research interests shifted towards the history of women in science and, later, the relationship between women scientists and Aboriginal peoples.

Dr. Ainley’s research holdings were donated by her with accruals deposited by her family to the Archives. The fonds consists of 2.12 m, 35 computer disks and 4.76 MB of textual material, which contains drafts and published manuscripts, correspondence, interviews transcripts, questionnaires, lists of resources and other material. The audio and visual material, 106 audio cassettes and 5 video cassettes, contains, predominately, oral histories, recordings of conferences, interviews and lectures.

**Research Topics & Areas for Future Research:** *The History of Women in Science*
Dr. Ainley was a pioneer in the study of the history of women in science in Canada and published articles on the experience of prominent 19th and 20th century women scientists, such as Catharine Parr Traill, Martha Louise Black and Mabel F. Timlin, as well as on contemporary women working in science inside and outside academia. One of Dr. Ainley’s major projects, part of which was undertaken at UNBC was a collaborative Social Sciences and Research Humanities Council grant funded project during which she studied the experiences of women working in engineering. For this project, she conducted a large number of semi-structured interviews with women engineers. For research for her posthumously published book, Creating Complicated Lives: Women and Science at English-Canadian Universities, 1880-1980, conceptualized as a culmination of her life’s work, she compiled oral histories with Canadian science professors, recordings of conferences on the history of women in science and the issues women face working in science inside and outside academia. Dr. Ainley’s manuscripts and drafts, as well as lists of sources and bibliographies, can serve as secondary sources for projects on the history of female scientists. The audio material serves as invaluable research material for topics to examine the experiences of women scientists working inside and outside the university.

Research Topics & Areas: Women Scientists and the Transfer of Aboriginal Knowledge

One of the projects which Ainley was not able to complete was a Social Science and Research Humanities Council grant funded project on the transfer of knowledge between Aboriginal peoples and female scientists in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This project focused, predominately, on the transfer of Aboriginal medical and botanical knowledge to female scientists. The material created and compiled for this project includes resources relating to early female scientists who worked with Aboriginal peoples; bibliographies and other lists of resources on the histories of Aboriginal peoples; transcripts of interviews with women scientists working with Aboriginal peoples; and proceedings from Ainley’s presentations on the subject. This project is particularly unique because it examines and compares at the relationships Aboriginal peoples and women scientists in Canada and abroad. It would be particularly useful for students writing on a variety of topics related to the transfer of knowledge from Aboriginal peoples and to non-Aboriginals peoples as well as the experiences and methods of female scientists.

Note: The Archives acquired 6+ metres accruals to the Marika Ainley fonds; finding aid development to be completed Spring 2018.

Prince George Women’s Organizations Collection (c.1972-c.1995):

This collection includes records created, received, and collected by various women’s organizations within Prince George including the Prince George Women’s Centre, the Prince George Women’s Collective, the Prince George Women’s Equal Rights Association (WERA), the Prince George Women’s Resource Centre, and lastly that of the Prince George Women’s Connection. It also features some materials on the Daughters of Lilith organization. The majority of records relate to the activities of the Prince George Women’s Resource Centre. For a file level inventory see: https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/downloads/prince-george-womens-organizations-collection.pdf and consult the Archives for further information and resources.

Women and Gender Studies – see also

Northern BC Literary Collections and Cultural Life

Brian Fawcett fonds (1951-2006)
This body of work has been designated by the Department of Canadian Heritage as archival records of outstanding provincial and national significance.

The Fawcett fonds consists of 9.4 metres of personal papers, books, manuscripts, photographic materials, audio recordings and electronic records, which relate to Mr. Fawcett's personal life, his creative works and his relationships with members of the Canadian literary community. There are drafts of his published and unpublished works including Virtual Clear-Cut: or the way things are in my hometown; The Disbeliever’s Dictionary; Local Matters; Suppressed Poems; Guide to the Intellectual Low road; and Weaver Bathgate. An accrual includes 37 of Brian Fawcett’s journal notebooks, 1972-2002, as well as research materials generated and utilized by Fawcett for the research and writing of Virtual Clear-Cut and printed material relating to his literary interests.


Raised in Prince George, moving to the Lower Mainland of British Columbia in 1966 and Toronto in 1991, Fawcett works and social outlook reflect his opinions on the regions in which he lived and the people with which he has communicated. Brian Fawcett is a cultural critic and his extensive correspondence deals with social, economic, environmental and biographical issues with social critics of the left from Canadian literary society.

https://search.nbca.unbc.ca/index.php/barry-mckinnon-fonds

The McKinnon fonds consists of 11 metres of textual materials including extended correspondence, manuscript materials (both his own and others), publications, proofs, financial records, transcriptions, +/-200 audio tapes, lectures and preparation work for teaching. A large quantity of influential (and obscure) periodicals published in the Canadian west is included. Material related to Barry McKinnon and The Caledonia Writing Series and Gorse Press.

The audio collection consists of cassette and reel to reel tapes of poetry readings and interviews in Prince George and other locations within Canada, (i.e. Edmonton, Montreal, and Vancouver). Readings from the 1980 Writing Conference Words/Loves at the College of New Caledonia along with many Poetry Readings at CNC during the 1970s to the 1990s. Poets and writers in the audio collection include Barry McKinnon, Ken Belford, Earle Birney, Bill Bissett, George Bowering, Robert Creeley, Brian Fawcett, Gerry Gilbert, Arti Gold, Elizabeth Hay, Roy Kiyooka, Robert Kroetsch, Evelyn Lau, Irving Layton, Dorothy Livesay, Daphne Marlatt, Susan Musgrave, bp Nichol, Michael Ondaatje, Stan Persky, David Phillips, Al Purdy, George Stanley, Sharon Thesen, Fred Wah, and Tom Wayman

Research Significance: Both the Fawcett and McKinnon archival collections would be of research use to various students in the Arts, humanities, and creative writing.