

G 3

City of Fort William Records

Originals and photocopies, 89 cm and 6 leaves, 1770-1969.

Scope and Content: The City of Fort William Records is a collection of reports, publications, correspondence, statistical tables, journals, and summaries, having to do with Fort William businesses, city planning, city council, mayors, city development, police and fire departments, history of medical care as well as Fort William and Thunder Bay statistics.

Series G 3/1/1-7: Reports, 23 cm, 1969 (original).

- 1) "Downtown Urban Renewal Scheme Draft, Final Report", 1969.
- 2) "Engineering Report on Interception and Treatment of Sewage Wastes" by W.L. Wardrope & Assoc. 1958
- 3) "Kaministiquia River navigation and the James Street Bridge" by Gibb Underwood and McLellan, 1966
- 4) "Development of the Chapples Centre Recreation Area" by W.L. Wardrope & Associates, 1967
- 5) "Poem 1967" by Fort William Centennial Committee
- 6) "Downtown Urban Renewal Scheme, Fort William, Final Second Interim Report Plan Development," 1968
- 7) Biological Survey of the Kaministiquia River and Thunder Bay, 1965-66" by M.J.W. German.

Series G 3/2/1: Publications, 1 cm, 1967 (original).

A book entitled "Electricity and Fort William", by A.W.H. Tabor, published by Hydro Electric Commission of Fort William, 1967.

Series G 3/3/1-3: Correspondence, 27 cm, 1906-10 (original).

- 1) Correspondence of Loch Lomond Water Supply Project primarily to City Council and to the commission established to oversee the construction. Contains letters referring to the actual construction from contractors and businesses as well as plans and payrolls, 1906-10. 207 pages, arrange chronologically. Labelled section one by original compilers.
- 2) Correspondence of City engineer, H. Syd. Hancock concerning sections 2 and 4 of the Loch Lomond project, January 1907 to September 1909. Included are costs; payrolls; statements of problems encountered; insurance; pamphlets on Gate Valve, Sluice Gate and Sluice Valve; three blueprints on machinery and barrier fence and letters regarding benefits for relatives of injured or killed workers. Arranged chronologically. 478 pages.
- 3) Correspondence of Loch Lomond Project, Section 3, 1906-1919. Contains letters relating to compensation claims of killed and injured workers, accident report, blue prints, plans, monthly reports, allocation sheets and insurance forms.

Series G 3/4/1: Correspondence, 7 cm, 1905-08 (original).

1) Correspondence of the Board of Water, Light, Telephone Commission of Fort William concerning problems with water pipes, telephone exchange system and miscellaneous details. Includes payroll for Water Department, bills and receipts, insurance forms, and information regarding the Electric Light Company and Tandem Compound Corliss Eugline (?). 190508, Arranged chronologically.

Series G 3/5/1-8: Personal Correspondence files, 12 cm, 1916-42 (original).

Personal correspondence files of mayors of Fort William from 1916-49 including files relating to various pulp and paper industries and road and highway construction, as well as regular civic affairs.

- 1) Mayor H. Murphy, 1916-19, 1921.
- 2) Mayor H. Murphy, 1920.
- 3) Mayor A.H. Dennis, 1921-22.
- 4) Mayor N. Edmeston (?), 1925.
- 5) Mayor J.E. Crawford, 1926-29.
- 6) Mayor E.G. Murphy, 1931-32.
- 7) Mayor B.C. Hardiman, 1937.
- 8) Mayor C.M. Ross, 1938-42.

Series G 3/6/1-12: Correspondence files, 13 cm, 1919-49.

Correspondence files of Fort William municipal government, its mayors, and city clerks.

- 1) Correspondence and reports regarding the proposed construction of the Great Lakes Paper Company Mill at Thunder Bay including the debate over its location and the legal dispute with Ontario Hydro over purchase of power, 1919-20.
- 2) Correspondence regarding the proposed construction of the Great Lakes Paper Company mill at Bare Point, 1919.
- 3) Correspondence regarding timber limits of the Great Lakes Paper company as they apply to its Fort William/Neebing millsite, 1926. Also contains 1923 Orders in Council regarding the same.
- 4) Records relating to the establishment of the Fort William Paper Company Mill at Fort William, 1920-23.
- 5) City clerks correspondence regarding roads and highway construction, 1921-43. Also contains maps.
- 6) Correspondence regarding the construction of the Trans- Canada Highway, 1928-31. Also contains correspondence of Chambers of Commerce and Mayors Murphy and Darrell. As well as photographs of ceremonies.
- 7) Correspondence regarding construction of roads and highways and the use of such for direct and indirect unemployment relief purposes. Also includes letters from the Department of Indian Affairs regarding roads on Indian reserve at Fort William, 1928-38.
- 8) Correspondence of city clerks regarding highway construction, containing local by-laws and briefs, 1932-49.
- 9) Correspondence regarding construction of Trans-Canada highway from city clerks of Fort William Industrial Commission, and Fort William Chamber of

Commerce, 1928-30, 1937-38, 1940.

10) Correspondence and speeches regarding the 50th anniversary of the first CPR Trans Continental Train, 1939.

11) Minutes of Fort William City Council, January 1931-January 1932.

12) Correspondence of city clerk regarding erection of post office building and postal service in Fort William, 1932, 1947-48.

Series G 3/7/1: statistical tables, 1.8 cm, 1950-1968 (photocopy).

1) Statistical information on the Thunder Bay District for the years 1950-1968. Includes statistics and summaries on mortality rate, schools, population and chronic diseases.

Series G 3/7/2: Miscellaneous, 6 leaves, 1770-1854, 1870-1908, (photocopy).

1) Historical summary of the history of hospital work in Fort William (1870-1908) written by Christina J. Banks, the First Lady Superintendent of McKellar Hospital in 1908.

2) Summary of the career of Dr. Henry Munro (1770-1854), believed by the author to be the earliest doctor in the Lakehead area. Written by M.R. Warren in 1962.

Series G 3/8/1: Disbursement Journal, 4 cm, 1917-19 (original).

Bound volume containing the disbursements made by the fire department of the City of Fort William from 1917-1919 for all goods relating to the running of the department including salaries and supplies. Also contains a roster of the department for 1917 showing names of firemen and their dates of joining and registration as well as a single letter giving expenditure estimates for the department for 1918.

Biographical Sketch: Each of the following paragraphs describes the person or organization that produced a G3 series of documents.

The City Engineering Department of the City of Fort William was headed by City Engineer H. Sydney Hancock Jr. who was Waterworks engineer from February 1906 to February 1911. He was in charge of the construction of the Loch Lomond Water Supply system. Fort William's water supply was contaminated in 1906 leading to a typhoid epidemic. The City Council's response was to construct a tunnel under the Kam River to bring pure water to Fort William from Loch Lomond. Tunnels were drilled through Mount McKay to the Loch at a final cost of \$500,000. The system was completed in 1909-10. Refers to series G 3/3/1-3.

G 3/5/1-8 is a series of papers compiled possibly by G.B. McGillivray and possibly by Alexander McNaughton, city clerk of Fort William. They were found in the Murphy mansion (related to McGillivray), when it was sold in 1986. Various producers include McNaughton; Mayors H. Murphy, C.M. Ross, A.H. Dennis, N. Edmeston, J.E. Crawford, B.C. Hardiman and E.G. Murphy. It is possible that the papers were originally kept by either the City Clerk's Office or the Mayor's Office but was removed from the City Hall in about 1950.

Series G 3/7/1 is a series that was produced by the Fort William and District Health Unit. The unit was originally formed as a part of the Fort William city administration, probably in the

1940s. The Municipal Health Officer was the chief executive officer of the unit. In 1968, the Fort William and Port Arthur District Health Units amalgamated to become the District Health Unit. The current Unit is an autonomous body.

Additional Information:

Custodial History: Formerly catalogued into the museum collection, 985.2.1; 981.1.156-59; 972.120.1. Series G 3/5/1-8 and G 3/6/1-12 were donated by Roy Piovesana who obtained it when the Murphy mansion was sold. Series G 3/8/1 was donated by Mayor Jack Masters in 1988. Some reports in G/1 were deaccessioned by City of Thunder Bay Archives in 2007 and acquired by the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society at that time.