

Bernard Black fonds

1873-1958

11 cm of textual records

Biographical Sketch

Bernard I Black, Q.C., Fort William barrister, solicitor and notary, was called to the bar in 1950 after combat duty with the Lake Superior Regiment in World War II. He opened his practice at 105 N. May St. in 1950-1951. He joined Morris, Babe, Pugsley and Black in 1954. This company acted as solicitors for the City of Fort William at the time and continued to do so until about 1964. He worked for a time as Assistant Crown Attorney, agent for the Ministry of Justice, and as solicitor for the Municipality of Neebing, and CN Rail. Mr. Black formed Black and Hatherly in about 1967-1968 with offices in the Grain Exchange building and practiced on his own from 1971 to his death in 1990.

He was a former president of the Thunder Bay Historical Society and took an interest in collecting material relating to the legal history of Thunder Bay. He was active in the Conservative Party of Canada and stood federally for election. His other activities involved service with the Rotary Club, the Fort William Public School Board and the Roman Catholic Church.

Scope and Content

Legal papers and publications dealing with various legal matters handled by Mr. Black. Covers industrial and business matters such as the location of factories, inter-switching, road construction, mining lands, lumbering, and a taxation dispute. Also deals with C.W. Cox, former mayor of Port Arthur.

Series A 28/1/1-9 - Legal files - 8cm. (Includes some photocopies)

- 1) File of correspondence regarding the application of the Empire Elevator Co. under the Navigable Waters Protection Act for an order approving its works, dock and elevator, already constructed, 1918-1919. Application is made to the minister of Public Works of the federal government. This involves works constructed prior to 1 June 1918 (i.e. retroactive government approval). Includes petition with description and blueprint plans, titles and deeds as well as correspondence.
- 2) Misc. legal records: by-laws of Neebing and Fort William, agreements (between the municipality of Neebing and the CPR, 1887), application re: inter-switching at Fort William and Port Arthur, 1938
- 3) Maps and plans relating to legal records: road encroachments, footpaths, buildings, rifle range
- 4) Notice of motion in the Supreme Court of Ontario, James Stanley, Reeve and Neebing Enterprises Ltd., vs. the corporation of the City of Fort William (1954). This case concerns the erection of Fort William's first Drive-In theatre.
- 5) Agreement between Nepigon Mining Lands Co. and the Lake Coast Trading Co. Ltd. for the sale of land known as the Woods location at Silver Islet, 1910. Contains map catalogued into map collection.
- 6) Subpoenas showing changes in Royal title, 1938, 1952-1953
- 7) District Court appeal, Abitibi Power and Paper Co. vs. the City of Fort William regarding an appeal of assessment for taxation made by the city's assessor, 1954
- 8) File of papers, maps, clipping and legal documents relating to the construction of Silver

Mountain Road in 1885 (Photocopies of originals in Archives of Ontario, RG 52, Ser. I-A, Box 119)

9) File of legal papers and correspondence relating to the bankruptcy and estate of Charles W. Cox, former Mayor of Port Arthur, 1955-1958. **Restricted:** not to be opened until Sept. 8, 2007.

Series A 28/2/1 - Publications - 3cm. - 1911-1931

Various publications relating to legal and business matters:

- "The Fort William and Port Arthur Grain Exchange", constitution, by-laws, and rules and regulations, 1911

- The Grain Exchange final distribution of assets

- "The Nipigon Hydro-Electric Power Development", constructed and operated for the municipalities of the Thunder Bay district, Toronto, 1922

- "Respondent's factum in the supreme court of Canada in the matter of tolls proposed to be charged by the Arrow River and Tributaries Slide and Boom Co. Ltd. for all timber passing certain improvements made by it on the Pigeon River, 1931" (Toronto)

- Return in relation to the Pic River and Sturgeon Falls timber limits (Toronto)

- Supreme Court of Ontario transcript of appeal from the Court of Appeal for Ontario in the case of Charles W. Cox (defendant) and George F. Hourigan (plaintiff), 1940-1941. Regards and action to recover plant and equipment loaned to defendant

Additional Information

Copy/Repository - A 28/1/8 is a copy of an original file in Archives of Ontario RG 52 Ser. I-A Box 119.

Restrictions - A 28/1/9 is not to be opened until 8 Sept. 2007.