

Nova Scotia Archives

Finding Aid - Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia fonds (MG 20 - Vols. 3408-3409)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.3.1 Printed: July 25, 2017

Language of description: English

Nova Scotia Archives

6016 University Ave.

Halifax

Nova Scotia

B3H 1W4

Telephone: (902) 424-6060

Fax: (902) 424-0628

[Email: archives@novascotia.ca](mailto:archives@novascotia.ca)

<http://archives.novascotia.ca/>

<https://memoryns.ca/index.php/womens-institutes-of-nova-scotia-fonds>

Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia fonds

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Series descriptions	4

Summary information

Repository: Nova Scotia Archives
Title: Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia fonds
ID: MG 20 - Vols. 3408-3409
Date: 1930-1994 (date of creation)

Physical description: 46 cm of textual records

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Note [generalNote]: Received as Accession no. 1995-097.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Women's Institute has its organizational roots in rural Ontario. The first branch was formed in 1897, at a time when rural women lived in isolation and often without little or no education. Farmers had organized as the Farmers' Institute but there was nothing similar for their wives. The beginnings of Women's Institutes in Nova Scotia are due also to the influence of Nelville Cumming. In 1911, Dr. Cumming, then principal of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and Secretary of Agriculture for the province, visited Ontario. Upon returning to Nova Scotia, he recommended to the provincial government that the organization be established here. In 1913, Miss Jennie Fraser of New Glasgow, a graduate of MacDonald College, was appointed superintendent of the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia. With the assistance of Mrs. Laura (Rose) Stephen of Ontario, the first Institute was organized in Salt Springs, Pictou County on 17 July 1913. In 1919, Miss Helen J. MacDougall took over the position of superintendent and remained with the organization for the next 26 years. Also in 1919, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) was formed to coordinate the work of the provinces and became the national voice for rural women in Canada.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of records documenting the work and operation of various defunct Women's Institutes: Nappan (1921-1955, 1960-1965); Cow Bay (1956-1992); Bass River (1966-1976); Halifax County District (1948-1992); and Westphal (1932-1992, incomplete). The fonds includes minute books, an account book, membership information and a register.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated by Sandy Savage, Executive Director of the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia in 1995.

Finding aids

"File / item list is attached.":<https://novascotia.ca/archives/lists/womens-institutes-of-nova-scotia-fonds.pdf>

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MG 20 vol 3408 item 1	Item - Bass River, Account Book	1966		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 2	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1956		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 3	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1961		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 4	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1967		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 5	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1974		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 6	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1982		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 7	Item - Cow Bay, Minute Book	1987		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 8	Item - Cow Bay, Account Book	1980		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 9	Item - Halifax County, Register	1948		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 10	Item - Halifax County, Minute Book	1986		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 11	Item - Preston Road, Minute Book	1932		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 12	Item - Westphal, Certificate of Membership	1985		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 13	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1940		
MG 20 vol 3408 item 14	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1945		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 1	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1969		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 2	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1972		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 3	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1976		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 4	Item - Westphal, Minute Book	1989		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 5	Item - Nappan and Maccan, Minute Book	1921		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 6	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1930		
MG 20 vol 3409 item 7	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1936		

MG 20 vol 3409 item 8	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1945
MG 20 vol 3409 item 9	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1941
MG 20 vol 3409 item 10	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1951
MG 20 vol 3409 item 11	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1954
MG 20 vol 3409 item 12	Item - Nappan, Minute Book	1960