

NEWSLETTER

Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society

The Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society (FPAAS) works with the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) to help preserve Alberta's documentary history.

Working with the Young Canada Works (YCW) program, we provide young people with six-month internships in the archives environment that is a steppingstone into their professional lives. In this newsletter, our YCW interns describe the variety of work they have done this past year.

Thank you to all the members and volunteers who helped us with this year's casino at Grand Villa Casino Downtown on January 15-16, 2026. The funds we will receive will be used to continue with the Photo Description project. See Caitlyn Hodder's article for more information on this project.

Our next casino is expected to be in 2028 at the Yellowhead Casino.

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Provincial Archives Highlight Records of Nursing Education from World War 1 - 2010s

The Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) is the province's repository of records that document the people, communities and the organizations of Alberta. Our collection preserves and makes available government and private records in many formats such as text, sound recordings, photographs, maps, film and video. The PAA has recently completed a project to make one of the largest collections of nursing records in Western Canada available for public research. With support from the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society and a gift from the estate of Dr. Shirley Stinson, over 110 metres of records have been arranged and described and are available through our public-facing reading room.



Photo description: Nurse Shirley Stinson with Colleagues
Date: 1962-1971

These records were donated to the PAA in 2017 by the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CARNA), which had inherited the archives of the former Alberta Association of Registered Nurses. The records include organizational files, photographs, audio recordings, and personal collections documenting nursing education and the work of nurses across Alberta from the First World War to the 2010s.

Nurses and nursing students can use these records to explore the history of their profession, learn about past education programs, and see how nursing practice in Alberta has developed over time. Of particular interest are the Alumnae Association of the University of Alberta Hospital School of Nursing fonds (PR4156), which includes records of alumni activities and contributions to nursing education, and the Shirley Stinson fonds (PR4153), which documents the career of one of Alberta's most influential nursing leaders.

Look closely and you might find nursing party recipes from the '70s! We also preserve the



Photo description: Municipal Nurses of Alberta
Date: 1954

organizational records of the United Nurses of Alberta fonds (PR2272), which contains records of the union's activities, negotiations, and advocacy on behalf of Alberta's nurses.

We invite you to visit the Provincial Archives of Alberta in person or explore our online repository: <https://searchprovincialarchives.alberta.ca/>. If you have any questions about accessing the records, what we do, or have personal or family records to donate, please connect with archivist Kelsey Kropiniski at Kelsey.kropiniski@gov.ab.ca.

Charles Mervyn Ruggles Award Winner Alison Freake

Congratulations to Alison Freake, the 2026 recipient of the Charles Mervyn Ruggles Award, one of the Canadian conservation field's most distinguished honours. This award commemorates the legacy of Charles Mervyn Ruggles (1912–2001) and recognizes conservators who demonstrate outstanding contributions to conservation science, treatment, training, education, and leadership in upholding the ethics and ideals of the Canadian Association for Conservation. Alison, the Textual Records Conservator at the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA), was nominated by her peers. In her 25 years at the PAA, Alison has led the conservation treatment of paper and photographic records, advanced preventive conservation practices, and delivered preservation workshops and outreach activities that strengthen public understanding of archives and conservation. Alison's leadership, mentorship, and advocacy embody the spirit of the Charles Mervyn Ruggles Award. Congratulations, Alison, on this well-deserved recognition of your exceptional contributions to conservation in Canada.



Archives Store: What's New

By Elizabeth Johnson, Archives Retail Services Coordinator

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the Archives Store!

This past year I had the pleasure of adding colourful and unique items to our product offerings including Alberta Law Stamp Tumblers, Zip Pencil Cases and Carryalls which bear wonderful William Copeland McCalla images plus an Urban Tote Bag which is imprinted with a partial map of our wonderful province.

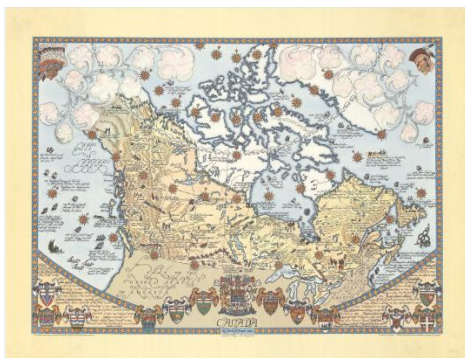




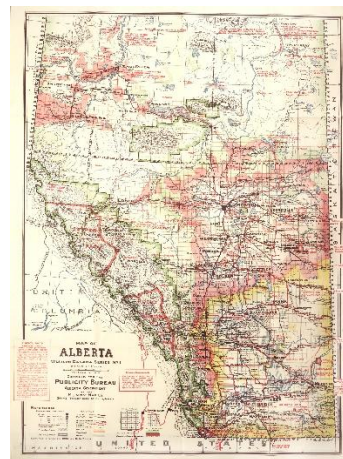
After a hiatus, the ever-popular rat t-shirts were reintroduced, just in time for Christmas gift giving. I received these garments in early November, and they proceeded to sell very quickly. Along with the usual black garments, I mixed it up a bit this year and added white and dark grey to our colour offerings. Rest assured additional sizes and colours will be back in stock in 2026. Keep up to date by following us on Facebook or regularly visiting our online store at

<https://atms.alberta.ca/paa/Store/>

I had five maps printed in-house and they are now available for purchase as posters. Included in the new offerings are a beautiful map of Canada from 1964 and a colourful map of Alberta from 1929 (produced back in the day by the Mundy Map Company of Edmonton). In fact, this map of Alberta was the inspiration for our Urban Tote Bag design.



Map of Canada, 1964, PR1992.0341.0014



Map of Alberta, 1929, GR1983.0470.0017

I had the opportunity, over the last few months, to meet a few Alberta authors and this has resulted in their titles being on offer in the Archives Store. Jacqueline Louie's book, *Honouring the Gold Mountain Dreamers*, looks back at early days, examining the impact of the Chinese Immigration Act, and highlights some of the challenges and contributions of Chinese Canadians to Calgary, Alberta, and Canada. Neil Gower's book, *Blue Sky, Red Canoe*, is his second book of western Canadiana and details his exploration of the Red Deer River physically, historically, and personally from the seat of a red canoe. These titles along with numerous others make for interesting reading and are available in store or online.

As usual, I had wonderful visits from clients looking to have work done by the PAA's conservator. Part of my role with the PAA is to assess documents and photographs prior to them making their way to our conservator; this is one of the perks of my job. I get to see the before and after work and share in our clients' joy at having their family treasures returned to them in renewed condition. We had one project that our conservator worked on that resulted in a large photograph being found. This photo was hidden behind a framed piece that displayed documents. It was amazing and is a reminder that there are goodies tucked away in all sorts of places just waiting to be discovered.

We look forward to seeing you at the Provincial Archives of Alberta and make sure you stop by the Archives Store when you next visit.

New Videos Bring the Provincial Archives Experience to Life

By Jaclyn Landry, Program and Volunteer Coordinator

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society, the Provincial Archives of Alberta has been using an exciting communications tool designed to help researchers both new and experienced better understand the PAA: who we are, what we do, and how to access our holdings. Three professionally produced videos are now available on the PAA website, YouTube channel and are being promoted on social media. Staff have also begun using the videos as part of their outreach and communication with prospective, inquiring and current researchers.

The videos were produced by [Sticks & Stones](#), a creative team that took the time to get to know the Archives and the unique work that happens behind the scenes while also highlighting what the visitor experience looks like. Their team spent a full day onsite, capturing hours of B-roll footage throughout the building including footage of staff using specialized equipment and preservation processes and capturing the Reading Room in use. The goal was to reflect not only the technical expertise of the PAA, but also to highlight the visitor's experience and opportunities; what it feels like to walk through our doors and begin a research journey.

"The visitor experience at an archive is different from visiting a museum or library. Archives are unfamiliar to many. These short videos are intended to introduce prospective users to the PAA and to help researchers prepare for and make the most of their visits. The AtoM video does a great job providing an overview of basic search functions and provides advice to help researchers consider search terms to yield better search results.

Communicating visually with these professional videos allows us to creatively highlight what a visitor can see and access here while also sparking curiosity. Showcasing behind the scenes provides an opportunity for viewers to better understand and appreciate the effort, care and unique skills of all who contribute to the important work of the PAA."

— Jaclyn Landry, Program & Volunteer Coordinator



The project resulted in three distinct videos, each considerate of a different stage of the researcher experience:

Unlock Alberta's History (1-minute)

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how the PAA acquires, preserves and provides access to the records that shape Alberta's story. This video is a great introduction to who we are and what we do and what you can find at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

► **Watch now:** [Unlock Alberta's History | Discover the Provincial Archives of Alberta](#)



Welcome to the Provincial Archives of Alberta (3.5-minutes)

Are you new to archival research? This short video walks you through what to expect when you visit the Provincial Archives of Alberta including how to prepare, what to bring and how to access archival materials in the Reading Room. It's the perfect starting point for researchers, genealogists, students and history enthusiasts.

► **Watch now:** [Welcome to the Provincial Archives of Alberta | Plan Your Visit & Explore Alberta's History](#)



Accessing the Provincial Archives of Alberta's Online Database | How to Search Tutorial (3.5-minutes)

Discover Alberta's documentary heritage using Access to Memory (AtoM), the Provincial Archives of Alberta's online database. Whether you're a student, community researcher, academic, family historian or simply curious about Alberta's past, this tutorial will provide an introduction to the AtoM database. Through AtoM, you can search descriptions of the records that are preserved at the Provincial Archives of Alberta and view digitized materials that are available online.

► **Watch now:** [Accessing the Provincial Archives of Alberta's Online Database | How to Search Tutorial](#)

Together, these videos add to the PAA's suite of tools that enhance public understanding of the Archives and support researchers' access to records and information.

This project would not have been possible without the support of the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society. The Friends' commitment to promoting and strengthening the work of the PAA continues to make a meaningful difference. We extend our sincere thanks for funding this initiative and helping us engage with and support the public in new ways. A

special thank you to former Reference Archivist Natalia Pietrzykowski who provided exceptional leadership and contributions to the project as well as several other staff who reviewed and provided additional insights and comments to refine the details and content in the videos. It was an all-hands-on deck effort preparing for and managing the logistics for filming day. If you watch closely, you'll recognize a few of the PAA team members in the videos!

We encourage readers and members of the Friends to share these videos with others to introduce them to all that the Provincial Archives of Alberta has to offer!

From the Famous to the Forgotten – Preserving Black History at the Provincial Archives of Alberta

By: Michael Gourlie, Government Records Archivist, Provincial Archives of Alberta

Since the 1960s, the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) has acquired kilometres of records, millions of photographs, and thousands of hours of audiovisual recordings about the lives and activities of Albertans. While Alberta's Black community is underrepresented among these archival holdings, it faces a similar challenge to other groups. For every famous individual whose life is documented in detail in numerous sources, there are dozens of other individuals who remain nameless and forgotten until someone researches their stories.

Among the famous individuals found in the PAA's holdings is John Dee (Johnny) Bright. Born in Indiana in 1930, he attended Drake University on a track and field scholarship, which led to a remarkable collegiate football career marked by several National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) records as well as a national profile. His senior year in 1951 was also notable when he was the target of a racially motivated assault on the playing field during a game with Oklahoma A&M University (now Oklahoma State University), an incident documented in a Pulitzer Prize winning series of photographs. While some on-field rules changed because of the incident, the opposing team and its university administration denied any wrongdoing for decades and only apologized for the incident in 2005.

He graduated from Drake University in 1952 with a Bachelor of Science in Education, specializing in physical education. He was the first pick chosen by the Philadelphia Eagles in the 1952 draft, but fearing his treatment in the National Football League, he chose to emigrate to



File OS.1843: Johnny Bright, 1954. (Frank Oliver Studios fonds, PR1992.0261/1096, OS.1843).
Source: Provincial Archives of Alberta

Canada and play for the Calgary Stampeders. He was traded to Edmonton in 1954, where he primarily played offense. He set several Canadian Football League (CFL) records, helped the team win the Grey Cup in 1954, 1955 and 1956, and was named Edmonton Athlete of the Year in 1959.

After retiring from football, he became a teacher and football coach in the Edmonton public school system, ultimately becoming the principal of D.S. Mackenzie Junior High School and Hillcrest Junior High School. He died suddenly in Edmonton in 1983 during a surgical procedure to address a long-standing knee injury from his football career. He is commemorated by his inclusion in the Canadian Football Hall of Fame, the Johnny Bright School within the Edmonton public school system, and the John Dee Bright College, a two-year college at Drake University.



File OS.2091: Earl Walls and Johnny Bright, 1954. Earl Walls (1928-1996) was a Canadian heavyweight boxing champion active from 1948 to 1955. (*Frank Oliver Studios fonds, PR1992.0261/1232, OS.2091*). Source: Provincial Archives of Alberta.

While written and photographic sources about the life and career Johnny Bright are readily available, there are thousands of unidentified photographs featuring people whose backgrounds are difficult if not impossible to discover. This lack of identification is particularly noticeable in the portrait photography in the Ernest Brown records. Known primarily for his early cityscapes and landscapes in Western Canada, Brown and his partner Gladys Reeves also took portrait photographs of everyday Albertans who commissioned them. While the portraits capture a unique cross-section of Albertans, the business records of Brown's studio are incomplete or missing altogether, so identification of individuals in photographs or determination of the date of the image is difficult. Some Brown images are relatively well-known figures in Alberta history, such as Father Albert Lacombe or Premier Alexander C. Rutherford, but many photographs have very limited information to identify the sitter.

This portrait of an unidentified Black woman is typical of the images found among Brown's portrait work. Featured in a previous Black history month post, there are few clues as to this individual's identity except for the notes at the top of the negative, which read "15552 Sneed 6 P.C. B&W." These administrative details used to track the negative provide the single clue, the name Sneed, that ties this photograph to a woman connected to the earliest Black families to settle in Alberta.

According to data from the 1916 Canadian census (a date which seems to align with the style of clothing), there were several women with the last name Sneed living in Edmonton at the time this photo was taken. One possibility for the woman in the photograph is Elizabeth Jefferson Sneed (1881-1918). She was the wife of Henry Sneed, the man who ventured from

Oklahoma to Alberta in 1905 to assess the suitability of the land for Black settlers. Along with several other families, Henry and Elizabeth came to Alberta in July 1910 and settled in what is now Amber Valley. Their two daughters would have been too young to be the woman in the photograph.

But there was at least two additional women with the last name Sneed living in Alberta in 1916 who could be a possibility. Pearl Risby Sneed (1895-1964) was living in Edmonton in 1916, and she would have been in her early twenties. As with Elizabeth Sneed, her female relatives would have been too young to be the woman in the photograph. Anna Sneed (1895-1918) also lived in Edmonton and worked as a housekeeper; she and her husband had no children.

There is also the possibility that a Sneed family member paid for the photographs, but they depict someone from outside the family. Without dated and identified photographs to act as a reference point, a researcher currently can only speculate about a sitter's identity. Further research, future donations of records, or the rediscovery of Brown's studio records might uncover the necessary clues to confirm who sat for the portrait.



File BP-2-15552: Unidentified women with dog, ca. 1920 (*Ernest Brown fonds, BP2-15552*). Source: Provincial Archives of Alberta.

That's the joy and frustration of archival research into communities that are underrepresented in the holdings of the PAA. The records preserved by the PAA likely include evidence of someone who had a broader impact in Alberta history, but they may or may not capture a fragment of the life of an everyday Albertan. Who knows? In the case of an anonymous photograph, a fortunate researcher soon might uncover that bit of evidence that, for just a moment, turns someone forgotten into someone famous.

FPAAS Staff Spotlight: Carmen Zhang

Hello everyone! My name is Carmen, and I am the Archives Technician with the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society. I work primarily with private records, and am responsible for a wide range of tasks, including assigning accession numbers to new donations, creating accession files, going on donor pickups, and covering for retrievals in the public facing reading room when needed, among many other duties!

You may remember me from the 2025 newsletter, when I worked on the Nursing project with Kelsey, a Private Records Archivist. But over the past year, I have taken on several other processing projects, where I transform the brown boxes of records (image 1) into well-organized boxes by rehousing them in acid free boxes and folders (image 2).





(Image 1)



(Image 2)

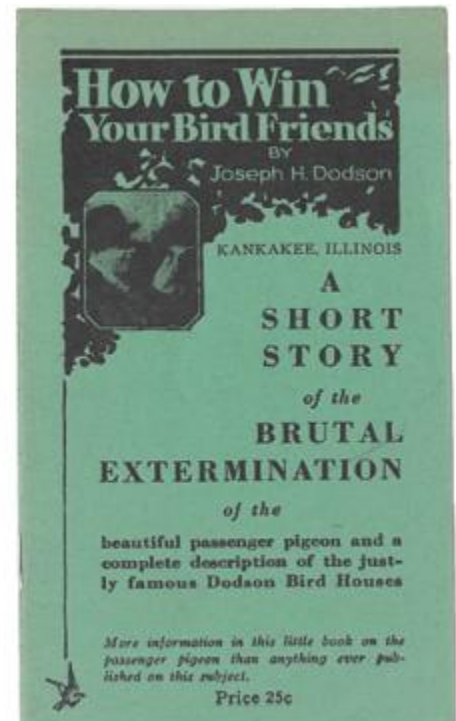
Some of the projects include retro processing politician [Nick Taylor fonds](#) (PR3387), processing audiovisuals from filmmaker [Lorna Thomas fonds](#) (PR2840), processing [Geoffrey Simmins fonds](#) (PR4360) where I mastered the art of unfolding letters, and one of the biggest accessions I have processed in the year 2025 is the [Stony Plain Records fonds](#) (PR0023), where I learned about various musicians from Alberta and discovered how artists' CDs were designed, from planning to production stage.

Currently, I am processing records from the [Sketchley family fonds](#) (PR3696) and one of the interesting records in this collection is a 1928 scrapbook of pressed flowers (image 3).



(Image 3: Pressed flower scrapbook. Sketchley family fonds, file: 2011.0539-83)

And as spring comes into season and you feel the urge to attract birds to your backyard, come to the Provincial Archives of Alberta and request the pocket-sized book with one of the longest titles you're ever likely to see: *How to win your bird friends: A short story of the brutal extermination of the beautiful passenger pigeon and a complete description of the justly famous Dodson Bird Houses* by Joseph H. Dodson (image 4).



(image 4: PR2011.0539-11)

FPAAS Staff Spotlight: Caitlyn Hodder

My name is Caitlyn and currently I am working as an Archival Technician on the Friends' casino funded Photo Description project. The goal of this project is to create online finding aids for approximately 40 private records fonds that are primarily photograph studios and highly requested by the public. As such, my current role has me working on creating file and item lists for these records that make up these various fonds.

In the five months that I have been at the Provincial Archives, I have been working with a few of the photo collections that are available in the reading room and creating file and item lists for them. Many of the finding aids we have are only available onsite, and the goal is to make them all available online through Access to Memory (AtoM).

With the completion of these file and item level lists, we will also be able to upload the digitized collections into AtoM and make them available directly to the public. This should help with the longevity of the physical photos and negatives, as well as providing access for individuals that cannot physically make it to the Reading Room.

So far, I have completed file lists for nine of the collections from the alpha-numeric labeled photos, including the Nicholas Gavinchuck Photo collection (4459 Items), the Edmonton Journal Photo collection (12,907 Items), Richard Proctor Photo collection (1907 Items). Across the file lists for these nine collections, there have been 22,000+ lines of data created.



Included in the lists' data points are all the mandatory data points such as title, extent and media, date, and location, physical size as well as the three types of subject headings used across records, (Subject, Place, and individuals' names). These subject headings will help the public when they use AtOM to search for general ideas.

The process so far for creating these lists has involved pulling the negatives or boxes, reading room list draws, accession files, and, if there are any, previous outdated lists. The information is compiled into a list that will be uploaded to AtOM. Then we will upload all the images that have been previously scanned.

I believe that the Richard Proctor photographic fonds will be of interest to the Friends as they contain images that span nearly three decades. One of the things that I find interesting about processing all these collections is being able to watch the evolution of the places, fashion and technology over the decades through these images!



(1962, RP677 from the Richard Proctor Photo collection)



(1955, RP7.2 from the Richard Proctor Photo collection)



(1975, RP1475.3 from the Richard Proctor Photo collection)

YCW Intern Reflection: Sean McKinnon

My name is Sean, and I am the Young Canada Works Conservation Intern working for the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society. I began this role at the end of September, though this is not my first time at the PAA. I have a Bachelor of Science majoring in Archaeology from the University of Calgary and then went on to complete a Post Graduate Certificate in Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management at Fleming College, for which I did a four-month practicum placement at the PAA. Following my placement, I stayed on to complete a storage update and reorganization project within the oversized materials vault.



This round I have been working primarily on an accession of old land survey maps. I began by doing a general condition check of the whole accession and assigning a priority ranking for treatment. During the condition checks items with excessive tape needing removal as well as stiff or brittle paper, cracks, tears, and more were flagged as higher priority and placed at the front of the line for treatment. To further complicate treatments, I discovered iron gall ink on some of the documents which is highly sensitive to moisture. This required extra consideration and planning to use low moisture methods and materials for treatments, such as pressure flattening and heat set tissue. The goal of treatments was to flatten and stabilize the artifacts to allow for digitization, allowing for easier access by the public as well as preserving the physical item. So far four of the highest priority maps have been treated, digitized, and encapsulated for storage.



GR2009.0565.0001 before treatment



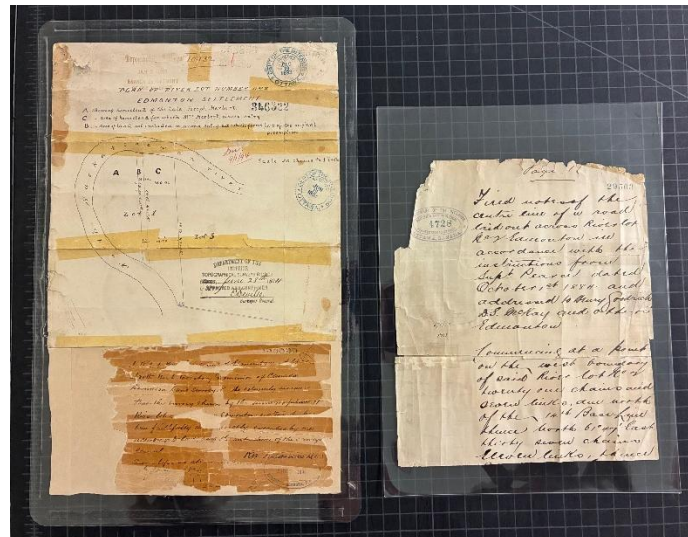
GR2009.0565.0001 digital scan after treatment



GR2009.0565.0001 encapsulated with a custom folder for storage



GR2009.05650.0078
before treatment



GR2009.0565.0078 and GR2009.0565.0008 after
treatment and encapsulation

Though much of a conservation internship is focused on further honing treatment expertise, they also allow for learning new skills and experiencing a broader view of the conservation field. In addition to treatments within the lab, I had the pleasure of participating in a variety of community engagement and teaching opportunities. I was able to participate in the Art Gallery of Alberta's "Senior Takeover Day" by answering questions about collections display and storage, as well as giving interactive demos on different hanging techniques. I also assisted Alison Freake, textual records conservator, on our annual foray to the Archives Society of Alberta "Archives Institute". Of the various lectures we gave over two days, I personally led the presentation on preventive conservation of archival materials. Kelsey Kropiniski, private records archivist, and I had the chance to collaborate with the Edmonton City as Museum (ECAMP) program through the Edmonton Heritage Council. We assisted during one of their "Momentary Museums" by presenting examples of the types of materials held by the archives, engaging community members, and interacting with materials brought in and curated by the local community. In addition to formalized educational outings, I have also had a chance to tour various institutions and meet other conservation professionals, having the chance to see the conservation labs both at the Royal Alberta Museum as well as the Edmonton Arts Council.

YCW Intern Reflection: Mikaela LeBlanc

Language Project on Access to Memory

I started my role at the Provincial Archives of Alberta as the Young Canada Works Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Archivist Intern in September of 2025 working for the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society. As the TRC Archivist Intern, I primarily focus on records created by and about Indigenous peoples and communities. I have spent a lot of time editing and replacing outdated or offensive language found on the Access to Memory (AtoM) database in terms of Indigenous peoples.



Records reflect the era and so they also have the language of the time they were created. My task was to find and change titles, so the outdated language fits the standards of today, yet is still captured as part of the records. Words that were updated included changes in names of First Nations communities, and replacing slurs with appropriate words in certain places.

There was a lot of thought that went into how to change the titles in the archival descriptions but not erase the original creator's work, just move the language to the background. Following standards, the old titles can still be found on the description page in the general notes, with a comment "Original title." Changes are indicated by the square brackets that surround the title, like so: [title]. This way the old titles are still searchable and will bring up the records, but when searching on AtoM, the outdated language is not the first thing researchers will run into in their searches.

While I went through and changed titles on the files and items, I also added tags to make the records more accessible. This has helped make more than 1,000 items more accessible to the public. The tags organize the records within the [Indigenous Resource Guide \(IRG\)](#), where records are organized into categories that reflect the subject of the records held at the archives, rather than just the creator of the records. The categories include communities and residential schools, as well as subjects such as *Education*, *Photography*, and *Histories and Storytelling from Indigenous people*. Place location tags were added when a place or community was identified on the record, as well as subject tag such as "Indigenous peoples". Researchers can search within the IRG by community, place, or subject.

I also tried to keep the titles as close as possible to the original creator's title, but swapping out the outdated language for the new appropriate terms. For example, some titles had the name of a nation that now calls itself by a different name. See *EXAMPLE*. Some titles were changed altogether, because not enough information was given in the original. And some items and files were not changed if it was the title of an organization or role, such as Indian Affairs or Indian Agent.



EXAMPLE PA14072.2 Piegan Indian Reserve. to [Piikani Reserve]

There is still much work to be done, but every change works towards the Calls to Action set out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It has been a great experience to be a part of this work and the work that goes on at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

YCW Intern Reflection: Reis Pouliot

In my role as Young Canada Works Archivist (Intern) working for the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society, I am at the stage where I am taking on more complex appraisals and descriptions. Among these, some of the most memorable records that I have come across have been those created by Ken Kowalski and Karen Leibovici.

For background, both Kowalski and Leibovici served as MLAs – Kowalski was a Progressive Conservative representing the riding of Barrhead-Westlock (and its various other iterations), and Leibovici was a Liberal representing what was Edmonton-Meadowlark. Kowalski got his start as a high school social studies teacher before shifting into politics in the late-1970s; Leibovici started her career in social work and municipal government before taking public office in 1993. Their records predominantly consist of campaign materials, correspondence, photographs, and various media releases. They also include records from their respective educations, such as class assignments and syllabi, as well as records from their early careers, such as presentation outlines from Leibovici's time on various committees for the City of Edmonton.



The question, then, is what makes these records noteworthy? These records document Kowalski and Leibovici's lives before, during, and after their political careers. When we look to the "before," we can look for traces of how their beliefs and platforms formed before they chose to enter politics. There is evidence of courses they took, people they networked with, and their responsibilities. In the records created during their political careers, we can see evidence of their election tactics, how they appealed to constituents, and groups that they targeted through various communications and campaign meeting minutes. Each fonds contains the newsletters that Kowalski and Leibovici circulated with party members as well as with their constituents. In Kowalski's case, we can also see evidence of his relationships with other MLAs (and evidence of his sense of humour, if we look at some of the notes that he circulated during sessions in the legislature). Then, in the latest records, we see evidence of what led to their departure from politics, the reactions of their peers and supporters, and a glimpse into life after politics.



The personal records of politicians give us a window into the person behind the platform. They offer insight into the lives, both personal and political, of the people tasked with representing the Albertans' interests. While not technically government records, working on Kowalski and Leibovici's donations meant that I was able to gain more insight into the political process in the province.

Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society Membership Application/Renewal and Donation Form

The Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society is an incorporated, non-profit organization created in 1991 to support the ongoing work of the Provincial Archives of Alberta by

- assisting the Provincial Archives of Alberta in acquiring, preserving and making its collections accessible;
- promoting and supporting programs and services at the Provincial Archives of Alberta; and
- fostering an awareness and appreciation of the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the documentary heritage it preserves.

Our membership is an integral part of the success of our organization. Members may serve on the board of directors and are also welcome to assist with fundraising projects such as casinos or in various capacities at the Archives and in the community. Some of the other benefits of membership include

- receiving an annual newsletter
- being notified of upcoming events, exhibits, and projects at the Archives
- receiving a 10% discount on products at the Archives Store (excludes organizational members)

Become a member of the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society and help us to preserve Alberta's history for future generations! Annual memberships run from April 1 to March 31.

Note: The Society maintains a membership list as required by the Societies Act. The list is made available to the Board of Directors and Society members only when it is necessary for Society business, or if legislation requires the disclosure of this information. The Society does not sell or make available its membership list for other distribution or marketing purposes.

Membership Categories and Rates

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual annual membership – \$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60+) annual membership – \$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60+) lifetime membership – \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (with valid ID) – \$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Family (2 adults & children under 18) – \$30
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization annual membership – \$50 |
|--|--|

Please accept my donation to help the Society with its programmes and projects in support of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Donation amount: _____

(All donations of \$10 or more will be acknowledged with a receipt for income tax purposes)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ (Make cheque payable to *Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society*)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Send cheque and form to: Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society
c/o Provincial Archives of Alberta
8555 Roper Road NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 5W1

Thank you for your
generous support!

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Email: FriendsPAAinfo@gmail.com