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ArchiNews / ArchiNouvelles

The Transcona Historical Museum



Photo courtesy of the Transcona Historical Museum

The Transcona Historical Museum (THM) has as its vision to maintain and promote the history, stories and community spirit of Transcona. With that charge, the THM was successful in receiving a Community Memories grant to create a virtual exhibit for the Virtual Museum of Canada. We at the THM have been working very hard to put together a successful submission that reflects our vision statement. It has been a very rewarding experience for many reasons, not least of which was our chance to use our archives for the exhibit.

To put this exhibit together we relied heavily on our archives. It allowed us to use images and documents that had never been exhibited before. As the exhibit begins in early Transcona, we were able to use original 1912 pamphlets inviting people to move to the burgeoning town. The Transcona Times newspaper published between 1912 and 1921 was heavily referred to. Photos of the Transcona Shops being built were an exciting addition to the chapters.

The title of the exhibit is 'Serving King and Country: Transcona's Hometown Heroes'. Through its chapters the exhibit covers the evolution of a small railway town and examines how it responds to world conflicts. There are two sections to the exhibit. The first is a gallery that contains 258 records that include images, newspapers, artifacts and sound clips. The second section is a

storyline that has 18 chapters and a Teacher's Section.

During World War One Transcona sent 76 men to fight overseas. We were able to pull together information on many of these men including pictures, original letters, artifacts and telegrams. The World War Two section is equally as fascinating with the addition of sound clips from men who were involved in the conflicts and events occurring at home. Of particular interest are the first hand accounts of the D-Day invasion by Transcona's own Mr. Paul Martin. Also Mr. Jim Potter gives a fascinating look into Canada's No. 1 Armored Train that was built at the Transcona Shops.

This virtual exhibit has allowed the museum to pull together many sources of historical material into one place. We feel that through this experience we have come close to being able to tell the story of Transcona during the wars more fully and completely. It is a multi layered and multi dimensional exhibit giving an intimate look at the lives affected by war.

Look for the exhibit to appear on-line at virtualmuseum.ca this fall. We are eager for all of you to see what we have been able to pull together from our archival resources and to share Transcona's memorable stories of sacrifice. There will be a Virtual Exhibit Launch at Kildonan Place, on Friday, November 5 at 12:00 noon.

Please visit our Archives at the Transcona Historical Museum, 141 Regent Avenue West on the corner of Regent and Bond. Our hours are Tuesday to Friday, 12:00-5:00 and Saturdays from 10:00-5:00 or by appointment. To contact the Museum Staff phone 222-0423, Fax 222-0208, e-mail transcon@istar.ca, or visit our website at transconmuseum.mb.ca.

Mark your calendars!
Once Upon an Archives
Tuesday, December 7th

Chair's message to AMA members

On October 7, representatives from a number of Manitoba archives met with Marianne McLean of the Library and Archives Canada (LAC). Like the rest of us, the LAC is engaged in a dialogue with its sponsoring body – in this case, the federal government – aligning directions and programming with federal government directives and fiscal restraint. The meeting was part of a consultation process and provided archives in Manitoba with an opportunity to comment on proposed directions for the LAC, as well as the future of the CCA.

During the meeting, concern was expressed that a federal institution such as the LAC – an institution accountable to its sponsoring body in just the same way that all archives are accountable to their sponsoring bodies, and therefore sometimes obliged to undertake tasks or follow a path particular to its own political context – will set goals, objectives or directions and granting programs that do not meet the needs of archives generally because they fail to recognize the reality in which these archives operate, their

constituent accountabilities or variable states of development.

Change can be beneficial. However, the AMA strongly believes that the future of archives in Canada depends on enhanced communication between archives and archivists across the country and an overt recognition that archives exist within varied contexts and realities. If the interests of Canadians are to be served, it is imperative that change be driven by the needs of all archives in Canada.

A consultation paper regarding the LAC's proposed new directions is available at the following site: www.collectionscanada.ca. Comments can be submitted via an online form.

Jody Baltessen



Shelley Sweeney and Marianne McLean during the LAC Consultation, October 7th at the Mennonite Heritage Centre

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

Letter to the Editors

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK:

ARCHINEWS – IS HOT!

...AD LEADS TO SUCCESS!

OSEREDOK, the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre placed a small ad in the previous issue of *ArchiNews* / *ArchiNouvelles*. This ad paid BIG dividends!

We were asking our colleagues if an unused microfilm reader was perhaps languishing in a hall or closet. We were hoping to offer it a new home at our Centre, though we had very little coin jingling in our pockets.

Not only did someone read our ad, he remembered it, and at a chance meeting, passed along some essential tips which led to a happy

ending!

Peter James, from the University of Winnipeg, gets the *Good Buddy Award* from OSEREDOK Archives; and **NOVUS IMAGING** gets the *Platinum Public Service Award!* Jim Buchanan and NOVUS IMAGING, renowned for excellence in performance for their specialisation, were helpful above and beyond the call of duty in the matter!

Call the Archives, OSEREDOK – 942-0218. Gloria Romaniuk will attest to the gains to be made when we network!

Editor's comment:

I am happy the newsletter has helped members better communicate with each other!

AMA Mini Conference: The Future of Archives

On October 1st, following its Annual Meeting, the Association for Manitoba Archives hosted a mini-conference entitled, "The Future of Archives." A number of privileged participants heard some of the challenges and hopes of the profession for the future. The conference was divided into two parts, the first looking at some of the main issues concerning archivists from the United States and Canada; and the second was a roundtable focusing on issues faced by archivists in Manitoba.

Professor Randall Jimerson, of the Western Washington University, began the session by sharing his perspectives on the future of archives in the United States. Miriam McTiernan, from the Archives of Ontario, who described the current situation in Canada, followed him. What was interesting was that the main issues identified by both speakers shared many similarities. For instance, both identified new technologies as one of the main challenges and advantages to the archival profession. They also insisted on the need for public advocacy, increased funding, and better cooperation between the archival profession and other fields. Both concluded that the archivists of the present and of the future will need to perceive their work differently.

The roundtable encouraged participants and speakers to discuss a series of topics pertaining to archives in Manitoba. Cynthia Kent, of the City of

Winnipeg Archives, gave us a quick look at the changes that have taken place at the City Archives in the last few years. She described these changes as a cultural change within the city and a greater appreciation of the archives by its sponsoring group. Ken Romaniuk from Oseredok followed Cynthia. He described the steps taken by the staff and volunteers at the Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre after the fire of 1999 that destroyed parts of the building. The hopes were that his conference would allow other archivists to be better prepared for various disasters. Conrad Stoesz of the Mennonite Heritage Centre then presented a paper on the future of religious archives. He insisted on the need for these archives to better advocate their relevance and importance within the sponsoring body and members of the faith. The last presenter, Shelley Sweeney, described several digitization projects of the University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections. She explained the advantages of digitization and the problems that archives could face in such projects.

From these summaries, it seems obvious that the AMA's mini-conference was very informative and enjoyable. The general consensus was that similar events should be repeated. The uncertainty of the future of archives certainly warrants an increased collaboration and exchange within the archival community of Manitoba. Many thanks from all the participants to all the speakers and organizers of the event.

Jacinthe Duval

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the AMA was held on 29 September 2004 at St. John's College, University of Manitoba. Among others, Jody Baltessen, Chair, read a report updating members on the situation of the CCA. Paula Warsaba succeeded Brian Hubner as Chair of the Education and Advisory Services Committee.

The Heritage Centre, Bronwen Quarry, and Gail Wiebe were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the archival endeavour. Following a sumptuous dinner, Gilles Lesage, director of the *Société historique de Saint-Boniface*, spoke to the audience about the future of archives from an international perspective.



Gilles Lesage, speaker at the AMA dinner

**THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE OF WESTERN
CANADA**

Invites you to celebrate the

DOUBLE CHAI (36TH ANNIVERSARY)

**OF THE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN
CANADA**

at a Gala Banquet

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31 at 5:30PM

CONGREGATION ETZ CHAYIM (123 MATHESON)

GUEST SPEAKER

STEPHEN LEWIS

On the topic

**CANADA'S ROLE IN ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS ON THE GLOBAL STAGE**

For dinner tickets (\$100.00) or to become a sponsor
(including diner tickets) please phone Susan Turner at
477 – 7462 or Stan Carbone at 477 – 7467

Email: scarbone@jhcwc.org

*Maximum allowable tax receipts given for sponsorships
and dinner tickets*

Out of the Archives 2004

Sponsored by the Manitoba Historical Society

In cooperation with the Archives of Manitoba

Presents

Road to Recovery (c1953)

A Francis J. S. Holmes film
Produced for the Manitoba Sanatorium Board

Thursday, November 18, 2004, 7:30 p.m.

Archives Research Room
Manitoba Archives Building
200 Vaughan Street
Entrance A (Vaughan and St. Mary)

Free Admission / Light Refreshments

Please call the Manitoba Historical Society at 947-0559
Before November 17 to reserve your seat

City of Winnipeg

Contract Archivist (CCA Control of Holdings Project)

CONTACT PERSON: Jody Baltessen, 986-7904 or
jbaltessen@winnipeg.ca

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Appraise and verify arrangement of Council Communications, 1874-1971.
- Assess condition of records, undertake curatorial work including humidification, flattening, rehousing and logging items that require treatment by a conservator.
- Prepare RAD-compliant descriptions and post to Archives Canada.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Knowledge of archival theory.
- Knowledge of basic curatorial processes.
- Must be familiar with Rules for Archival Description (RAD).
- Proficient in an electronic work environment.
- Demonstrated oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to exercise personal initiative and sound judgement.
- Demonstrated research skills.
- Demonstrated ability to analyze problems, develop alternatives and implement solutions.
- Knowledge of City of Winnipeg Civic Administration would be an asset.

Previous experience would be an asset.

**The City of Winnipeg is selling the following
microfilm equipment:**

- 1 Kodak MRD-2 Microfilming Camera, ca. 1980, working condition (films both 16mm and 35mm)
- 1 Kodak Reliant microfilm machine (16 mm), ca. 1972, working condition
- 1 Kodak Starfile RV/2 portable tabletop microfilmer (16mm), working condition
- 1 MacBeth TD528 densitometer, ca. 1982, working condition

For more information about these item or to arrange an appointment to examine the cameras, contact, The City of Winnipeg Archives & Records Control branch at 986-5325 or email Archives@winnipeg.ca

Info Bytes...

ArchiNews / ArchiNouvelles

is published by the Association for Manitoba Archives. Submissions, questions or comments should be directed to the Chair of the Information and Awareness Committee, Carole Barnabé

(cbarnabe@ustboniface.mb.ca)

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of the AMA. Deadline for next issue 1 December 2004.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.mbarchives.mb.ca



The Archives of Manitoba

Research Room will be open to the public from

**Monday to Friday, 9:00 to 4:00,
throughout the year.**

Please note that we will no longer be open on Saturdays.

Reminder

Those who borrowed books from the AMA library – please return them ASAP. All loans are outstanding

MARK YOUR CALENDARS ! AMA WORKSHOPS

**COPYRIGHT – 27 & 28 January 2005
With Jean Dryden
(will include the following modules:
Photographs
Sound & Moving Images
The Impact of Recent Supreme
Court Decisions)
.. . .**

**OVERSIZE STORAGE – 11 March
2005
With Ala Rekrut**

Congratulations

Kathy Mallett has accepted the position of Archivist with the Hudson's Bay Company Archives.

She will work in the areas of Client Services and Public Programming.

Congratulations

Bronwen Quarry for winning the 2003 thesis prize for the following:

Photograph/Writing with Light: The Challenge to Archivists of Reading Photographs

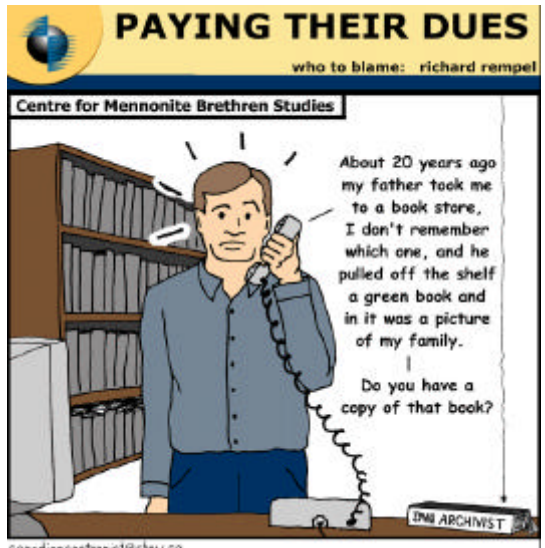
Annual Report

Notice to all members who did not attend the AGM, you may request a copy of the annual report by phoning the AMA office.

Exhibit: Treasure to Share – Celebrating Our Western Canadian Jewish Heritage

Opened September 12, 2004 and is now on in the Museum at Asper Jewish Community Campus, 123 Doncaster Street.

This exhibit includes material that has been amassed during the last 36 years of the experiences and integration of Jews into Western Canada. Photographs, documents, artifacts, family trees and other archival material are on display.



New address for the AMA

**P.O. Box 26005 Maryland P. O.
Winnipeg MB R3G 3R3**