

FINDING AID

Administrative Records of the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Fonds

Series 501/1 Committees of the Executive and Special Committees

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United Church of Canada Archives

Winnipeg

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500 Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference fonds. -- 1917 - 2004; predominant 1954-1993. -- 43m of textual records and other material.

The Conference of Manitoba came into existence in June of 1925 with the creation of The United Church of Canada through the union of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Local Union Churches of Canada. The name was changed in 1980 to the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario as a result of a successful petition to the General Council of the United Church by Cambrian Presbytery. The Conference encompasses the entire province of Manitoba and the area of Northwestern Ontario drained by the Rainy River and Winnipeg River systems as far east as Marathon, Ontario and south to the United States border.

The Conference has an administrative as well as a geographic meaning. The thirteen conferences within The United Church of Canada function as a governing body or court of the church. Very simply, they are composed of members of the Order of Ministry on the roll of Presbyteries within the geographical bounds of the Conference and lay persons under appointment to administrative or staff positions within the Conference by a court of the church or the United Church General Council. These are matched by an equal number of lay representatives elected from the Pastoral Charges within the Conference. Chairpersons of Conference Committees and the President of the Conference United Church Women are also members of Conference. In addition to the obligation to meet annually and to appoint a Conference Executive, the Conference was charged with appointing Standing and Special Committees to carry out the day to day work of the Conference. In 1925 these were Education and Students, Evangelism and Social Service, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Pensions, Publications, Religious Education, Missionary and Maintenance Fund, Church Property, Settlement, Statistics, Historical and Obituaries.

With a few exceptions, the structure of Conference remained essentially the same until 1972 when a major realignment of the administrative structure of the United Church at the General Council (National) and Conference levels took place. In 1972, the Boards of Home Missions, Evangelism and Social Service and Christian Education had ceased to exist along with the staff positions associated with that work. New paid staff positions which made their first appearance around this time were Regional Director of Broadcasting in 1971 (lasting only until 1972), the positions of Conference Personnel and Conference Administrative Support in 1972 and the positions of Leadership Development and Program Resource in 1973. In 1975 and 1976, and again from 1989 to 1993, a staff position for Communications was added. In 1983, the Conference staff position of Christian Development and Outreach was created and, in 1986, an Evangelism and Social Action staff person as well as a full time Conference Archivist was hired.

The changes in National and Conference administrative structure, which resulted from a move towards more regional and local control of church programs, were reflected in the evolution of Conference Committees. The powerful Conference Home Missions Committee and its sub-committees, responsible for overseeing the mission initiatives of Conference and the administration of mission grants according to Board of Home Missions directives, had been replaced by the Administrative Support Committee (briefly called the Congregational Support Committee) by 1973. Another major reorganisation of the Conference committee structure took place in 1983 when a system for the division of the work of Conference committees among four Councils (Stewardship, Worship and Education, Ministry and Personnel, Evangelism and Social Action) was devised. Committee chairs reported to their respective Councils that in turn were represented on the Conference Executive.

Another major reorganisation of Conference Structure took place in 1993. At that time, the pressure of meeting current demands with dwindling resources resulted in a move to reduce the number of Presbyteries from eight to six. The work previously allocated among four Conference Councils was then divided between three Program Units (Education and Justice, Ministry and Personnel, and Stewardship and Mission). The number of Committees reporting to the Program Units, and through them to the Conference Executive was reduced. Salaried staff were also decreased and reorganised to include the positions of Executive Secretary, Education and Justice staff person, Stewardship and Mission staff

person, Personnel staff person and Conference Archivist. Further changes to the Conference Structure were made in 2005.

Many of the materials which make up this Conference fonds had been stored in the basement of the Conference administrative offices at 120 Maryland Street in Winnipeg in an ad hoc manner for varying lengths of time over a period of approximately forty years before coming into the Archives. Generally, the records of Conference executive, staff and committee chairs were transferred to the basement at the end of their term of office. Renovations to and rearrangement of the basement area resulted in the movement of the materials around the storage area on more than one occasion. It is probable that space constraints resulted in the unrecorded disposal of an undetermined number of documents and other materials throughout the storage period. Administrative records in storage at 120 Maryland were formally transferred to the Archives in 1989. The movement of the Conference administrative offices to a new address in the fall of 1996 precipitated an inventory and the relocation of those records in 1995 prior to the move. The balance of the fonds consists of record series that had been accessioned by the Archives at various periods prior to 1995. The provenance of records accessioned prior to 1976 is often obscure.

The fonds consists of textual and other materials generated by the Conference, the Conference Executive, Conference Staff Associates and Conference Committee members in the fulfilment of their mandate as outlined in *The Manual of The United Church of Canada* from 1925 to 1994. Throughout the life of the fonds, several Conference staff members have served in more than one church or community administration simultaneously while keeping unified files. This has resulted in materials from other administrative jurisdictions being interspersed among the fonds.

Fonds are composed of the following series: Conference Annual Meetings, 1925-1993; Conference Executive, 1925-2002; Conference Offices, 1958-1989; Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive, 1968-1993; Manitoba Conference Branch of The United Church Woman's Missionary Society, 1918-1962; Manitoba Conference Branch Woman's Missionary Society Archives Collection, [ca.1885-ca.1960]; Manitoba Conference Lay Association, [ca.1910]-1962; District Council AOTS, 1964-1977; Conference Committee on Christian Education, 1927-1992; Conference Home Missions Committee, 1926-1973; Superintendents of Home Missions, 1926-1973; records of the Administration of Norway House Residential School, 1954-1967; Conference Hospitals, 1923-1982; Home Missions Inter-Conference and Ecumenical Groups, 1956-1969; Conference Evangelism and Social Service Committee, 1933-1976; Conference Congregational Life and Work, 1952-1979; Church in Society Committee, 1976-1983; Evangelsim and Social Action Council, 1983-1993; Inter-Conference and Ecumenical Groups reporting to the Evangelsim and Social Action Council, 1972-1999; Conference Communications, 1964-1992; Worship and Education Council, 1981-1994; Worship and Education Council Women's Groups, 1982-1992; Education and Justice Unit, 1987 - 2004 (predominately 1993 - 1998); Committee on Education, Students and Church Vocations, 1975-1978; Conference Education Committee, 1972-1983; [Interim] Placement Committee, 1970-1972; Conference Settlement Committee, 1971-1980; Conference Staff Committee, 1966-1992; Ministry and Personnel Council, 1982-1993; Conference Personnel Officer, 1972-1993; Conference Personnel Records, 1957-1993; records of the Conference Finance Committee, 1964-1974; records of Conference Administrative Support, 1973-1983; records of Administrative Support Staff, 1972-1993; Conference Stewardship, 1967-1993; Church Camps, 1918-1975; Church Home for Girls, 1945-1976; Women's Union, 1926-1958; Manitoba Conference Woman's Association, 1946-1962; Conference United Church Women, 1963-2002; Fellowship of Professional Women, 1949-1980; Manitoba Canadian Girls in Training, 1918-1990; and the Manitoba Student Christian Movement, 1923-1981.

Title based on contents of fonds.

The fonds also includes ephemera, photographs, slides, audio tape recordings, video tape recordings and 50 sets of blueprints, plans and architects' drawings.

Original order of many of the series of the fonds was substantially obscured during the storage period and many materials were in an extremely disorganised state with no original order or access points apparent;

where necessary, order based on administrative function has been reconstructed by the arranging archivist.

Some restrictions on access; see series descriptions.

Finding Aids consist of series descriptions and box lists; some sub-series and file level description available.

Further accruals are expected.

501/1 Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference. -- 1968-1993. -- 25cm of textual records.

In addition to Standing Committees, which remained in existence over a period of years, the Conference Executive has occasionally appointed time-limited Committees (also called Task Forces, Task Groups or Working Groups) to perform specific and limited tasks. Prior to the re-organisation of the Conference administrative structure that took place in 1983, these occasional Committees were often called Task Forces or Task Groups to distinguish them from Standing Committees. Special Committees might also be appointed on the direction of the Annual Meeting of Conference with instructions to report to Conference within a specified period of time. Some Special Committees eventually evolved into Standing Committees.

In 1983 a system for the division of the work of Conference committees among four Councils (Stewardship, Worship and Education, Ministry and Personnel, Evangelism and Social Action) was devised. Committees then reported to the Conference Executive through their Council. Special and Ad Hoc Committees continued to exist under the Council umbrellas. Also, there were some Committees, such as the Nomination Committee, the Staff Advisory Committee and the Annual Meeting Program Committee as well as special Task Groups, which continued to report directly to the Conference Executive. This situation continued under the most recent administrative reorganisation in 1993 with most Committees reporting to the Executive through the three Program Units. The Committees reporting directly to the Executive have increased over time to include the Archives, Brief, Finance, Presbytery Oversight and Structure Audit Committees as well as those named above.

This series consists of the documents and other items generated through the work of some of the Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees which have existed in the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario since 1968. Items are arranged in the following sub-series: Boundaries Committees and Commissions, 1968-1993; Budget Task Force, [ca.1990]; Committee of Women's Ministries, 1988-1993; Commission Studying Role of the Faculty of Theology, University of Winnipeg, 1985-1986; Conference Committees/Task Forces on Conference Structures/Restructuring, 1972-1992; Conference Co-ordinating Group for the Study of Sexuality, Lifestyles and Ministry, 1986-1989; Conference Fact Finding Committee on United Church Halfway Homes in Winnipeg, [ca.1971]; Conference (Long Range) Planning Committee/Task Group, 1968-1971; Conference Visioning Committee, 1990-1992; Task Force on Conference Archives, 1987/88; Trinitarian Formula Working Group, 1991; Women's Committee, 1980-1982; Special Committee to Study the Indian Work in Manitoba Conference, [ca.1930]-1957; Indian Advisory Council, 1971-1972; and Task Force to Review Mission Procedures with Keewatin Presbytery and All Native Circle Conference, 1989-1990.

Title based on contents of series.

Some of the records described here were intended by the creator to remain confidential; access to material containing identifying information about individuals may be restricted; see file level descriptions.

File level description: box list available.

For records of the Special Committee to Study Ministry to Isolated Communities see the folder '509/1/3-1-47 A Study of the Ministry to Isolated Communities in Manitoba Conference' described with the records of '509/1/3 Records of Churches in Indian Communities'.

For records of various Brief Committees see also the items pertaining to the Church in Society Committee and to the Evangelism and Social Action Council described elsewhere in this fonds.

Accession: 1996-21; and others.

File Description

1. Boundaries Committees and Commissions. -- 1968-1993. -- 4 folders.

Records consist of the surviving records generated by various Conference Committees and Commissions charged with studying and making recommendations regarding proposals for the reorganisation of Presbytery boundaries within the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario over the period from 1968 to 1993.

The earliest of the committees whose records are included here was called the Manitoba Conference Boundary Commission/Committee. It was re-constituted by resolution of the Conference annual meeting in 1968 on the strength of a motion of the Home Missions Committee and on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on the Rural Church (ROP 1968, Conference Resolution, p. A-32). Its mandate was to examine the boundaries of the Presbyteries of Carman, Brandon, Birtle, and Portage to determine which boundary changes might be necessary. The recommendations of the commission were not carried out and the commission was disbanded by motion of the Conference Executive (28/29 October 1970) with no further action being taken. Items found here for this committee include correspondence, Presbytery reports pertaining to boundary questions, minutes, expense summaries, final reports, and recommendations.

The question of Presbytery boundaries was raised again in 1985 when another boundary commission was established by motion of the Conference Executive on 11 February 1987. The recommendations of the commission were circulated in March of 1987. The Conference Executive (ROP, October 27/28, 1987) disbanded the Commission soon after. The Executive thanked the committee and noted that there was no desire for change at that time. Members of the 1987 Boundary Commission were Diane Cooper and Elgin Hall. Items found here for this committee includes a proposal and hand-written reaction.

The final committee for which records exist evolved out of the recommendations of the Conference Visioning Committee in 1992. The striking of the committee was followed by consultation with the Presbyteries about proposed changes and the appointment of representatives to the Conference [Presbytery Boundaries] Implementation Committee. Items found here for this committee include minutes, informal and formal reports, recommendations, correspondence, and new staff descriptions.

Title based on contents of file.

Material concerning the transfer of Spy Hill Charge from Birtle Presbytery to Qu'Appelle Presbytery in 1968 has been removed to the Spy Hill Charge fonds.

Material concerning the transfer of Fertile Charge (previously part of Tilston-Shortoaks Pastoral Charge, disbanded) from Brandon Presbytery to Estavan-Arcola Presbytery in 1969 has been removed to the Fertile Charge fonds.

Correspondence concerning the possible transfer of Fisher River Charge from Selkirk Presbytery to Plains Presbytery in 1984 has been removed to Fisher River Charge fonds.

Correspondence concerning the transfer of Justice Charge to Brandon Presbytery from Birtle Presbytery in 1985 has been removed to the Justice Charge fonds.

Rough notes, duplicates, background data from Presbyteries available from other sources (for example, statistics) and copies of Presbytery minutes have been culled.

Access to the records of 1992/93 Commission may be restricted.

For related materials see the Conference Visioning Committee file described elsewhere in this series.
Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

2. Budget Task Force. – [ca.1990]. -- 1 folder.

This file consists of the interim report and final report of one of several special committees and task forces that existed to examine budget concerns.

Title taken from folder label.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

3. Committee of Women's Ministries. -- 1988-1993. -- 3 folders + 6 photographs.

The Committee of Women's Ministries was created in 1988 (ROP, Minutes of the Executive, 2 March 1988) as a result of the recommendation of the Women's Consultation (1986/87) that the Conference establish a 'Council' of Women's Ministries. This Council was to have been similar in structure and function as the other Conference Councils (created as a result of the administrative reorganisation which took place in 1983) and would have oversight of all Conference committees dealing with women's concerns. While this recommendation was not acted upon, it was decided by Conference that the Committee of Women's Ministries would act as a co-ordinating committee for all Conference women's groups. The Committee of Women's Ministries would be accountable to each Council through the Council committee representative that sat on and was part of the Committee of Women's Ministries. It was intended that the Committee of Women's Ministries would facilitate communication among all the Council committees doing women's work within the Conference. It was also to give the representatives to the National Women in Ministry Committee and the National United Church Women Committee a 'home' within the Conference, and strengthen communication with the National Committees. The Committee of Women's Ministries survived until 1993 when it ceased to exist following the administrative reorganisation of that year.

Items found here include minutes and correspondence as well as photographs of unidentified participants of the Camp Manitou meeting of the Committee on 16/17 October 1990.

Title taken from folder labels.

Original order of file correspondence based on administrative function has been reconstructed from the files of Conference staff, including Janet Silman and Ted Dodd.

Bank statements and cancelled cheques have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

4. Commission Studying Role of the Faculty of Theology, University of Winnipeg. -- 1985-1986. -- 1 folder.

Prompted by the proposal to reduce the Faculty staff from three positions to two by the summer of 1985, the Faculty of Theology Council suggested the formation of a Commission to address questions about the place and role of the Faculty of Theology at the University of Winnipeg. The Commission membership was to include two members from the Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference and one member from the National United Church Division of Ministry Personnel and Education as well as two members from the University of Winnipeg Board of Regents and the Council of the Faculty of Theology. By a motion of the Conference Executive on 14/15 November 1984 the Conference Nomination Committee was authorised to appoint two persons to the Commission. These people were expected to report to the Conference Executive and did so on February 13, 1986. The Report was referred to the Ministry and Personnel Council that presented its recommendations to Conference Executive on April 9/10, 1986.

Items found here consist of the memo "Re: Consultation Re Role Of The Faculty Of Theology, The University Of Winnipeg"; an undated report of the Dean of the Faculty, A.M. Watts; and a copy of the Commission Report made available to the Ministry and Personnel Council for consideration on 12 March at Westminster United Church.

Title taken from folder label.

Submissions and historical research are mentioned in the Report but none were found in this folder.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA-0067)

5. Conference Committees/Task Forces on Conference Structures/Restructuring. -- 1972-1992. -- 3 folders.

This file consists of the records of the various Conference Committees and Task Forces charged with studying and making recommendations concerning proposals for the structuring/restructuring of the Conference administrative structure from 1972 to 1992. Beginning in 1972, numerous committees were involved in studying Conference structures, the proposal and implementation of restructuring models and the evaluation structural reform. These initiatives can be divided into roughly three periods: 1972-1979, 1981-1985, 1992.

By 1972, the disappearance of the Board of Home Missions and the Division of Congregational Life and Work, as well as the intention to relate the new Field Staff services to Conference committees in a different way, created an urgent need for adjustment of Conference structures (ROP, 1972, p. 140). The Task Group on Conference Restructuring was formed in March of 1972 in order to develop a model for new Conference structures and make recommendations to the Conference. Their proposed structure was approved as a working model at the 1972 Annual Meeting of Conference. In October of 1973, the Conference Executive approved the formation of an Implementation Committee to recommend the successive stages for implementing the Conference model. This committee was judged to have fulfilled its mandate and was discharged in April of 1974. In 1976 and in 1979, evaluation of the new Conference structure was undertaken with a Committee on Conference Evaluation being formed in 1979.

By 1981, calls for the review and revision of the Conference organisation had been heard again and the Committee on Review and Revision of Conference Organisation came into existence through a resolution of the Conference Executive in April of 1981. This committee recommended a reduction in the size of the Executive and the move to a Council system. At the 1982 Annual Meeting, the Conference Restructuring Committee (also called the Task Force on Conference Restructuring and the Restructuring Task Force) was named and charged with working out detailed proposals for the implementation of these recommendations to the 1983 Annual Meeting. The 1983 Annual Meeting of Conference approved the implementation of the proposal for restructuring the Conference according to the Council model (ROP, 1983, pp.141-153). A report evaluating the working of the new structure was presented to the Annual Meeting in 1985.

A reconstituted Conference Structures Committee proposed the most recent restructuring of Conference into a system of program Units in 1992. The new structure was implemented following the 1993 Conference Annual Meeting.

Items found here include the minutes, correspondence, surveys and replies and recommendations and reports of these various structures committees.

Title taken from folder labels.

Original order based on administrative function has been reconstituted from the files of Conference staff including Executive Secretary E. P. Johnston (materials for 1972-1974); duplicate materials and copies of Presbytery minutes have been culled.

Drafts have been retained where originals do not appear to be present.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

6. Conference Co-ordinating Group for the Study of Sexuality, Lifestyles and Ministry. -- 1986-1990. -- 3 folders.

This group, which reported directly to the Conference Executive, was formed to succeed the Task Group on the Church and Homosexual Persons. The mandate of the Co-ordinating Group included the development of educational programs in the area of sexuality, promote attempts to understand homosexuality and marriage, promote dialogue, and produce a report for the 32nd General Council in 1988 on the sexuality and lifestyles of all persons (ROP, 1986, pp. 103-104). The Conference Co-ordinating Group was also expected to provide input to the National Co-ordinating Group in anticipation of their statement to be made at the 1988 General Council. Following the 32nd General Council statement "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality" the Co-ordinating Group was charged with interpreting the statement as requested and facilitating the response of Presbyteries and Congregations to the statement.

Items found here consist of minutes, correspondence, items forwarded for information, and copies of the newsletter 'Dialogue' produced in 1986/87 by the National Co-ordinating Group.

Title based on contents of file.

Original order based on administrative function has been reconstituted from the files of Conference staff including Executive Secretary Diane Cooper; National Community of Concern material has been removed to the Conference Archives Vertical File; General Council materials, which are available through the General Council Archives, have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

7. Conference Fact-Finding Committee on United Church Half-Way Homes in Winnipeg. -- [ca.1971]. -- 1 folder.

This ad hoc committee was created by resolution of the Conference Executive on 28/29 October 1970 (ROP, 1971, p. 57) and charged with investigating all aspects of the Half-Way House program in Winnipeg and making recommendations to the Executive. The Committee presented a report to the meeting of the Conference Sub-Executive on 19 March 1971.

Items found here consist of the report, including recommendations, of the Conference Fact Finding Committee on United Church Half-Way Homes in Winnipeg.

Title based on contents of file.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

8. Conference [Long Range] Planning Committee/Task Group. -- 1968-1971. -- 3 folders.

This Task Group was formed partly in response to encouragement by the United Church General Council for local and regional control of the program planning process. It was the responsibility of the Task Group "to prepare and design the resource material by which the Executive will be facilitated in the process of [Long Range Planning]" (ROP, 1969, p. 53). The original proposal for the structure of the Task Group, which was adopted by the Executive in October 1968 (ROP, 1969, p. 39) and rescinded by the Executive in May 1969, called for five Area Sub-Committees including People in Indian Communities (also called Ministry with Indian People). The Sub-Committee on Ministry with Indian People met at least once. By 1972, it was felt that while much planning was going on there was a preoccupation with the process and the Task Group was dissolved by motion of the Conference Sub-Executive on 16 March 1972 (ROP, 1972). Long Range Planning responsibilities were taken over by the Conference Sub-Executive and the Task Group on Restructuring.

Items found here include studies, reports and correspondence, submissions from Presbyteries and Congregations and notes of a meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ministry with Indian People from April 16, 1969.

Title taken from folder labels.

'How To' sheets on group planning and problem solving and resource material collected from other Conferences have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

9. Conference Visioning Committee. -- 1990-1992. -- 2 folders.

The committee was created by motion of Conference Executive on 18/19 April 1990 to survey Conference opinion and present proposals on Conference mission, Conference structure and Conference budget prior to restructuring in 1992. Issues considered by the Visioning Committee included staff model; the changing church community; Presbytery boundaries; the work of the church; and relationships to Prairie Christian Training Centre, University of Winnipeg, and the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Centre. The Committee delivered its final report and recommendations to the annual meeting of Conference in 1992.

Items found here include committee minutes, reports and recommendations, and responses and reactions from Conference committees, Presbyteries, various ministers and other members of Conference to committee proposals.

Title taken from folder labels.

Items in this file are attributed to Conference Executive Secretary, Diane Cooper.

Background material on Conference structures collected from other Conferences, duplicates and unsigned survey responses have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

10. Task Force on Conference Archives. -- 1987-1988. -- 1 folder.

The creation of this Task Force in February 1986 was precipitated by the resignation of the then Conference Archivist, Cathy MacDonald, who urged the consideration of a variety of issues important to the future development of the Conference Archives in a time of increasing budget constraint (ROP, 1986, p. 117). The Task Force was to have reported to the Conference Executive by Fall 1986. However, the Task Force did not meet until Fall 1987.

Items found here include materials collected by the Task Force in the pursuit of its mandate, including submissions to the Task Force and the Task Force Report.

Title based on contents of file.

Reference materials including the Record of Decisions, Ontario Archives Consultation, May/1990; the Covenant between the National United Church Archives and Ontario Conferences; the funding formula for Ontario Archives; 'Funding of Conference Archives', the National Archivist's Report, ca.1990; and the Report of the Task Force on Archives and Records Management in the United Church of Canada, ca.1986 have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

11. Trinitarian Formula Working Group. -- 1991. -- 1 folder.

This Ad Hoc Committee of the Executive was formed in 1991 in order to gather material that would be used to make up packets which would be distributed at Presbyteries for study on the Trinitarian Formula.

Items found here include working group correspondence soliciting contributions, submissions and draft presentations as well as copies of articles and papers that would be included with the study packet.

Title taken from folder label.

Duplicates and some background and research materials have been culled.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

12. Women's Committee. -- 1980-1982. -- 1 folder.

Conference Executive created this ad hoc committee on 30 April/1 May 1980 as a result of the recommendation of the Women's Consultation held on 24th April 1980. The committee was composed of one woman appointed from each Presbytery and was to function as a voice of women in order to raise issues of concern to women and to act as a vehicle for communication. The Chair of this committee was as member of Conference Executive. The Women's Committee was established for a two-year period after which the continuing need for the committee would be assessed. In 1982, the Committee was disbanded on the recommendation of the Committee members and replaced by the United Church Women Co-ordinating Team and the Women's Concerns Task Group.

Items found here include committee minutes and correspondence.

Title based on file contents.

Original order of the file based on administrative function has been reconstituted from the files of Conference staff, including Janet Silman and Ted Dodd.

Location: Box S-2-0. (CA0067)

13. Special Committee to Study the Indian Work in Manitoba Conference. – [ca.1930]-1957. – 7 folders.

The Special Committee to Study the Indian Work of Manitoba Conference grew out of the Special Committee on Indian Affairs. This committee was appointed in June of 1953 as a result of a resolution on behalf of Norway House Presbytery requesting Conference to appoint a committee to study the 'Indian Work' of the Conference. The Special Committee remained in existence until June 1956 and was especially concerned with the problem of recruiting and keeping qualified mission staff.

The first report of the Special Committee was made to Conference in 1955 (ROP, p.7-8, p.75-77) and among the recommendations which were approved was the recommendation that Winnipeg Presbytery set up a committee to study the problems of Indians in Winnipeg. The Special Committee to Study the Indian Work remained in existence after delivering their report in order to assist with the work of the General Council Commission to Study the Indian Work of the Church (created as a result of a recommendation of the 16th General Council), and make further studies of aspects of the work such as Residential Schools and the problem of urban Indians. Members of the General Council Commission included Rev. G. A. McMillan (who was also a member of the Conference Committee to Study the Indian Work), Manitoba Superintendent of Home Missions and Rev. K. C. McLeod, Principal of Norway House Residential School. Rev. C.H. Best, former Manitoba Superintendent of Home Missions, was a consulting member.

The second report of the Special Committee was delivered in 1956 (ROP, p.33, p.70-73). Major recommendations that were approved included the creation of a permanent Sub-Committee of the Home Missions Committee to be called Churches in Indian Communities. Another recommendation proposed the realignment of Presbytery boundaries to allow for more effective supervision of Home Missions work within Norway House Presbytery which was thought to be too large and spread out to permit Presbytery meetings and lay participation in a Presbytery Home Missions Committee.

Research materials found here include various statistics on the 'Indian Work' of Manitoba Conference from 1929 to 1954. Also included are background materials on Indian reservations, missions, residential schools and hospitals in Manitoba and other areas of Canada. Most of the materials collected by the Special committee and the Commission date from ca.1955. However, some material has obviously been gathered from older files and dates from the 1930s. This includes three copies of the report of the General Council Commission Appointed to Survey Indian Education by the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada and the *Report of the Commission on Indian Education* dating from 1935. It is probable that research materials gathered by the Conference Committee were also used in the compilation of the General Council report. Other items found here include correspondence and the final reports of the Conference Committee and General Council Commission.

Title based on contents.

For minutes of the 16 February 1955 meeting of the Conference Committee on Indian Affairs see the sub-series '509/1/3 Churches in Indian Communities', (File 509/1/3-1-1, 'Minutes') described with the records of the series '509/1 Records of the Conference Home Missions Committee'.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly Box S-4-2. (CA0211))

14. Indian Advisory Council. – 1971-1979. – 1 folder.

The Indian Advisory Council, later called the Northern Elders' Council, was created in 1971 on the joint recommendation of the Long Range Planning Committee Sub-Committee on Ministry with Indian People (also called Ministry/People in Indian Communities) and the Church in Indian Communities Sub-Committee of the Conference Home Missions Committee. The members of the Council were appointed by the Elders of the Conference's First Nations congregations for the purpose of making "recommendations to the Conference Executive concerning policy, personnel and program resources for ministry in Indian communities." (ROP, 1972, p.66) It was also hoped the Council would provide advice on training needs and curriculum resources for First Nations people and assume responsibility for the planning of Elders' and Indian Workers' Training events. A major project undertaken by the Indian Advisory Council was the Project for the Development of Church School Curricula and Training Programs for Indians in Manitoba Conference. This was done in co-operation with the Congregational Life and Work Committee.

This folder contains materials that pertain to the development of the Indian Advisory Council and initial meeting notes. This includes the report of the Committee on Ministry with Indian People to the joint Meeting of Manitoba Conference Home Missions & Congregational Life and Work Committees recommending the establishment of the Indian Advisory Council, November, 1971; the report of the Church in Indian Communities Sub-Committee to the joint Meeting of Manitoba Conference Home Missions and Congregational Life and Work Committees recommending establishment of Indian Advisory Council, November, 1971; and minutes of 2 June 1972.

Title based on contents.

Also known as the Northern Elders' Council.

The Finding Aid is the sub-series description; box list available.

For the records of the Project for the Development of Church School Curricula and Training Programs for Indians in Manitoba Conference see the records described as part of the series "511/1 Conference Congregational Life and Work".

Location: Box 511/1-2 (former S-6-0).

15. Task Force to Review Mission Procedures with Keewatin Presbytery and All Native Circle Conference. -- 1989-1990. – 1 folder.

In 1989, it became apparent that cuts to Mission Support in Manitoba conference planned for 1990 would have an especially deleterious effect on Keewatin Presbytery. The correspondence and other documents found in this folder pertain to the consequences of planned cuts for Keewatin Presbytery and documents the process whereby the initial funding decisions were reconsidered. Also found here is the report, dating from 1990, of the Task Force appointed by Conference to review the needs of Keewatin Presbytery and make recommendations to the Conference Sub-Executive.

Items consist of correspondence dating from 1989 to 1990, the Task Force Report and background and research materials.

Title based on contents.

This file contains material intended by the creator to remain confidential; access is restricted.

Location: Box 519/2-4 (former S-9-0 - CA0087).

Box Lists

Box 509/2-5 (Formerly Box 2-4-2)

Records of Committees Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference

- Special Committee to Study the Indian Work in Manitoba Conference. – ca.1930-1957. – 8 folders. Includes General Council Commission Appointed to Survey Indian Education by the Board of Home Missions and the Women's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada Report and the *Report of the Commission on Indian Education* dating from 1935.

Box 511/1-1 (former CL&W-A)

Records of Committees Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference. Indian Advisory Council.

- Minutes and Reports. -- 1971-1977. -- 1 folder.
- Minutes and Reports. -- 1972-1979. -- 1 folder.

Box 511/1-2 (Formerly S-6-0)

Records of Committees Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference. Indian Advisory Council.

- Meeting Notes and Reports. -- 1971-1979. – 3 folders.

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Records of Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference

- Task Force to Review Mission Procedures with Keewatin Presbytery & All Native Circle Conference. - - 1989-1990. – 1 folder.