

Friends Of the Saskatchewan Archives

2017 Annual Report



FOSA volunteer Lynn McCaslin works on the Regina Photo Project – here comparing the image of the postcard of the RCMP Administration Building, Regina and the text on the reverse with what is documented in the PAS database. (Postcard Source: PAS: R-A8747; Photo Source: FOSA member: Frank Korvemaker)

SUMMARY

During 2017 membership increased from 200 to 235 active and associate members. Some of the new members initially contacted FOSA in order to find out how they can donate records to the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan.

ADMINISTRATION

Structure – The informal organizational structure for FOSA-Regina appears to be working well and will continue as such for the foreseeable future. Bill Armstrong, corresponding under the pseudonym of “Interim Gopher”, remained the de-facto Chair of FOSA-Regina.

FOSA Meetings – Meeting facilities continue to be held at 3303 Hillsdale Street - the Regina offices of the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan; while PAS staff has provided limited administrative support, which is greatly appreciated.

FOSA Website – Information relating to FOSA activities can be found on the PAS website. On the Home page, click on:”About the Archives”, then select: “Friends of the Provincial Archives”, or click directly on the following link: <http://www.saskarchives.com/about-archives/friends-archives>

ACHIEVEMENTS

The following activities were undertaken in 2017:

Correspondence:

The Interim Gopher maintained a steady flow of correspondence with members and responded to a number of public enquiries. Once again, well over a hundred e-mails found their way into members’ IN BOXES. Among some of the topics that FOSA members were asked to consider or provide some insight, were the following:

Correspondence Cont'd:

- **family history enquiries and comments**



*Royal Address prepared by FOSA member Roberta Rivett's uncle Edward McCheane for King George VI and Queen Elizabeth's visit to Saskatoon in 1939.
(Document Source: FOSA member: Roberta Rivett)*

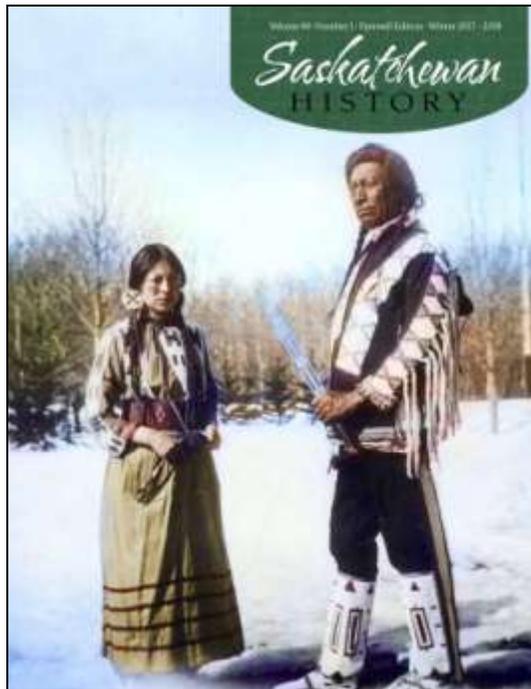
- **seasonal images relating to Saskatchewan's present and past sports enthusiasm**



*The 13th Man supporting the Saskatchewan Roughriders, at Watson.
(Photo Source: FOSA member: Will Chabun)*

Correspondence Cont'd:

- discussions relating to the discontinuance of *Saskatchewan History* magazine



Final cover of Saskatchewan History.
(Photo Source: PAS: Vol. 69, No. 1 – Winter 2017-2018)

- sharing information relating to other archival websites with Saskatchewan content, such as *Images of Prairie Towns*, the University of Alberta's *Peel's Prairie Provinces*, and local history books on the *Our Roots* website.



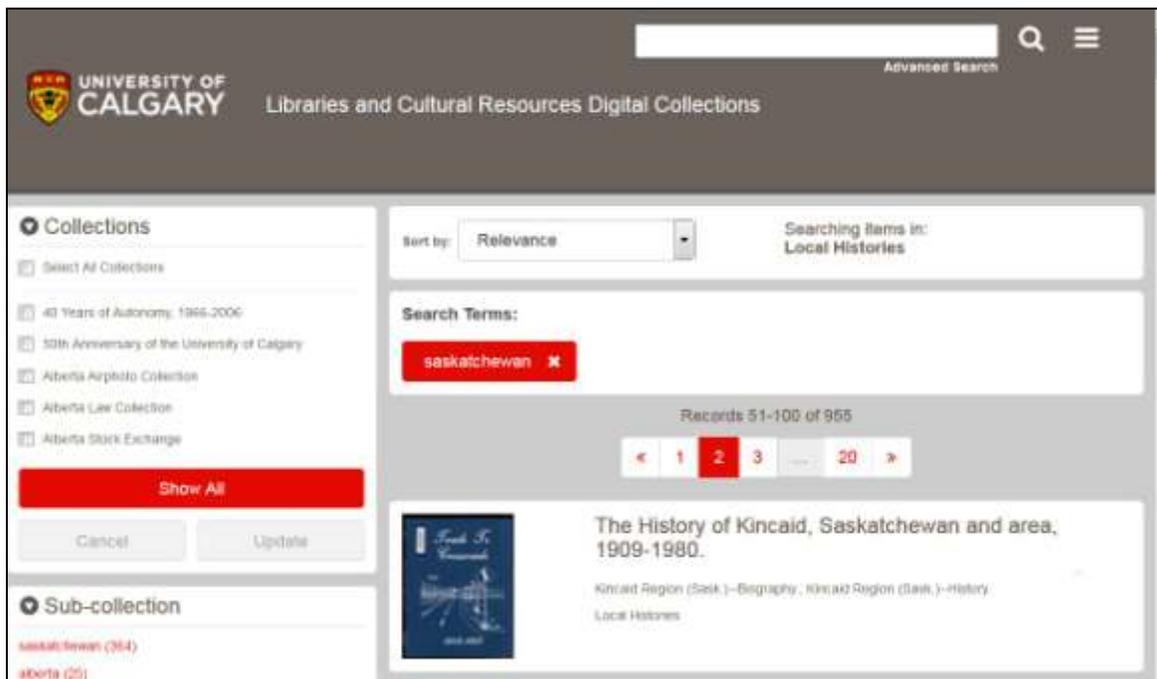
(Website: <http://www.prairie-towns.com/index.html>)

Correspondence Cont'd:



(Website:

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/search/?search=follow&qid=postcards%7Ctext%3A%28Saskatchewan+postcards%29%7C%7Cscore&index=postcards&rawQuery=saskatchewan+post+cards>)



(Website: <https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/search/searchterm/saskatchewan>)

- **soliciting FOSA members' suggestions for naming the PAS's new database, previously known as "Threshold".**
- **explaining the process for donating records to the Provincial Archives**

Correspondence Cont'd:

- **discussing the validity of various heritage facts**, such as the Saskatoon meeting of John Diefenbaker and Sir Wilfrid Laurier



*A young John Diefenbaker meets Sir Wilfrid Laurier
(Photo Source: Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, 25 July 2017)*

- **as part of the World War One commemorations**, there were exchanges of family memories of soldiers and of the home front, as well as website links to soldiers who died overseas, such as Capt. David McAndie, of Assiniboia, who was killed on Aug. 15, 1918.



*Capt. David McAndie, 10th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force
(Photo Source: CBC News, Nov. 20, 2017)*

Volunteer Work:

- **Regina Photo Project** – This project helps the Provincial Archives to upgrade the textual information documented in the photographic collection. FOSA members systematically review the photos to identify discrepancies in the data entered into the PAS's database, and subsequently made available on the Archives' website. During the past year the contents of an additional 1,973 photo envelopes were reviewed by the Friends, bringing the total now reviewed from 9,739 to 11,712. FOSA members have worked on this Project for 345 hours, including 130 hours in 2017.



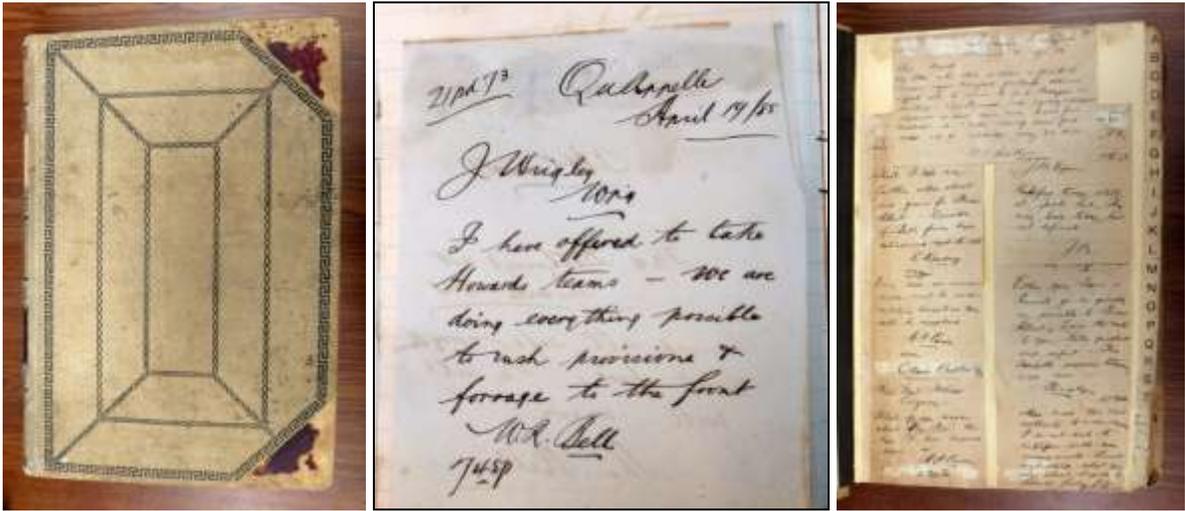
-----Original Message-----
From: Lynn Mccaslin [mailto:mccaslinlynn@myaccess.ca]
Sent: April-09-17 3:44 PM
To: Frank Korvemaker
Subject: Re: 2016 FOSA Annual Report Photos

Hi ! Didn't review these in 2016 but they are probably the most intriguing of all the photos I have reviewed.
R-A 6973 (1) - (2) - Saskatoon Railway Station. - New Electric C.N. Train - Saskatoon to Edmonton.
The Canadian National - Saskatoon to Edmonton - No coal - No Smoke ! No dates recorded. There must be a story here !!

Cheers Lynn.

*FOSA members compare text on the photo with what is recorded in the database, and note any discrepancies.
(Source: PAS: R-A 6973[2])*

- **Saskatchewan Association Of Architects Box List – Regina** – This project was suspended in 2016 due to illness.
- **The 1885 Canadian Pacific Railway telegraph ledger project** – Sixteen FOSA members from near and far assisted the Provincial Archives in transcribing approximately 1,000 handwritten telegrams covering 215 pages. Many of the telegrams related to battles around Batoche and Battleford during the 1885 North-West Conflict and were sent to or from the Clark's Crossing telegraph station near Batoche. Other telegrams were sent to or from Fort Pitt, Fort Qu'Appelle, Fort Walsh, Fish Creek, Saskatchewan Landing, and Swift Current. Proofreading of results will be undertaken in 2018-19. This ledger complements a similar collection of different telegrams housed at the Glenbow Archives.



[left] ledger cover [centre] sample telegram [right] sample page of multiple telegrams
 (Photo Source: Frank Korvemaker)

Text: “*Qu’Appelle, April 19 / 85.*

[to] *J. Wrigley, Wpg. I have offered to take Howard’s teams.*

We are doing everything possible to rush provisions & forrage [sic] to the front. W.R. Bell.”

- **Archives Week (Feb. 8, 2017) – Regina** – The Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists (SCAA) partnered to present a series of speakers examining “Perspectives on the North-West Resistance of 1885”. The event was held at Bushwakker’s Brew Pub on Dewdney Avenue, Regina, and included presentations by Jed Lacoste, Guy Michaud, James Daschuk, Sylvain Rheault and Darren Préfontaine. The evening was chaired by FOSA member Frank Korvemaker, and several other FOSA members help with some of the evening’s logistics.



Jed Lacoste dressed in period 1885 military uniform, and Frank Korvemaker, serving as M.C. for the evening. (Photo Source: FOSA member: Bill Armstrong)

Donations:

- *Sintaluta Times and Fort Qu'Appelle Gazette* from Kay and Jerry Dixon – an eight page newspaper not in the Provincial Archives' collection. Includes: Obituary for James Ewart; First World War references (including: extradition of Kaiser Wilhelm from Holland and War Criminals from Germany; Ross Rifle Factory expropriation in 1917, occupation of Turkey, etc.) As evident in the photograph below, this 97-year-old newspaper is very fragile, and its donation to the Archives before it completely disintegrates was most timely.



Front page of the *Sintaluta Times and Fort Qu'Appelle Gazette*:
Vol. 13, No. 10 – January 29, 1920.
(Photo Source: FOSA member: Frank Korvemaker)

Promotional Activities:

- None in 2017

Social Events:

- The annual Christmas social occurred after the November business meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Although about one third of our members reside in Saskatchewan, FOSA members can be found throughout the world. During 2017, Friends of the Provincial Archives membership increased by 17 % - from 200 to 235 members. Starting in 2017, the format for reporting membership has been revised to include only those in and outside Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan: **83**

Outside Saskatchewan: **152**

Total Membership: **235**

CONTACT INFORMATION

E-Mail:

Bill Armstrong: fosa.regina@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

Friends of the Provincial Archives
c/o Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan
P.O. Box 1665
Regina, Sask. S4P 3C6