

Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association fonds

Fonds No. AF1

Physical Description: 18 cm of textual records, 38 photographs

Date Range: [1919-2022]

Administrative History/Biographical Sketch

Talk of forming a Bulkley Valley Agricultural Association to oversee the planning of an exhibition began in 1910 (Interior News, May 1910). Various names were used before incorporation, such as: *Bulkley Valley Agricultural Association* (Interior News, July 27, 1912), *Bulkley Valley Agricultural Association and Farmer's Institute* (Omineca Herald, June 7, 1913) and *Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association* (Interior News, June 21, 1919). On July 14, 1919, the Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association was incorporated under the Agricultural Act. The mandate of the Association was to "advance the interests of agriculture and to hold an annual exhibition of agricultural products at Smithers, and to do all such other things the directors may decide for the advancement of the association, the farmers and farming." The first directors of the Association included A. Kilpatrick (President, Smithers), J. G. Wood (Vice-President, Telkwa), and L.B. Warner (Secretary Treasurer, Smithers), George Oulton (Smithers), A. J. Prudhomme (Telkwa), E. C. Barger (Telkwa) and William S. Henry (Smithers) (Interior News, June 21, 1919). Smithers held its first Fall Fair in Albert Park, September 30th, 1919. After several years the Fair became a three-day event, presenting a wide variety of exhibits including agricultural displays, livestock and logging shows, handicraft and homemaking exhibits, stage shows, and a midway. The Fair continues to this day, having been held every year since 1919 except for 1932-1933, 1938-1945, 1950-1952. A virtual fair was held in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Scope and Content

The fonds is arranged into two series, Administrative and Fall Fair and contains prize lists, prize tickets, meeting minutes, correspondence, financial statements, newspaper supplements, entry forms, certificate of incorporation and a brief history on the founding of the fair.

Arrangement

Records were rearranged in September 2016 by Manda Haligowski to better reflect archival standards and to improve accessibility.

Administrative

Series no.: **S1**

Part of: Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association fonds

Related accessions: 1971.17; 1988.1; 1983.65

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records.

Date range: 1919, 1930s

Scope and content

Series includes records related to the administrative activities of the Association. The series contains the certificate of incorporation, declaration of association and by-laws, correspondence and financial statements. Correspondence includes letters regarding incorporation, specifications for race track and fence, and bids for clearing the fairground/ballpark land.

Fall Fair

Series no.: **S2**

Part of: Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association fonds

Related accessions: 1971.17, 1981.6; 1983.9, 2007.3, 1994.7, 1994.13, 2019.19, 2019.20, 2020.6, 2020.12, 2020.34, 2020.36, 2022.1

Physical description: 15 cm of textual records, 38 photographs

Date range: [1919-2021]

Scope and content

This series contains all records related to the Fall Fair. Records include photographs, prize lists, prize tickets, meeting minutes, newspaper supplements, and entry forms.