

MJ-69

Moose Jaw Canadian Red Cross Society fonds. - [textual record]. - 1914-1993. - 98.0 cm of textual records.

Boxes V-69 - V-72, H-51 - H-55

### **Administrative History**

The Red Cross Society was founded by Swiss citizen Henri Dunant in 1863. A Canadian branch was formed in 1896, but was not officially recognized as an independent national society until 1927. It is a non-profit, humanitarian organization dedicated to helping Canadians and the victims of conflicts and disasters throughout the world.

The Moose Jaw Canadian Red Cross Society was formed in 1914. The first executive elected were Mr. L.G. Knowles, Member of Parliament, honorary chairman; Mr. H. Dorrell, chairman; Mrs. Spotton, 1<sup>st</sup> vice-chairman, Dr. McCulloch, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-chairman, Mrs. F. Simpson, secretary, Mr. L. Grayson, treasurer. At first the Moose Jaw Red Cross was occupied in making clothing for service men and war victims. Work on behalf of refugees began in 1918. In 1919 the charter was changed to allow for peace time work. During the Depression the local Red Cross was very active in aiding families on relief with clothing, household items, medical supplies and eye glasses and whatever else they were able to help with.

Local volunteers ran blood donor clinics during the Second World War. After the War, all the equipment was sold, but blood clinics resumed again in the early 1950's. Blood was made available at no cost to hospital patients. In 1998 the Canadian Blood Services replaced the Red Cross as the sole blood collector.

As well as supplies and monetary support to disaster victims at home and abroad, the Red Cross made hospital dressings for the local hospitals and produced special garments to promote human dignity for the elderly and infirm. A sick room equipment lending program was available which included the lending of wheelchairs, walkers, canes and commodes. This program was taken over by the Victorian Order of Nurses when the Moose Jaw Red Cross office closed in 1991. Other services that were sponsored and supported by the Red Cross were first-aid, water safety, babysitting courses and a bicycle safety program. These programs were taken over by other groups.

Local aid was administered after the plane crash over northeast Moose Jaw in 1954, the floods of 1948, 1955 and 1974, and the 1980 Gulf Oil refinery fire.

The office of the Moose Jaw Red Cross closed in 1991. The local coordinator, Janice Lorge then conducted the business of the Red Cross out of her home as a volunteer until 1992.

Many of the programs and services of the Red Cross continue to operate.

### **Scope and content**

This fonds consists of minutes of meetings, correspondence, reports of services and activities, membership and volunteer services as well as scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and photographs of the business, activities and history of the International, Canadian, and local Red Cross. The minutes are complete from the inaugural meeting held in 1914 to the final meeting in 1991 when the Moose Jaw office closed.

### **Physical condition**

The scrapbooks are acidic and brittle. Two of the scrapbooks have magnetic pages which are very acidic. There is water damage to the minute book 1914-1937.

### **Conservation note**

This fonds was re-boxed and foldered in 2004.

### **Note of Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Accession number 1.85 was donated to the archives by the Moose Jaw Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society, presented by Patricia Kern in 1985.

Accession number 69.BA donated to the archives by the Moose Jaw Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society, presented by Rea Macdiarmid and Mary A. Ritchie in 1991.

### **Associated materials**

10 photographs from accession 1.85 were catalogued and transferred to the Archives photograph collection prior to the fonds description being completed. The catalogue numbers issued to the photographs are 85-1 to 85-10, inclusive.

*Detour: the story of Oflag Ivc and Fifty years in the Canadian Red Cross* have been transferred to the archival books collection.

### **Finding aids**

See file list.

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#### File List

MJ-69/1 - Society Business. [textual record]. 1914-1991. - 52.0 cm of textual records.  
Boxes V-69 - V-72

This series consists of the regulations of the society, information pamphlets, membership and volunteer lists, minutes of meetings, correspondence, including blank forms and letterhead, orders of photos from the newspaper and biographies of members and guests that were used for introductions.

- 001 - Regulations 1982
- 002 - Executive Lists (Presidents and Secretaries) 1914-1959
- 003 - Membership Lists 1962-1964, 1982
- 004 - Volunteer Lists 1970-1991
- 005 - Minute Book 1914-1937
- 006 - Minute Book 1937-1945
- 007 - Minute Book 1945-1948
- 008 - Minutes 1948-1954
- 009 - Minutes 1955-1958
- 010 - Minutes 1959-1962
- 011 - Minutes 1963-1966
- 012 - Minutes 1967-1971
- 013 - Minutes 1972-1975
- 014 - Minutes 1976-1980
- 015 - Minutes 1981-1983
- 016 - Minutes 1984-1988
- 017 - Minutes 1988-1989
- 018 - Minutes 1989-1991
- 019 - Financial Statements/Records 1932-1949
- 020 - Annual Reports 1932-1937
- 021 - Correspondence 1932-1933
- 022 - Correspondence 1934-1935

023 - Correspondence 1936-1937

024 - Correspondence 1938-1939

025 - Correspondence 1940-1943

026 - Correspondence 1976-1991

027 - Biographies(Introductions) of members and speakers

028 - Newspaper photo orders 1961

029 - Pamphlets and Brochures 1955, 1972, 1977, 1991

030 - Blank forms and letterhead

MJ-69/2 - Society Activities. - [textual record]. - 1939-1985. - 19.5 cm of textual records.  
Boxes V-72, H-51 -H-52

This series consists of records and reports kept of the activities of the Moose Jaw Red Cross.

001 - Activity Reports 1939-1942

002 - Blood Donor Clinics 1953-1958

003 - Record of Blood Clinic Volunteers and Commodities Ordered 1952-1985

004 - Record of Blood Clinic Volunteers 1985-1991

005 - Reports of Women's Work (Clothing and items knit and sewn) 1959-1984

006 - War Services Committee Minutes and Reports 1941-1947

007 - Flood Disasters 1948, 1955

008 - Prisoners-of-war Next-of-kin Articles Purchased Report 1943-1944

MJ-69/3 - History. - [textual record]. - 1914-1993. - 26.0 cm of textual records and photographs.

Boxes V-72, H-52 - H-55

This series consists of an illustrated history of the Red Cross by UNESCO, scrapbooks primarily of newspaper clippings and some photographs covering the history of the Moose Jaw Red Cross, and a special edition newspaper on clubwomen in Moose Jaw, featuring an

article on Mrs. A.F. Feltham, an active member of the Red Cross.

001 - History of Red Cross, undated

002 - Scrapbook 1914-1959

003 - Scrapbook 1942-1945

004 - Scrapbook [194?]-1976

005 - Scrapbook 1952-1993

006 - Scrapbook 1953-1959

007 - Scrapbook 1974

008 - Scrapbook 1977-1985

009 - Scrapbook 1980

010 - Clubwomen of Moose Jaw 1966

MJ-69/4 - Red Cross Youth. - [textual record]. - 1915-1973. - 0.50 cm of textual records.  
Box V-72

This series consists of the history of the Red Cross Youth (Junior Red Cross) in Saskatchewan and the activities sponsored by the Moose Jaw Red Cross Youth.

001 - History of Saskatchewan Red Cross Youth 1915-1980

002 - List of aid to local children 1920-1933

003 - Activities of the Red Cross Youth of King George School 1967-1973