

THE CHILLIWACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
(formerly the Chilliwack Board of Trade)

(Add.MSS.381)

an inventory of its records in the
CHILLIWACK ARCHIVES

compiled by

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History

The Chilliwack Board of Trade was incorporated on September 18, 1903. In common with Boards of Trade or Chambers of Commerce elsewhere in North America, it was organized to represent the interests of the business community and promote conditions for business.

The Board of Trade was inactive from 1917 to 1920, but by the 1930's it had again become a powerful, dynamic organization, organized into "bureaux" (standing committees) which met to deal with issues of concern to various sectors of business and agriculture.

To encourage visitors to the community, the Board sponsored the annual Cherry Carnival from 1927 to 1955. This tradition of organizing community festivals was revived in the form of Country Living Days in 1968.

As early as 1911 the Board began publishing pamphlets to promote tourism and investment in Chilliwack. From the 1960's onward a major focus was the operation of tourist information offices both downtown and near the Trans-Canada Highway.

In 1952 the Board began an annual tradition of honoring a Citizen To Be Recognized.

Around 1960 the name of the Chilliwack Board of Trade was changed to Chilliwack and District Chamber of Commerce. In May 1980 it became the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce.

Scope and content

This fonds contains documentation of much of the activities of the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce, although there are some gaps.

The surviving minutes cover the periods 1929-1936, 1971-1985, and 1988.

A chronology of Board of Trade history based on 1903-1937 minutes exists, however.

The fonds also includes the By-Laws adopted in 1903, 1967, and 1974; scrolls presented to some of the Citizens To Be Recognized; and various other items.

Custodial history

The 1903 by-laws were presented by the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce in April 1982 (Add.MSS.982.20). The bulk of the fonds was presented by the Chamber on February 17, 1987 (Add.MSS.987.5). Recent Minutes were presented in April 1991 (Add.MSS.991.30 and 991.35). Some miscellaneous items in the fonds came from other sources, some of them undocumented.

Related items

The seal of the Chilliwack and District Chamber of Commerce is part of the Chilliwack Museum artifact collection, CM176.

The series of formal portraits of Citizens To Be Recognized has been described as P.COLL.77. The 1952-1986 portraits have also been filed individually, from P5361 to P5394.

Some pamphlets published by the Board of Trade have been filed individually, as Add.MSS.202, 203, 210, and 212.

Some 1948-1955 Board of Trade records can be found in Add.MSS.514, the Atkins Stage Lines Ltd. fonds.

An historical sketch of the Board of Trade is contained in Add.MSS.26, File 10, the Harry J. Barber papers.

A scrapbook reflecting Tom Robertson's activities with the Canadian Board of Trade in 1949 can be found in Add.MSS.668.

Data storage

This inventory is stored on the file CHAMBER on the 5 1/4" disc labelled "Archives Inventories 2" at the Chilliwack Archives. A second copy is at the Chilliwack Museum.

File

Description

By-Laws

- 1 Chilliwack Board of Trade. By-Laws, adopted September 18, 1903. Amendments dated 1905.

Minute Books

- 2 Chilliwack Board of Trade minute book, March 25, 1929 to June 1, 1936. Including Annual General Meetings: meetings of the Executive Committee and various "Bureaux" (standing committees); financial statements; minutes and financial statements of the Cherry Carnival; resolutions and letters to government officials; membership lists; Annual Return to the Department of the Secretary of State Canada.

3-8 Items 3-8 were interleaved with 1929-1936 minute book:

- 3 Chronology of the Board of Trade history, 1903-1937, based on earlier minutes.
- 4 Correspondence inward, March-May 1936.
- 5 Architect's drawings for proposed archway at entrance to Chilliwack, 1936. (in oversize folder)
- 6 Architect's drawing for proposed sign at entrance to Chilliwack, ca. 1936. (in oversize folder)
- 7 Rough notes of minutes, not dated.
- 8 Chilliwack Progress, Feb. 22, 1956, containing reproduction of scroll presented to C.A. Barber as Citizen To Be Recognized.

- 9-11 Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce minute book, 1971-1977. Including Annual General Meeting minutes; Directors Meeting minutes; annual reports; ballots for election of officers; By-Laws:

File

Description

- 9 Minutes, 1971-1974.
- 10 Minutes, 1975-1977.
- 11 By-Laws, adopted 18 Sept. 1903.
Draft By-Laws, ca. 1967.
By-Laws, October 1974.
- 12-14 Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce minutes book,
1978-1980. Including Notices of Meeting;
meeting attendance registers; Directors
Meeting minutes attendance registers;
Annual General Meeting minutes; annual
reports; ballots for election of officers:
- 12 Minutes, 1978.
- 13 Minutes, 1979.
- 14 Minutes, 1980.

Citizens To Be Recognized

o/s Box 15-17

Scrolls presented to the Citizen To Be
Recognized (in oversize box).

- 15 1956 - C.A. Barber.
- 16 1962?- Arthur D. Rundle (photocopy of a
newspaper clipping).
- 17 1953 - E.D. Barrow.
1958 - Kate Young.
1959 - Harold W. German.
1960 - Harry D. Hipwell.
1961 - George and Mae Green.
1963 - W.T. Richardson.
1965 - Frank B. Hall.

in Box 1

A

- 17a List of Citizens To Be Recognized with
contact persons for biographical
information, 1983 (compiled by Clara
Cartmell?).

Printed items

o/s Box 18

Poster listing cultural events in Chilliwack
in 1986 (in oversize box).

File
180.

Description

Pamphlet, Chilliwack, British Columbia: The valley of homes (1926).

19

Pamphlet, City, township merger will spur growth rate (1980).

Brochure, Facts and figures on Chilliwack (1961).

20

Handbill, Let's park the ark! (promoting construction of Agassiz-Rosedale bridge, 1950's).

21

Pamphlet, Chilliwack guide (1981).

Pamphlet, Chilliwack and district guide (2 editions, 1980's).

Pamphlet, Chilliwack guide and map (1984?).

Pamphlet, Welcome to Rainbow Country (1988?).

Pamphlet, Discover Chilliwack (1990).

Map, Chilliwack: country living at its best (1990?).

Ledger book

22

Ledger book, 1952-1955 (in oversize box).

Minutes

23

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1981.

24

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1982.

25

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1983.

26

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1984.

27

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1985.

28

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1988.

29

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1989.

30

Monthly general meeting minutes for 1990.

By-Laws

31

By-Laws, 1990.