

Research Guide 235  
Records Related to Multiculturalism and Ethno-  
Cultural Communities in Ontario

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The Caribana Parade, 1970's or 1980's  
RG 14-151-3-149, I0005829  
Ministry of Transportation slide subject files

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## **In this Guide**

This guide provides an inventory of records held by the Archives of Ontario (AO) pertaining to the lives and experiences of members of cultural, ethnic and religious minority groups across the province. It identifies the various activities and programs in support of these communities and speaks to the vision of a multicultural province.

In accordance with our mandate, we remain committed to further growing our community-related holdings as well as to encouraging and supporting independent community archival collection and preservation initiatives across the province. We welcome comments and suggestions from users, researchers, community organizations and other stakeholders and hope to update and expand this guide over time.

\*Please note: this guide contains links to information found in our online Archives Descriptive Database. On our website, this database is found under “Access Our Collections”. If you are using a print copy of this guide, go to page 23 for more information on how to find the online descriptions

## **Historical Note on Ontario’s Ethno-Cultural Communities**

The land that we now call Ontario is the traditional territory and present-day home of many Indigenous peoples. Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Cree and many other nations have lived and worked on this land long before the initial arrival of French and British explorers in the 17th century, an arrival that paved the way to a gradual process of colonization which steadily progressed westwards and northwards. With the resettling of American loyalists and the ‘Great Migration’ from Britain and Ireland during the 19th century, Ontario became mostly an English-speaking province with several pockets of Francophone settlements.

A steady flow of Immigrants, peaking during the periods prior to and following the two world wars, ensured Ontario’s continued demographic and economic growth. As many

newcomers were arriving from Southern and Eastern Europe, Ontario's demographic makeup became much more ethnically diverse, especially in urban centres. However, general approach and public policies remained geared towards the 'Canadianization' of minority groups, interpreted as being founded on British values and ways of life. Hence, most cultural minority community groups established independent associations that aimed to support settlement processes and provide their members with welfare, language skills, and social and cultural support systems, as well as, with time, heritage retention programs aimed at younger, Canadian-born generations.

A major shift began taking place during the 1970s. A revision of the federal *Immigration Act* meant that the majority of newcomers were arriving from other parts of the globe, mainly South Asia, China and the Caribbean. This tendency continues to dominate immigration patterns and has made Ontario – and especially its capital, Toronto – into one of the world's most culturally and ethnically diverse regions. Just as important, the introduction of Multiculturalism as an official, policy-backed principle on both federal and provincial levels during the mid 1970s, made the retention of former cultural identities and sustenance of hyphenated identities into the new cultural norm across Canada. The vision of a multicultural society continues to dominate Ontario's educational, political and cultural public spheres and is considered a source of strength and pride for its government and citizens alike.

## Where Do I Find These Records?

We have all the records mentioned in this guide. You will need to visit the Archives to view most of them. Please contact us in advance to request them. You can find more information about the records mentioned in this guide in our Online Archives Description Database (include link). Some of the records are on microfilm, and you do not need to order them in advance (with some exceptions). Libraries that offer interloan services may also borrow some of the reels for you. [Click here to view our Microfilm Interloan Catalogue](#). On our website, you will find the catalogue under "Access our Collections".

We have digitized some of these records and you can view the images in our online Visual Database. [Click here to view the Visual Database](#). On our website, you will find this database under "Access our Collections".

## The Records

The guide is divided into two Sections and begins, chronologically, with the aftermath of the Second World War. The first section of the guide identifies records created, received and managed by the various Ontario Government units while developing and administering policies and programs addressing the needs of the province's ethno-cultural minority groups. The section is divided according to archival series - groups of records that were created and maintained by the same government agency and in accordance with a particular subject, function or activity. Each entry in this section contains the series name, reference number, the date range of the records included in

the series, information about the series' general scope, and a note regarding whether there are any restrictions on public access.

The second section of the guide identifies 'private records' - records that were created by individuals and voluntary associations established by and for ethno-cultural community group members and relating to any of the topics relevant to these communities. These record groups, for the most part smaller in scope and size, are arranged and displayed according to the organization or individual who created or collected them. Each entry contains the fonds<sup>1</sup> or collection's name, reference number, date range, a short description of the scope, and the name of the community to which it is relevant. The order in which the entries are presented follows the Archives' internal numbering system and does not reflect the records' chronological order, scope, size or importance.

## **Ontario Government Records**

Before 1975, the Ontario government did not operate one, dedicated ministry to handle topics related to newcomers' settlement and integration. As a result, records pertaining to these and similar topics can be found across several government operational units. The 1975 creation of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and within it, the Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division, brought about a more wholesome, centralized approach to the creation and implementation of relevant programs and policies. Nevertheless, ongoing organizational restructurings resulted in several changes to units' names and operational mandates. To help users navigate these changes, an alphabetical list of all the Government record-producing units mentioned in the guide, as well as the years in which they operated, is included as an appendix.

### **RG 2-74, Department of Education, Community Programmes Branch general correspondence files**

Dates: 1946 to 1970

The Community Programmes Branch of the Ontario Department of Education was responsible for assisting Ontario communities in planning leisure-time activities and involved, among other activities, administering English programs and citizenship classes for new Canadians. Series consists of correspondence and subject files from the various offices of the Community Programmes Branch. Records are arranged by office location.

### **RG 2-148, Department of Education Community Programmes Branch citizenship correspondence files**

Dates: 1946 to 1960, predominant 1956 to 1960

The community Programmes Branch operated within the Ontario Department of Education. Series consists of correspondence, memoranda, printed materials and other

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<sup>1</sup> A fonds is the records created, received or accumulated by a person, family, organization, business or office through their activities and operations.

documentation pertaining to citizenship training for new Canadians, teacher training and summer courses in English as a second language.

**RG 2-211, Immigration and population statistics relating to education, Ministry of Education**

Dates: 1968 to 1974

Series consists of statistical information supplied by Statistics Canada to the Ministry of Education for planning purposes. The series includes information about immigration data relating to Ontario, 1968-1974 and population statistics relating to Ontario, 1971.

**RG 2-387, Ministry of Education Anti-racism and Ethnocultural Equity Team operational files**

Dates: 1983 to 1996

Some restrictions on access

Series consists of records documenting the programs, policies and actions of the Anti-racism and Ethnocultural Equity Team and their predecessor agencies in their attempts to identify and eliminate racism and other barriers in Ontario's education system.

**RG 8-30, Citizenship Branch language training records**

Dates: 1961 to 1963

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Provincial Secretary and Citizenship pertaining to language and skills training for new Canadians. Records include correspondence, pamphlets, student reports and assignments, and course directories for teachers of English as a Second Language (ESL).

**RG 9-3, The Hungarian Refugee Program files**

Dates: 1956 to 1961

Some restrictions on access

The Hungarian Refugee Program was initiated as a result of the 1956 Soviet military action in Hungary and aimed to co-ordinate Ontario's response to the arrival of the refugees by providing clothing and other material assistance, language training, housing, and other necessities. The program was administered by the Trade and Industry Branch within the Department of Planning and Development. Files contain minutes and reports of groups involved in the program, correspondence, and policy documents relating to the relief fund.

**RG 9-6, Immigration Branch policy files**

Dates: 1946 to 1952

The Immigration Branch operated within the Department of Planning and Development and its mandate was to direct the Ontario Government immigration projects and assist immigrants upon arrival to the province. The series includes files on immigration policy, post-war immigration activities, and the air migration program.

**RG 9-7-4, Ontario Air Immigration Plan Photographs**

Dates: 1947 to 1948

The sub-series includes 201 photographs showing the processing, departure, and arrival of British emigrants under the Ontario Air Immigration Plan. This sub-series is part of the Ontario House Series.

**RG 9-59, Immigrant Entrepreneur Development Program case files**

Dates: 1976 to 1997

Restrictions on access

Series consists of case files pertaining to the Immigrant Entrepreneur Development Program which was initiated by the Ministry of Industry and Tourism and assisted foreign businesspeople seeking to take up residence and establish new business ventures in Ontario. The series contains interview reports, immigrant proposals, offers of employment, and correspondence with various stakeholders.

**RG 9-116, Selective Placement Service immigrant employment recruitment files**

Dates: 1974 to 1988

Restrictions on access

The International Recruitment program was administered by the Selective Placement Service of the Ministry of Industry and Tourism's Consultative Services Branch. The series consists of files documenting the activities of companies involved in the program which aimed to connect employers with immigrants who fit their employment needs.

**RG 10-239, Physician immigration applications files**

Dates: 1975 to 1999

Restrictions on access

Established as a section of the Research Branch within the Ministry of Health, the Health Manpower Planning Section consulted with federal immigration authorities in order to regulate the flow of immigrant physicians into Ontario. Series consists of correspondence and related documentation with the Ministry, other provincial and federal government units, applicants, hospitals, legal counsels, universities, and sponsors pertaining to the Ontario Physician Immigration Program.

**RG 29-140, Ontario Heritage Congress files**

Dates: 1966 to 1974

The Ontario Heritage Congress, or Heritage Ontario, was sponsored by the Community Services Division of the Ministry of Community and Social Services in June 1972. Its purpose was to bring together representatives from the province's various ethnic and cultural communities to discuss concerns and ways in which Ontario society could become more understanding of ethnic and cultural differences. Series consists of records relating to the administration of the Congress and includes minutes of advisory committee meetings; correspondence between officials of the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Congress participants; interim and final reports and other materials.

**RG 47-85, Cultural policy and strategic planning files**

Dates: 1969 to 2001

Series consists of records created, accumulated and maintained during the development of strategic planning and policy analysis on culture within the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and its successors. Series also documents the preparation and co-ordination of policy submissions to Cabinet and Committees of Cabinet, and the review and assessment of social, economic, cultural and multicultural trends and needs.

**RG 47-109, Records of the Field Services Branch of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation**

Dates: 1975 to 1978

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Director of the Field Services Branch at the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. Records pertain to the administration of branch policies and programs and include correspondence among staff, regional field offices, other government offices, municipal councils, parks and recreation departments and multicultural organisations as well as reports, circulars, and other records relating to the development of cultural and recreational activities at the local level. Subjects covered by the records include, among others, citizenship and multiculturalism, program assistance to community information centres, and heritage conservation.

**RG 47-115, Policy files of the Minister of Citizenship and Culture**

Dates: 1985 to 1991

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Minister of Citizenship and Culture and its successor, the Minister of Culture and Communications, pertaining to the development and formulation of cultural policies and programs. Subjects covered by the records include, among others, literacy, multiculturalism, race relations, employment equity, cultural industries, immigration, and newcomers integration issues.

**RG 47-138, Community Service Executive Directors files**

Dates: 1970 to 1975

Series consists of correspondence, reports and related records documenting the activities of the Executive Director of the Community Development Branch and the Community

Services Division within the Department of the Provincial Secretary and Citizenship and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The series documents the role of the Ministry's Executive Director in the promotion and development of provincial policies regarding citizenship, multi-culturalism, sports and recreation.

**RG 54-3, Provincial Secretariat for Social Development policy development files**

Dates: 1970 to 1985

Series consists of records relating to the development of policy proposals within the Provincial Secretariat for Social Development. Records are arranged by specific policy projects including immigration, multiculturalism, refugees and more.

**RG 54-5, Policy development records of the Deputy Provincial Secretary for Social Development**

Dates: 1972 to 1984

Series consists of records created by the Deputy Provincial Secretary for Social Development and includes records such as Cabinet submissions, Cabinet Committee on Social Development records, procedures, policy papers, studies, minutes, legislation proposals, and reports regarding, among others, community groups and immigration.

**RG 72-71, Multicultural Workplace Program files**

Dates: 1992 to 1995

Series consists of records documenting the functions and activities of the Multicultural Workplace Program in its attempts to train and provide consultation services on how to value, manage and benefit from a culturally diverse workforce. The program was operated by the Literacy Branch within the Ministry of Education and the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board.

**RG 72-85, Access to Professions and Trades files**

Dates: 1984 to 2008

Some restrictions on access

The Access to Professions and Trades Unit was responsible for the development and implementation of strategies to reduce barriers for foreign-trained professionals and tradespeople to practice the occupations for which they had been trained. Series consists of material relating to Access to Professions and Trades short-term projects, regulatory bodies, and client information. Files are subject-based and include client files, licensing body files, general ministry files, and general project files.

**RG 74-1, Administrative records of the Executive Director of the Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division**

Dates: 1976 to 1985



Series consists of records pertaining to the administration of the Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division. Records include incoming and outgoing correspondence, memoranda, and reports on citizenship and multicultural programs. Among the topics covered are inter-group and race relations, cultural retention, multiculturalism and integration of newcomers.

**RG 74-2, Correspondence of the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division**

Dates: 1979 to 1992

Records in the series include correspondence among the Deputy Minister, division staff, other Ontario government ministries, the Federal Government, and client groups. Subjects covered by the records include liaison activities with ethnic organizations, associations and groups, formulation of policies, and participation on provincial and federal government committees and conferences.

**RG 74-3, Ethnocultural Database records**

Dates: 1976 to 1991

Series consists of records documenting the development of the ethnocultural database which maintained in-depth statistics on Ontario's ethnocultural make-up, immigrant landings and demographic characteristics. Data was collected by The Ethnocultural Data Information Office which was an independent unit within the Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. Records include correspondence among the staff responsible for the database, academic institutions, and federal and provincial government agencies, contact lists, reports, minutes of internal and external committee meetings, statistics, bibliographies, project files, research and policy guidelines, and requests for data.

**RG 74-6, Correspondence of the Citizenship Development Branch**

Dates: 1967 to 1986

Restrictions on access

Series consists of correspondence created and maintained by the Citizenship Development Branch and its predecessors. Among the subjects covered by the records are bilingualism, community projects, community groups, education, advisory boards, and the Canada Assistance Plan.

**RG 74-7, Multicultural grants correspondence**

Dates: 1970 to 1976

Series consists of correspondence pertaining to grants provided by the Ontario Government to various multicultural groups. Records include grants inquiries, statistics, lists of grants, and background materials. The records detail recommendations, policies and criteria for funding, and program administration, evaluation, and budgets.

### **RG 74-9, Citizenship Education Program correspondence**

Dates: 1970 to 2006

Some restrictions on access

Series consists of correspondence pertaining to the consultation, co-ordination and implementation of citizenship education programs provided by the Ontario government to new Canadians in Ontario. Records include incoming and outgoing correspondence, as well as memoranda, reports and other communications among branch and Ministry officials, community organizations, boards of education, community colleges, regional services, other ministries, and other levels of government.

### **RG 74-10, Correspondence of the Citizenship Branch**

Dates: 1960 to 1975

Series consists of correspondence created and maintained by the Citizenship Branch and its predecessors with the Minister, Deputy Minister and other officials within the government units in which the branch was located. Records include budget materials, statistics, estimates, invoices, research materials, surveys and studies as well as records pertaining to the Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism and the Inter-Governmental Committee on Immigration.

### **RG 74-12, Citizenship Development Branch Director's program records**

Dates: 1977 to 2005

Restrictions on access

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Director of the Citizenship Development Branch and its successors. Records are arranged by subject according to a block numeric classification plan and pertain to the development, evaluation, and co-ordination of citizenship development programs. The series also contains records of the Director of the Newcomer Services Branch whose functions were assumed by the Citizenship Development Branch in 1986.

### **RG 74-13, Newcomer Services Branch policy development and planning records**

Dates: 1982 to 1997

Some restrictions on access

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Newcomer Services Branch pertaining to the development and planning of policies and programs affecting newcomer settlement in Ontario. Records include briefing notes, correspondence, cabinet policy documents, estimates, statistical data, reports, background documentation on newcomer initiatives, contact lists, and minutes of meetings.

### **RG 74-14, Ontario Welcome House administrative records**

Dates: 1979 to 1996

Series consists of records pertaining to the administration and management of the programs and services offered by the Ontario Welcome House which provided immigrants and refugees with multilingual information, referral to government, community, and translation services, and English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction. Records include correspondence, reports and other communications among Ontario Welcome House staff, Ontario government ministries and agencies, municipal governments, and ethnic and non-ethnic organizations.

**RG 74-16, Newcomer Services Branch publications**

Dates: 1967 to 1984

Series consists of books, newspapers, pamphlets, sound recordings, and moving image materials produced by the Citizenship Branch and the Newcomer Services Branch aiming to provide orientation and language training for immigrants and newcomers to Ontario.

**RG 74-17, Citizenship Branch instructional video reels**

Dates: 1972 to 1974

Series consists of video reels produced by the Citizenship Branch and broadcasted as a series on cable television to provide orientation for newcomers to Ontario. Subjects covered by the records include employment, education, the law in Ontario, and Canadian customs and habits

**RG 74-22, Advisory services records of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Dates: 1972 to 1996

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to the delivery of advisory services provided by the Council to federal and provincial governments and multicultural community groups and organizations.

**RG 74-23, Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship committee records**

Dates: 1976 to 1996

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to the work of various committees established by the Council. Subjects covered by the records include, among others, citizenship, cross-cultural relations, cultural development, cultural affairs, education, human rights and anti-defamation, immigration and refugees.

**RG 74-24, Research studies and reports records of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Dates: 1974 to 1996

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to research, studies, and reports produced by the Council and/or by interest groups or individuals commissioned by the Council to research multiculturalism and citizenship issues.

**RG 74-25, Legislative records of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Dates: 1983 to 1988

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to the preparation of, and/or amendments to, statutory orders, individual bills, and orders-in-council regarding multiculturalism, citizenship and related matters. Records include correspondence, research materials and working papers. Records are arranged by subject according to a block numeric classification plan.

**RG 74-26, Speeches and public appearances records of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Dates: 1982 to 1995

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to speeches and other public appearances, prepared and/or delivered by Council staff and members or by private individuals on issues related to multiculturalism and citizenship.

**RG 74-28, Administrative records of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship**

Dates: 1973 to 1996

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship pertaining to the administration of the Council. Files include correspondence among the Council and other Ontario provincial and federal government agencies, ethnic groups and private individuals, minutes of Council meetings, articles, news clippings, reports, resolutions, and recommendations.

**RG 74-42, Multiculturalism policy development records**

Dates: 1979 to 1997

Series consists of records documenting Ontario Government policy formulation and review in the areas of multiculturalism, immigrant integration, native community, and citizenship development. Records include correspondence of the Ministers and Deputy Ministers responsible for multiculturalism, as well as records from the Cabinet Committee on Race Relations, the Ontario Human Rights Commission and other Committees.

### **RG 74-44, Race Relations Policy and Program records**

Dates: 1975 to 1996

Series consists of records documenting the development of government policies and programs regarding race relations in Ontario. Records include policy and program documentation, reports, briefs, as well as correspondence between Ministry officials and organizations and groups involved in race relations issues. Subjects covered by the records include support services, employment, education, municipal government and the criminal justice system. Records were created by the Ontario Human Rights Commission, the Race Relations Directorate, the Ontario Anti-Racism Secretariat and the Policy and Research Branch within the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation.

### **RG 74-45 Race relations training Program records**

Dates: 1979 to 1993

Series consists of records relating to a race relations training program developed by the Ontario Government to assist employers, institutions, organizations and other groups in dealing with race relations issues. The program also provided support services to organizations wanting to develop public education projects designed to raise public awareness of racial issues/concerns. Records were created by the Ontario Human Rights Commission, the Race Relations Directorate, and the Ontario Anti-Racism Secretariat

### **RG 74-50 Citizenship Community support files**

Dates: 1960 to 2004

Some access restrictions

Series consists of records created and maintained by the Community Support Section within the Citizenship Development Branch and its successor agencies. Records pertain to the activities of the Section in providing support services to community and multicultural organizations in Ontario. Records include correspondence amongst Section staff, Ontario government offices, and organizations, as well as briefing notes, performance reports, and program estimates and planning documents.

### **RG 74-52 Race relations projects grants records**

Dates: 1986 to 1995

Series consists of records pertaining to financial grants provided by the Ontario government for community-based race relations projects such as public education initiatives, institutional policy and program development, race relations training, and community outreach. Records include case files which contain grant applications and

other background information on the organization and programs as well as correspondence between the Ministry and the organization.

**RG 74-53, Ministry of Citizenship community development training files**

Dates: 1984 to 1996

Series consists of records pertaining to the administration of the policies and programs of the Organizational Development Section, Citizenship Development Branch, in providing training programs for Ministry staff on citizenship, multiculturalism, and newcomers integration issues and programs to facilitate the settlement and integration of immigrants and refugees. Records include reports, training courses programs, workshops materials, correspondence among Section staff and other Ministry and Ontario government ministries and agencies, as well as correspondence with, and reports on, community and ethnic organisations.

**RG 74-55 Correspondence of the Minister of Citizenship**

Dates: 1987 to 2010

Some restrictions on access

Series consists of correspondence created and maintained by the Minister of Citizenship with the media, community organizations and the general public. Subjects covered by the correspondence include, among others, Ministry policies and programs, issues regarding newcomers' integration, immigration, refugees, multiculturalism, racism and anti-racism.

**RG 74-56 Citizenship and Multiculturalism program correspondence**

Dates: 1987 to 1995

Some restrictions on access

Series documents the development of citizenship and multiculturalism programs in the Ontario government and the involvement of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Citizenship in this process. The series consists of correspondence between the offices of the Minister and Deputy Ministers and other stakeholders in citizenship and multicultural programs.

**RG 74-72 Records of Ministry of Citizenship task forces, committees and commissions relating to advocacy**

Dates: 1980 to 2000

Restrictions on access

Series consists of cumulative records created and received by the task forces, advisory committees and special purpose bodies to examine or advise on specific matters, undertake special studies or investigations, or to inquire into specific issues of public

concern. Subjects covered relate to any of the key areas of the Ministry's responsibilities including multiculturalism, immigrant settlement, race relations, human rights, and access to professions and trades by foreign-trained individuals.

**RG 74-92, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration policy coordination files – general**

Dates: 1993 to 2009

Series contains policy agendas, incoming and outgoing correspondence, minutes of meetings, research and analytical reports, policy plans, project files, copies of Cabinet submissions and other records related to policy coordination. Majority of records in the series concern the Newcomer Settlement Program. Also included are files concerning the Teachers of English as a Second Language Association of Ontario and the Ontario Settlement and Integration Program.

**RG 74-93 Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration program and service design files**

Dates: 1990 to 2005

Series contains records relating to the design of program or service delivery, including option papers, rollout and communications plans, research and analytical reports, education and training materials, memoranda, and general correspondence.

**RG 74-96 Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration Branch general policy development files**

Dates: 1996 to 2008

Restrictions on access

Series generally consists of records that document policy initiatives and projects leading to the development or revision of a policy, including supporting documentation. Records include documentation of meetings with associations, government programs, research, and reports.

**RG 74-97, Director's administration files of the Communications Branch, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration**

Dates: 2001 to 2013

Restrictions on access

Series consist of the administrative files of the Communications Branch within the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Series contains correspondence or briefing material related to immigration, implementation of programs, accessibility standards, and various other communications related to unit and program administration.

## **RG 76-6 Records of the Race Relations Division**

Dates: 1969 to 1986

Restrictions on access

Series consists of the operational records of the Race Relations Division of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. Some of the records prior to the creation of the division in 1982 were created by the Committee on Race and Ethnic Relations and Public Education. The series is divided into four sub-series.

## **Private Records**

### **C 56 David Troster fonds**

Dates: 1955 to 1995

Focus: Jewish community

David Benjamin Troster (1949-1995) was a Toronto filmmaker whose independent films centred on his Jewish and gay identities. Fonds contains Troster's completed and incomplete works as a producer of corporate and independent films and videos, in addition to records such as scripts and production files relating to this creative process.

### **C 82 Irving Abella collection**

Dates: copied 1978 - originals created 1971 to 1973.

Focus: Jewish Community

Irving Martin Abella (b. 1940) is an author, historian and Professor of History at York University. The collection consists of oral history interviews with individuals involved with labour and socialist movements in Ontario and Canada. Many of the interviewees are Jewish emigrants to Canada.

### **C 257 Multilingual Television (Toronto) Limited fonds**

Dates: 1968 to 1989

Focus: Multicultural

Multilingual Television Limited was a Toronto-based television station specializing in multicultural programming. Collection consists of video tapes representing programming produced by the company between 1979 and 1989. Materials in the collection include samples from each of the ethnic groups represented in the programs as well as representative samples from each year's productions. Very little English-language programming is included.

### **C 258 CHIN Radio/TV International collection**

Dates: 1979 to 1991

Focus: Multicultural



CHIN Radio/Television produces multicultural programming for broadcast in Toronto and surrounding areas. Collection consists of videocassettes of television programming produced by CHIN. Programming is produced in a variety of languages, including Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Polish, Portuguese and Punjab.

**C 293 Ontario Folklife Centre fonds**

Dates: 1982 to 1990

Focus: Multicultural

Some restrictions on access

The Ontario Folklife Centre (OFC) was established in 1987 to study the ethnic makeup and folklore of Ontario. Fonds consists of files related to two separate oral history projects. The first project, "Being Here", aimed to research the stories of immigrants who settled in Ontario in the preceding century. The audiocassettes and videotapes are arranged alphabetically by ethnic group. As well, there are 145 transcriptions of interview excerpts. Interviews are primarily in English. The second project is the Native Canadian Oral History Project (1982-1983) consisting of 37 interviews with Canadian Native Indians.

**F 688 Stollman family fonds**

Dates: 1925 to 1989

Focus: Jewish community

The Stollman family was involved in Jewish religious, scholarly, and political activities in Detroit, MI and Windsor, Ontario from 1924 to 1989. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated predominantly Rabbi Isaac Stollman and his son, Rabbi Samuel Stollman, and document the Jewish Canadian experience with respect to the preservation of Orthodox traditions. Fonds contains records in English, Hebrew and Yiddish.

**F 884 International Institute of Metropolitan Toronto fonds**

Dates: 1935 to 1975 (predominant 1951 to 1975)

Focus: Multicultural

Some restrictions on access

The International Institute of Metropolitan Toronto was formed in 1954 and provided support services to new immigrants in the Toronto area until its dissolution in 1975. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by the Institute and its predecessors. It is divided into five series, which are further organized into corresponding sub-series. The fonds includes files in a variety of languages.

**F 1405 Multicultural History Society of Ontario fonds**

Dates: [ca. 1890] to 1989

Focus: Multicultural

Some restrictions on access

The Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) is a not-for-profit educational institution that collects, describes and maintains material related to Ontario's ethnic and cultural development. Each series represents a different ethnic group and each sub-series a different donor or subject based collection. Some series are comprised of photographs while others are made up of textual records pertaining to either individuals or organizations. Overall, there are 52 ethnic groups represented in the fonds.

#### **F 1406 Latvian National Federation in Canada Fonds**

Dates: 1947 to 2004

Focus: Latvian community

The Latvian National Federation in Canada was established in Toronto in 1950 to encourage Latvian immigration to Canada, assist Latvian immigrants, and to support the cause of Latvian independence from the Soviet Union. Fonds contains records created and received by the organization, as well as audiocassettes of oral histories. The fonds has been arranged into 59 series. All records are in Latvian unless otherwise noted.

#### **F 1412 Joshua Gershman fonds**

Dates: 1911 to 1980 (predominant 1925 to 1978)

Focus: Jewish community

Joshua Gershman (1903-1989) was a labour movement worker, journalist, and editor for Jewish progressive newspapers from the mid-1920's to the late 1970's. Fonds consists of professional records pertaining to his activities as editor and journalist for the Yiddish-language, communist newspaper, "Vochenblatt." A significant portion of the materials is in Yiddish.

#### **F 1417 Bohdan Panchuk fonds**

Dates: [192-] to 1983

Focus: Ukrainian Community

Gordon Bohdan Panchuk (1914-1987) was an Ontario-based teacher and journalist, as well as a prominent leader in the inter-war and post-World War II Ukrainian Canadian Community. Fonds consists of records both collected and created by Panchuk in relation to his activities in the Ukrainian Canadian community and with Ukrainian Canadian associations. A substantial part of the records is in Ukrainian.

#### **F 2076 Alvin D. McCurdy fonds**

Dates: 1808 to 1986

Focus: Black community

Alvin D. McCurdy (1916-1989) was a historian, and collector of Black historical materials who lived in Amherstburg, Ontario. Fonds includes personal correspondence and a

genealogy of the McCurdy family as well as records pertaining to Black churches and various other black organisations.

**F 2100 Herbert O. Frind fonds**

Dates: 1913 to 1961 (predominant 1920 to 1961)

Focus: Multicultural

Herbert Otto Frind (1887-1961) was a researcher in the fields of public administration, library and community planning and cultural studies and was involved in the development of related organizations in Toronto and around the world. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by Frind during his career as a researcher and scholar. Fonds is arranged into 36 series.

**F 2117 COSTI-IIAS Immigrant Services**

Dates: 1952 to 1985

Focus: Italian community

Some access restrictions

Fonds consists of the records of the Italian Community Education Centre (COSTI) which was a Toronto-based organization that provided vocational training and assistance for Italian immigrants to Ontario and the records of the Italian Immigrant Aid Society (IIAS) which worked as a non-profit organization in Toronto to aid the settlement of Italian immigrants into Canadian life. Fonds has been arranged into 15 series. Many of the records are in Italian.

**F 2118 Stephen Rosocha fonds**

Dates: 1899 to 1986

Focus: Ukrainian Community

Some access restrictions

Stephen Rosocha (1908-1986) was a journalist and publisher who was active in Ukrainian and Canadian-Ukrainian nationalist, social and political affairs. Fonds consists of personal and professional records created, received and collected by Rosocha. Some files are in Ukrainian.

**F 2130 Daniel G. Hill fonds**

Dates: 1870 to 2003

Focus: Black community

Some access restrictions

Daniel Grafton Hill (1923-2003) was a sociologist, civil servant, human rights specialist, and Canadian Black historian. Fonds consists of personal records and records relating to Hill's involvement with various associations including the Ontario Black History Society. The fonds is divided into 11 series.

**F 2163 Agostino Venier fonds**

Dates: 1934 to 1985 (predominant 1956 to 1985)

Focus: Italian community

Agostino Venier was active in a variety of Canadian-Italian clubs and associations as well as in Ontario politics. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by Agostino and Rita Venier.

**F 4149 Sandor Kertesz fonds**

Dates: 1957 to 1989

Focus: Hungarian Community

Sandor Kertesz (1911-1990) was a prominent actor and director who established the Hungarian Art Theatre in Toronto. Fonds consists of records created or accumulated by Kertesz relating primarily to the Hungarian Art Theatre of Toronto. The records are arranged into three series. A large portion of the records are in Hungarian.

**F 4179 Evelyn W. Brownell fonds**

Dates: 1947 to 1959

Focus: Multicultural

Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by Evelyn W. Brownell during her public service work as the Director of Ontario's immigration Branch. Fonds includes correspondence between Brownell and various government officials regarding immigration, as well as speeches, government briefs, and newspaper clippings. A 1982 interview with Evelyn Brownell regarding the Ontario Air Immigration Plan can be found in series RG 47-27-1.

**F 4378 Order of the Sons of Italy of Canada Fonds**

Dates: 1915 to 2003

Focus: Italian Community

Some restrictions on access

The Order Sons of Italy of Canada is a fraternal society for Italians in Canada. Fonds consists of records created, accumulated and used by the organization (formerly the Order Sons of Italy in Ontario) since its founding in 1915. Fonds is arranged into 26 series by local lodge, and at the sub-series level for the records of the Grand Lodge. Many of the earlier records are in Italian.

**F 4518 Italo-Canadian Cultural Club of Sarnia fonds**

Dates: 1990, 1995

Focus: Italian community

The Italo-Canadian Cultural club of Sarnia is a club for Italian-Canadians in the Sarnia-Lambton area, Ontario. Fonds consists of taped interviews with members of the club regarding a variety of topics pertaining to their immigration and settlement in Canada.

**F 4585 Prieto-McTair Productions Fonds**

Dates: 1939 to 2007 (predominant 1976 to 2007)

Focus: Black community

Some restrictions on access

Prieto-McTair Productions was a Toronto, Ontario based film production company that was in operation from 1982 to 2007 and produced a number of documentaries exploring Black history and culture. The fonds is arranged into eleven series primarily based on the films and documentaries produced by the company.

**F 4638 Multicultural Health Coalition fonds**

Dates: 1983 to 1995

Focus: Multicultural

The Multicultural Health Coalition (MHC) was established in 1984 by members of Ontario's health care community with the mandate to work with government and health agencies to promote cultural sensitivity and responsiveness in health care and ensure that all persons, regardless of racial or cultural background, had equal access to it. Fonds consists of the organizational, project and membership records. Fonds is divided into six series.

**F 4644 Russian Orthodox Immigrant Services of Canada**

Dates: 1994 to 2004

Focus: Russian community

Russian Orthodox Immigrant Services of Canada (ROIS) was a charitable organization established in 1993 and whose primary objective was to assist newly arrived Russian-speaking immigrants in settling and acclimating to life in Canada. Fonds includes records related to ROIS activities and projects. Materials are predominantly in English; however, some materials are in Russian.

**F 4646 Inez Elliston fonds**

Dates: 1964 to 2010

Focus: Multicultural

Fonds consists of the professional records of Dr. Inez Elliston, a retired educator, community development leader and writer based in Toronto and specializing in intercultural education and equitable educational policies. Fonds is divided into six series.

### **F 4656 Congress of Black Women of Canada - Toronto Chapter fonds**

Dates: 1982 to 1997

Focus: Black community

Some restrictions on access

The Congress of Black Women of Canada - Toronto Chapter, was formed in 1983 to provide a forum to ensure that black women's needs and concerns are represented. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by the organization with regards to the administration of the Chapter and records concerning the documentary movie Children Are Not the Problem.

### **F 4684 Echo documentary series fonds**

Dates: 1994 to 2007, predominant 2003 to 2005

Focus: Multicultural

Some restrictions on access

ECHO was a weekly, half hour magazine style television program that was broadcast in 2005 and 2006 and highlighted the accomplishments, achievements, personalities and progress of successful, first, second and third generation Canadians. Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by the Executive Producer and Producers of the Echo documentary series.

### **F 4718 Coming to Voice fonds**

Dates: 1994? to 1998?

Focus: Black community

Some restrictions on access

Fonds consists of records containing material that was included in or used to support the 1999 documentary Coming to Voice, produced by Anthony A. Browne and Glace W. Lawrence. This movie tells the story of the beginnings of Canada's Black film industry.

## **Are there related records?**

We hold records documenting immigration to Canada and naturalization of new citizens. For information on these records, [click here to view research guide 228, Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship Records](#). On our website, you will find this and other research guides on the "Research Guides and Tools" page, under "Access Our Collection"

We also hold a collection of newspapers from various ethno-cultural communities, on microfilm. You may view the microfilm in our reading room, and libraries that offer interloan services can borrow the reels for you. [Click here for a list of these newspapers](#).

On our website, you will find this list in the Microfilm Interloan Catalogue, under “Access Our Collections”.

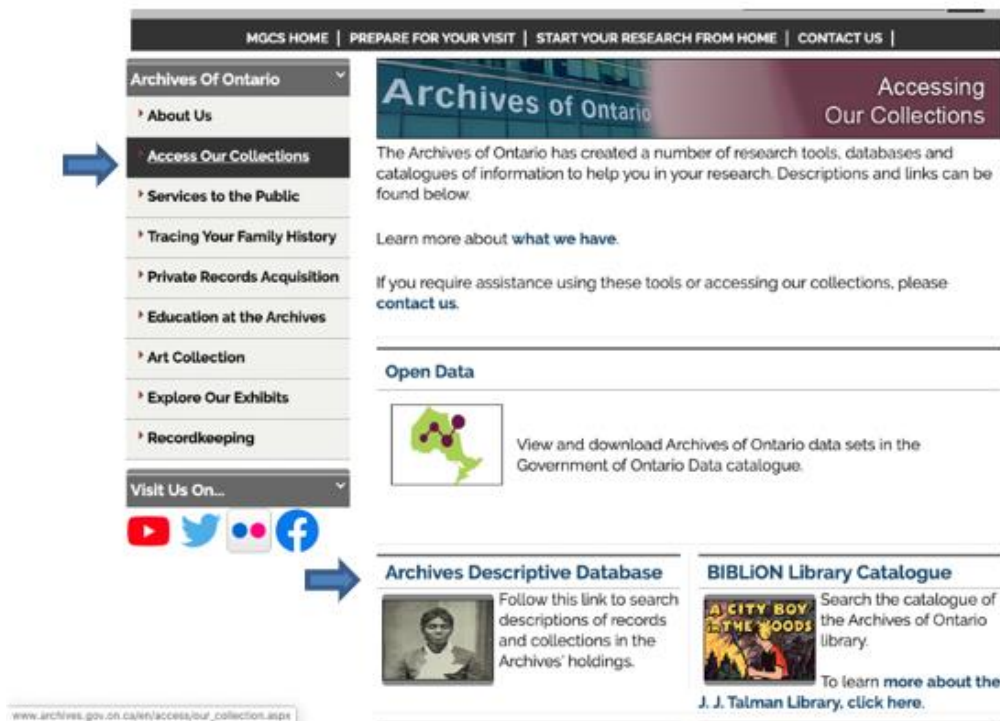
You will find information about our records related to Black history and Franco-Ontarian history on the following resource pages:

- [click here to view our resource page on Black history](#)
- [click here to view our resource page on Franco-Ontarian history](#)

On our website, you will find these resource pages under “Access Our Collections”.

## How do I get to the online descriptions?

1. On our website’s main page, click on “Access our Collections”, and click on “Archives Descriptive Database”, as shown in the image below:



2. In the Database, click on “Advanced Search”:

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# Archives Descriptive Database

The Archives Descriptive Database is the online guide to the archival holdings of the Archives of Ontario.

**New in the Archives Descriptive Database**  
To begin, choose one of the three search options below.

**Option 1: Keyword Search** HELP

Your search returned no results. Please try another search strategy.

Enter a search term or terms:

All these keywords  
  Any of these keywords  
  Exact Phrase

SEARCH

**Sources of Family History**

**Ontario Vital Statistics Records**

If you are researching your **family history** or looking for **historic birth, marriage or death** records, click one of the links above.

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**Option 2: Browse Record Creators**

**Browse Record Creators**

Browse an alphabetical list of the government of Ontario agencies, people, and private sector organizations that have created archival records. Descriptions of record creators link to descriptions of records that the person or agency created.

**Option 3: Advanced Search**

**Advanced Search**

For more advanced search options choose advanced search.

3. On the “Advanced Search” page, click on “Search Groups of Archival Records”:

This image shows the "Advanced Search" page in the Archives Descriptive Database, with an arrow pointing to the "Search Groups of Archival Records" button.

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## Advanced Search Options

HELP

[Return to Main Search Page](#)

For advanced search features, choose one of the search options provided below:

**Search Files and Items**

From Part of

Context of

**Search Groups of Archival Records**

Are Created by

Create

**Search Record Creators**

**Search descriptions of files and items** (such as letters, maps, or audio recordings) in the Archives' holdings. Included are links to the larger group of records to which a file or item belongs.

**Search descriptions of the groups of archival records** that make up our holdings. These include records created by both the Government of Ontario and the private sector. Where available, links are provided to lists of related files and items.

**Search descriptions of Ontario government agencies, families, persons, and private sector organizations that have created archival records** in our holdings. Included are links to information about the archival records created by each person, organization or agency.

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4. On the “Search Groups of Archival Records” page, enter the reference code (that’s the number starting with C, F or RG).

## **Alphabetical List of Government Units Mentioned in this Guide**

Anti-racism and Ethnocultural Equity Team (1993 to 1996)

Citizenship and Multiculturalism Division (1975 to 1978)

Citizenship Branch (1961 to 1978)

Citizenship Development Branch, Ministry of Culture and Recreation (1980 to 1994)

Citizenship Development Branch, Ministry of Citizenship Culture and Recreation (1998-)

Citizenship Division, Department of the Provincial Secretary (1959 to 1961)

Citizenship Division, Ministry of Culture and Recreation (1978 to 1981)

Client Services Branch (1994 to 2003)

Communications Branch, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (1993 to 2018)

Community Development Branch (1970 to 1972)

Community Programmes Branch (1948 to 1968)

Consultative Services Branch (1976 to 1979)

Ethnocultural Data Information Office (1982 to 1994)

Immigration and Settlement Unit (1998 - )

Immigration Branch (1944 to 1955)

Literacy Branch (1988 to 1994)

Ministry of Education (1972 to 1993)

Multicultural Development Branch (1976 to 1980)

Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division (1981 to 1987)

Newcomer Services Branch (1978 to 1986)

Office of the Deputy Minister of Citizenship (1987 to 1995)

Office of the Executive Director, Multiculturalism and Citizenship Division (1975 to 1978)

Office of the Minister, Ministry of Citizenship (1987 to 2010)

Office of the Minister, Ministry of Citizenship and Culture (1982 to 1987)

Office of the Minister, Ministry of Culture and Communications (1987 to 1993)

Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism and Citizenship (1973 to 1996)

Ontario Anti-Racism Secretariat (1991 to 1995)

Ontario Human Rights Commission (1958 - )

Ontario House (1944 to 1993)

Office on Community Consultation (1973 to 1976)

Provincial Secretariat for Social Development (1972 to 1985)

Race Relations Directorate (1988 to 1991)

Race Relations Division, the Ontario Human Rights Commission (1982 to 1988)

Trade and Industry branch (1944 to 1968)

## Contact Us

Although unable to do your research for you, our reference archivists are waiting to assist you. You may call or write to them by mail or email or — best of all — visit the Archives of Ontario.

### Contact us

**Telephone:** 416-327-1600 Toll free (Ontario): 1-800-668-9933

**Email:** [Click here to email the Archives of Ontario](mailto:reference@ontario.ca). The e-mail address is [reference@ontario.ca](mailto:reference@ontario.ca)

**Address:** Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd., Toronto, ON M7A 2C5

### Website

Visit our website for information about our collections and our services, our online exhibits and education programs, and links to our social media accounts. [Click here to visit our website](http://www.ontario.ca/archives). The website is [www.ontario.ca/archives](http://www.ontario.ca/archives).

## **Customer Service and Research Guides**

Our guides contain information about our services, freelance researchers available to do research for you, and some of most popular records. [Click here to view our guides](#). To find the “Research Guides and Tools” on our website, click on “Access our Collections”.

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