

Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary Archives

Finding Aid - Mission Council (073)

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary Archives

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Mission Council

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Summary information

Repository:	Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary Archives
Title:	Mission Council
Title [Other title information] :	Diocesan Mission Council
Reference code:	073
Date:	1969-2019 (creation)
Physical description:	41 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Created May 31, 2021. Revised Jul 4, 2024.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

The Vatican Council's new understanding of mission was embraced early in the Diocese of Calgary. Mission Council was established in 1970 according to the wishes of Bishop Paul J. O'Byrne, with Fr. Joseph Toole playing a pivotal part. The immediate concern of the Council was to activate the relationship of the people of this Diocese with Fr. Malo in Peru and to take a complete look at the Diocese and its mission commitments as a whole. The first need was to conduct a mission education program and this was started in Fall 1971 with the aid of the Scarboro Foreign Mission Fathers.

In 1972 negotiations started with the Spiritan Fathers to promote joint efforts towards Mission work. Fr. Louis Connelly and Fr. Patrick O'Donoghue volunteered together with Fr. James M. Hagel, a diocesan priest. In March 1983 Fr. Toole was the Director of Mission Council and John Stoeber was Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Council worked with a National Mission Council and a Western Regional Council.

In 1969 the Council sent Fr. Louis Malo to assist in an Alberta-sponsored mission in Lima, Peru. He was the first native Calgary diocesan priest to enter missionary work. A small group of lay people formed a committee, the Alberta Mission Committee, to act as a liaison with Fr. Malo in Peru to assure him of moral and financial support. This major initiative was nurtured and overseen by Fr. Joe Toole. In 1980 Fr. Malo returned to the Diocese but was missioned again to South America in 1982 to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, where he remained for the rest of his life.

In 1974 Mission Council established a partnership with the Diocese of Chikwawa in Malawi. It was chosen because it lacked personnel – there were 19 priests for 61,000 people, and it was a young diocese. This was the first time in Canada that a Catholic diocese had joined an overseas missionary community in sending and sponsoring missionaries to the Global south. In the 1970s Spiritan priests served for the Diocese and in the 1980s Fr. Jim Hagel and Fr. Larry Bagnall served there. When the missionaries withdrew from Chikwawa in 1985 it was because the young diocese could now stand on its own.

In 1982 Mission Council gave a grant of \$10,000 to CCIS to support the 'mission' work being done for refugees and immigrants who were temporarily housed at Cabrini House. In 1983 Mission Council committed itself to supply a counselor for the Calgary Interfaith Welcome and Recreation Centre.

In 1973 Mission Council became involved in fundraising, principally in October (Mission month) and Advent, which concentrated on Diocesan projects.

As mission awareness increased it became clear that home missions particularly the Indian reserves deserved attention. As of May 1976 the Council accepted responsibility of the financial support to the reserves in the Diocese as well as the Drop-In Centre, then known as the Inner City Project under the Council of Social Affairs. Mission Council helped sustain faith on the Tsuut'ina Reserve largely since 1980. In 1996 Sr. Annette John was parish administrator at Our Lady of Peace Parish.

In 1986 the Father Latour Native Pastoral Centre was established at 216 – 18th Ave. SW, Calgary. This was a year of new beginnings. The first lay missionaries, Patricia and Luis Flores were missioned by Bishop Paul in June to the Diocese of Tehuacan, Mexico. The family was involved in parish ministry in the rural area of Los Reyes Mezontla. A lay missionary formation program was created. Funding was also given to some ethnic communities – the Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese and to a Native Leadership Training Program.

Aims are to assist and advise the bishop on mission matters, to coordinate all missionary efforts outside and inside the Diocese, foster greater lay involvement and raise and distribute the necessary funds for mission work in the Diocese. It differed from all other services in the Diocese as it had to raise its own budget.

As the Mission Council evolved its constitution was revised in 1978 and 1985.

Two missionaries were sent to the North West Territories (the MacKenzie Missionary Project) on July 1, 1989, prospective seminarian Roland and Mount Angel seminarian Hans Englehart.

Funding was obtained by asking groups like the Knights, Church Extension, Teachers' Association and making general appeals. It also received an allocation from the Annual Bishop's Appeal, \$85,000 in 1993.

Sr. Cecily Graves FMM was working as a Native Catechist in 1993. In 1992 she was listed as being on Mission Council staff, and as Coordinator of Religious Instruction on the Reserves.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of papers created and collected by the Diocesan Mission Council from its beginnings in 1970. Includes minutes, papers, publications and correspondence. It also includes papers of the Kateri Pastoral Council for First Nations Catholics.

Notes

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** CA RCDCA 073

Series descriptions

<p>Series 073-S1: Correspondence</p>

<p><u>Date:</u> 1974-1987 (creation)</p>
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Scope and content: Series consists of correspondence with the Catholic Church Extension Society (1974-1986), with the missions in the Diocese of Cape Palmas, Liberia (1974-1986), with Drs. Wayne and Paulette Church in San Pedro Sula, Honduras (1978-1979), and Luis and Patricia Flores with Project Mexico (1986-1987).

Physical description: 2.5 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3560

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3589

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3561

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3564

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S2: Minutes

Date: 1971-2014 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of the minutes of Mission Council.

Physical description: 23.5 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 158.3172

Physical storage: Folder: 158.3174

Physical storage: Folder: 158.3173

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3570

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3565

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3581

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3574

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3573

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3582

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3586

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3571

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3588

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3566

Physical storage: Folder: 295.5111

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3587

Physical storage: Folder: 359.5448

Physical storage: Folder: 175.3585

Physical storage: Folder: 404.6048

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S3: Publications

Date: 1969-1995 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of copies of publication Mission News. Also includes text of 'Come to Me . . . I am the Way', with Biblical references. This is the text of a video commissioned by the Calgary Diocese Mission Council and developed by Fr. Maurice Goutier OMI, and produced by Cornerstone Communications. Includes a letter from Fr. Goutier (?) to Sr. Cecily Graves postmarked 1995. Also includes worship aids for departure Masses for Malawi and Peru from Alberta Mission for Latin America and Mission Council, a report entitled 'The General Overview of the Work Being Done by The Mission Council of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary', Jan-Dec 1984, Mission '91 North West Territories Send Off Mass, Jul 2, 1992 worship aid, printed texts of encouragement for missionaries and information from Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP) and members' Resource Manual for the Diocesan Mission Council, revised in 1987.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 116.2262

Physical storage: Folder: 116.2261

Physical storage: Folder: 295.5110

Physical storage: Folder: 110.2137

Physical storage: Folder: 279.5058

Physical storage: Folder: 116.2260

Physical storage: Folder: 174.3576

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S4: Kateri Pastoral Council

Date: 1994-2018 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of minutes and other papers related to the Kateri Pastoral Council. Includes a history of its founding.

Physical description: 5 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 166.3381

Physical storage: Folder: 286.5075

Physical storage: Folder: 395.5969

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S5: Papers

Date: 1970-2017 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of papers of the Diocesan Mission Council. Includes a history of the Council. Also includes contract and papers related to the hiring of Rafael Legaria as part of the Diocesan Third World Awareness Program. Also includes papers on spiritual and educational development of Native People. Includes records related to the Plains Indian Survival School, 1981. Also includes minutes, and plans for a Native Spiritual Centre, 1980-1981. Includes item comprising photocopied article from the Pastoral Reporter newspaper, Feb, 1990 entitled, 'The Mission Council: 20 years later' by Sr. Denise Paquette, FMM. Outlines the history and mandate of Mission Council. Also included are talks, presentations, and correspondence maintained by Sr. Rita Kim, FMM; correspondence and annual reports related to the Catholic Aboriginal Council; and photographs, a newspaper article, and a proposal draft.

Physical description: 9 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 172.3512

Physical storage: Folder: 279.5059

Physical storage: Folder: 184.3800

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3542

Physical storage: Folder: 359.5449

Physical storage: Folder: 378.5570

Physical storage: Folder: 395.5977

Physical storage: Folder: 395.5974

Physical storage: Folder: 378.5571

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S7: Indigenous Ministry

Creator: Mission Council

Date: 2002-2018 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of prayers for First Nations. Includes 2 photographs. Also included are papers related to the Indigenous Pastoral Leadership Program, 2018.

Physical description: 1.25 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 395.5967

Physical storage: Folder: 395.5968

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

Series 073-S6: Native Christian Leadership Program

Date: 1976-1978 (creation)

Scope and content: Series consists of papers related to the Native Christian Leadership Program. Includes report by Edward Little Bear, correspondence from Sr. Jeannine Coulombe SGM, and a program outline for the Native Christian Leaders' program, 1977. Also includes information on training for permanent deacons. Also includes Native Peoples' Pastoral Committee Minutes and related papers. Includes facilitator's report, 1978.

Physical description: 2.5 cm of textual records

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3558

Physical storage: Folder: 173.3559

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

Published

073-I1	<p>Item - Spiritan Missionary News, vol. 9, no. 2 1984 1 document</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 116.2259</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> Item consists of copy of the Spiritan Missionary News with a special feature on Malawi, vol. 9, no. 2.</p>
073-F2	<p>File - Western Mission Council Conference 1979-1983 0.5 cm of textual records</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 174.3577</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p>

	File consists of papers of the Western Mission Council Conference, 1979-1983.		
073-F3	File - St. Kateri Catholic School, Blood Reserve	2012-2013	1 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 378.5575</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of correspondence related to the proposed Saint Kateri Catholic School, Standoff. Includes letter from Jim Sisson, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and Dorine Rabbit, Board Chair, dated July 4, 2013. Also includes Three Year Education Plan, 2012-2015 for the Saint Kateri Catholic School Blood Reserve Society.</p>		
073-F4	File - Constitution & By-Laws	1975-2016	2 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Creator:</i> Mission Council</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 395.5965</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of Constitutions & By-Laws from 1975-2016. Includes a resource manual of The Mission Council of The Diocese of Calgary.</p>		
073-F1	File - Policies	1981-1985	0.5 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 174.3575</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of a copy of the Diocese of Calgary Mission Council Policy Manual for Missionaries, 1981 and a copy of the CRC Lay Association of Missions Mission Preparation Program. Also includes the Lay Missionary Program for Calgary, 1985.</p>		
073-F5	File - Mission Sudan	2019	0.25 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Creator:</i> Mission Council</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 395.5972</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of correspondence, 3 enlarged photographs, and digitized building plans.</p>		
073-F6	File - Daughters of Charity, Haiti	19??	0.05 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Creator:</i> Mission Council</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 395.5966</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of 12 photographs, 2 per page with captions.</p>		
073-F7	File - Pontification Mission Societies	2009-2015	2 cm of textual records
	<p><i>Creator:</i> Mission Council</p> <p><i>Physical storage:</i></p>		

	Folder: 395.5971 <i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of compiled annual report of Pontifical Mission Societies from 2009 and 2015. Includes correspondence, and other related papers.		
073-F8	File - Presentation <i>Creator:</i> Mission Council <i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 378.5578 <i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of presentation made by Sr. Cecily Graves, ffm to Knights of Columbus, Fr. Forsythe Council #4748, Olds on Padre Night, November 12, 2004. Includes images from the presentation and a program.	2004	0.5 cm of textual records
073-F9	File - Guidelines on overseas spending <i>Creator:</i> Mission Council <i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 404.6047 <i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of the Feb. 14, 2002 guidelines, as well as memorandums and correspondence related to overseas spending.	2002-2006	0.5 cm of textual records
073-F10	File - Native Ministry <i>Creator:</i> Mission Council <i>Physical storage:</i> Folder: 404.6049 <i>Scope and content:</i> File consists of 1988 Native Parish Reserve Information report, a copy of The Church and the Native Peoples of Canada report, correspondence, documents related to a meeting between Bishop Paul O'Byrne and Chief Peter Strikes With A Gun, the Brocket, St. Paul's Parish Pastoral Report 2004, and the 2008 Survey on Leadership and Spirituality in Aboriginal Catholic Communities.	1988-2014	1 cm of textual records