

Title:	Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Fonds, 1957-1976, n.d.		
Creator:	Ontario Editorial Bureau		
Dates of Material:	1957-1976, n.d.	Record Group Number:	RG 75-73
Summary of Contents:	<p>Correspondence, Clippings and Press Releases, 1957-1976 Some of the major topics included are:</p> <p>1.1 Correspondence and a list of conservation areas, 1957</p> <p>1.2 A dam was completed at the Boyd Conservation area which is located 2 miles from Woodbridge. The second annual Pioneer Festival was held at Dalziel Conservation Area, 1958</p> <p>1.3 A conservation camp school was held at Camp Kneale. The Pioneer Museum at Jane Street announced a collection of antique toys that were loaned to Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority by Mr. Percy Band, 1959</p> <p>1.4 Correspondence, 1960</p> <p>1.5 The Conservation Authority has been carrying out a broad program of conservation work aimed at forest, soil, water and wildlife. It has also been acquiring lands for development as conservation areas. In 1961 they were getting ready to carry out the long-range \$39,000,000 flood control and water conservation program in the watersheds within their jurisdiction, 1961</p> <p>1.6 Correspondence, 1962</p> <p>1.7 Included is a list of Pioneer Village publicity and events for the year, 1963</p> <p>1.8 Charles Sauriol of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority was seeking public financial support of the Roblin's Mill project which was underway at Pioneer Village. Interviews with Albert Colucchi, Director of Pioneer Village were being scheduled, 1964</p> <p>1.9 A press preview opening was planned for Black Creek Pioneer Village, 1965</p> <p>1.10 Black Creek Pioneer Village opened to the public effective May 21, 1966</p> <p>1.11 Includes <i>Conservation also means Recreation in Metro</i> by John Grimshaw and <i>Winter Fun in Metro's Conservation Areas</i> by John Grimshaw, 1967</p>		

1.12 The Honourable J.R. Simonett, Ontario's Minister of Energy and Resources Management officially opened Roblin's Mill at Black Creek Village on July 25. Included is a poem extolling Albion School. The poem was written by Cathy Boon, a grade 7 student. Three conservation areas opened for family camping during the summer months. These camps included: Albion Hills, Cold Creek and Goodwood. A symposium was held to encourage dialogue and action on enhancing highways and waysides under the Authority's jurisdiction. The Milne Dam was constructed by the Authority to harness the flood waters of the Rouge River, 1968

1.13 The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority publicized its flood warning and forecasting system. Educational aspects of Black Creek Pioneer Village were discussed. Conservation week was observed and citizens were invited to visit some of the conservation areas and see the work being carried out, 1969

1.14 The Authority held its 3rd annual maple syrup making demonstration. The problem of erosion in Metro Toronto and the surrounding area was discussed. A draft of the flood control plan is included in this file. Miss Blanche E. Snell was honoured as a Canadian pioneer in the teaching of conservation. H.R. Ledingham was appointed as the Region Conservation Foundation's Administrative Director. Public service radio spots highlighting each of the four seasons are included, 1970

1.15 Bruce Snider, George Snider and Campbell Snider were honoured for their contribution to the preservation of pre-confederation pioneer life at Black Creek Pioneer Village. A major project in the Metropolitan Toronto Waterfront Plan was inaugurated with the unveiling of a project sign and inspection of the work site at the mouth of Mimico Creek. A fall shooting competition of the Ontario Antique Arms Collectors Association was held in September, 1971

1.16 Includes a clipping regarding a book by Eustella Langdon entitled *Pioneer Gardens at Black Creek Pioneer Village*. The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority agreed to study a proposal made by the town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, for a plan of recreational facilities at the Stouffville Dam and Reservoir. Grants given to area conservation authorities were slated to be slashed, 1972

1.17 The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority announced plans for a \$1 million centre for environmental studies including forestry at the Boyd conservation area near Toronto. The Claireville Tourist Campground was officially opened, 1973

1.18 Included is background information on Frederick A. Wade who was appointed Authority Chairman in February of 1973. The Claireville Dam and Reservoir and the G. Ross Lord Dam were credited with reducing the

flood flows on the Humber and Don Rivers. Farm crop day was held at Albion Hills. The development of the conservation authority movement in Ontario over a 25 year period (1946-1970) was chronicled in the book *Conservation by the People* by Dr. A.H. Richardson. An article about Hurricane Hazel is included on the 20th anniversary of the devastating hurricane. Articles and press releases about Black Creek Pioneer Village's Christmas celebrations. 4 b&w photos of the Christmas festivities are included, 1974

1.19-1.20 Grant Henderson took over as chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. A Rogationtide (a time observed by Christians as days of solemn supplication for the harvest and marked by processions, prayers, and blessing of the crops) service was held at Black Creek Pioneer Village, 1975-1976

Press Releases featuring recreational and educational activities offered to the public as well as information on projects taken on by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 1957-1967, 1969-1971, 1974-1975 Topics included:

1.21 The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority came into being. \$667,300 was the budget for 1957 clearance of flood plains, reforestation projects, development of conservation areas and establishment of historical sites. Offices were established at Woodbridge. A mammoth fishing day for kids only was planned. A 150 acre conservation area was opened at Heart Lake. A 234 acre "family playground" was opened on the Boyd property. A bronze plaque was placed on a granite millstone marking the site of a grist mill and sawmill built in 1810 in the town of Weston. The fight against Dutch elm disease was discussed. A triangular marker was placed on the grounds of St. Andrew's Church, Bendale, Scarborough. The plaque perpetuates the memory of the Indian trail which David Thompson followed, the memory of the Thompson settlement and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1957

1.22 A budget of \$987,198 for operating during 1958 was approved. An \$800,000 program of land acquisition in the Highland Creek area of suburban east Toronto was revealed. More than a dozen woodland or fishing sites were available. A list of these sites is provided. A new plan to give better flood warning protection was approved. Nearly 400,000 trees were planted by the Authority. A 284 page history of the Don Valley was prepared by Charles Sauriol. The village of Summerville on Dundas Street is dedicated as an historic site. The construction of a multi-purpose dam in the Albion Hills Conservation Area was approved. The 375 acre A.H. Richardson Conservation Area in Pickering Township was opened on August 6th. Work began on the construction of four weirs across the lower Humber River. The first water control scheme to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority opened on October 3rd. The project was known as WC-1 and was a \$35,000 project in

Goodwood Village, south of Stouffville. The erosion of Scarborough Bluffs was inspected. An historical marker commemorating Haggerts Brothers Agricultural Works was dedicated at Brampton, 1958

1.23 Ground breaking ceremonies in connection with the construction of a dam at Albion Hills were held. A strong protest against the Ontario Government's move to discontinue grants to restore historical buildings was registered by the Authority. The town of Brampton was granted permission to carry out test drilling for water in the Heart Lake Conservation Area. A 165 acre conservation area known as Glen Haffy was opened on June 24th. The development of a 200 acre conservation area in the Rouge River Valley between Highway 401 and Lake Ontario was approved. Metro Toronto and region's massive \$35,000,000 plan for flood control and water conservation was presented to Ontario's Minister of Planning and Development, W.M. Nickle, 1959

1.24 Work was started on the flood retardation dam on the Black Creek north of Wilson Avenue. The government gave its approval to a \$34,000,000 regional flood control and water conservation program. The 50 acre Humber Trails Conservation Area, east of Nobleton was officially opened. Mr. Percy Band's early Canadian toy collection was on display at the Dalziel Barn at the Black Creek Conservation Area. Extension of the flood warning system operated by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority received full approval from the Authority, 1960

1.25 Municipalities within the boundaries of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority received flood line maps depicting the flood vulnerable portions of the watersheds in their respective areas. A 400 acre conservation area located in Pickering was officially opened. A \$1,128,5694 program of flood plain land acquisition and small dam construction was approved, 1961

1.26 Cold Creek Conservation Area, northwest of Nobleton was opened on June 20th. The Laidlaw Foundation presented \$15,000 to the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation for the purchase of the Percy Band pioneer toy collection. Two plays, *Dora the Beautiful Dishwasher* and *Othello* were staged at Black Creek Pioneer Village, 1962

1.27 Consideration of a 65 foot high flood control dam on Duffin Creek in Pickering was approved. Minister William G. Davis officially opened the Albion Hills Conservation School on October 23rd. A 120 year old grist mill from Ameliasburg, Ontario finds a new home at Black Creek Pioneer Village, 1963

1.28 A booklet on the Black Creek Pioneer Village was produced by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. A 180 acre conservation area in Pickering Township was proposed. It would be known as Petticoat Creek Conservation Area. The public was invited to the newly-

opened Claireville Dam and Reservoir near Woodbridge. An 1830 flatbed printing press was donated to the Conservation Authority for Black Creek Pioneer Village by W.B. Murkar, publisher of the Pickering News, 1964

1.29 The National Film Board completed production of an educational film strip which used Black Creek Pioneer Village as its location, 1965

1.30 An old-time Pennsylvania-German festival was held at Black Creek Pioneer Village. The Black Creek flood control channel was opened on November 14th, 1966

1.31 Elgin H.W. Card was elected chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation. A landmark of pre-Confederation Toronto was put on display in Toronto's downtown. It was a replica of a 118 year old fire hall and pumper. This was set up by the British America Assurance Company. The Conservation Authority took preliminary action on remedial works to prevent further erosion of ravine properties on North York streets, 1967

1.32 The Stouffville Dam and Reservoir was officially opened on October 11th, 1969

1.33 Classes began at the Claremont Conservation Field Centre. Ontario's Municipal Affairs Minister, W. Darcy McKeough officiated at the opening of the Town Hall at Black Creek Pioneer Village. The town hall was a gift from the Wilmot Township Council. The Claireville Conservation Area was officially opened on June 20th. An anonymous donor enabled Black Creek Pioneer Village to retain a collection of hand-carved works which depict pioneer craftsmen engaged at their respective trades. A new advisory board was established to supervise implementation of the large scale regional waterfront plan, 1970

1.34 Charles Sauriol won the Julian T. Crandall Award for his contribution to conservation of the renewable resources of forest, field and stream in Canada. 40 teachers took part in a 4 week outdoor and conservation education program entitled Man and His Environment. This was held at the Claremont Conservation Field Centre. Approval for the hiring of 106 students was part of the provincial government's SWEEP program. The first major project of the Metropolitan Toronto Waterfront Plan took place on June 23rd. The project was a 14 acre park and recreational area with boat launching facilities at the mouth of Mimico Creek in Etobicoke, 1971

1.35 R. Grant Henderson was appointed Chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 1974-1975

Flyers and Pamphlets, 1957-1958, 1968, 1972, 1974, 1976, n.d.

	<p>1.36 Included are: the program for the opening ceremonies of Heart Lake Conservation Area, flyers for school competitions and <i>Conservation in Action</i> published by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 1957-1958, 1968, 1972, 1974, 1976, n.d.</p>
<p>Physical Description / Condition:</p>	<p>38 cm, (1 box) containing correspondence and press releases.</p>
<p>Administrative/ Biographical Sketch</p>	<p>The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority was created in February of 1957. This came from a merger of 4 watershed authorities in the 950 square mile region extending from Lake Ontario to a line just south of Orangeville and Whitby, east from Brampton to Ajax and from Mono Mills to Dagmar. The Authority took in the watersheds of the Humber, Etobicoke-Mimico, the Don and the Rouge-Duffin Creek, Highland Creek-Petticoat Creek. It is one of 36 conservation authorities in Ontario.</p> <p>The Authority is concerned with the establishment of conservation areas, reclamation of flood plains and wasteland, historical sites, land use, reforestation, water control and the general conservation of wildlife, soil, water and forest areas. It operates conservation areas which are open to the public for recreational use. It also operates Black Creek Pioneer Village and it operates 5 dams for flood control.</p>
<p>Location:</p>	<p>Brock University Archives</p>
<p>Source Information:</p>	<p>This collection is part of the Ontario Editorial Bureau fonds, donated by Lou Cahill in November 1997.</p>

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Related material held at other repositories:			
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