

<b>Title:</b>	Fonthill Women's Institute fonds, 1913-1983 (non-inclusive)		
<b>Creator:</b>	Fonthill Women's Institute		
<b>Dates of Material:</b>	1913-1983	<b>Record Group Number:</b>	RG 7
<b>Summary of Contents:</b>	Fonds contains 14 minute books of the Fonthill Women's Institute. Years covered include 1913-1918; 1921-1927; and 1936-1983. Each volume contains meeting minutes, membership lists, and financial statements.		
<b>Physical Description / Condition:</b>	14 minute books		
<b>Other Notes:</b>	<p>The first Women's Institute branch was formed in Stoney Creek in 1897 with the objective of improving women's skills in the art of homemaking and childcare. The Institute was founded by Adelaide Hunter Hoodless and Erland Lee. Adelaide lost her one year old son in 1889, likely as a result of drinking contaminated milk. She felt compelled to take action to prevent similar incidents by educating women about domestic science. As a result of her efforts, domestic science and sewing were added to the Hamilton school curriculum.</p> <p>In 1919, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario was formed to better advocate for its members and their communities by working as a united group. That same year, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada was formed. Over the years, the original focus expanded to include government lobbying and health and community wellness projects. Currently, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario has approximately 3,500 members in 270 Branches across Ontario.</p> <p>The Fonthill Women's Institute was established in 1913, with Mrs. M.J. Dalton as president, Mrs. A.L. Root as Vice-President and Mrs. G.C. Brown as Secretary-Treasurer. The Institute was instrumental in raising money and</p>		

	<p>providing assistance to the community during both World Wars and the Depression. A Community Hall was established for the Institute in 1940, with the assistance of the village council and municipality.</p>		
<b>Location:</b>	Brock University Archives		
<b>Source Information:</b>	Material was donated by Amy Young on behalf of the Fonthill Women's Institute in 1993.		
<b>Described by:</b>	Chantal Cameron	<b>Date:</b>	June 2018