

Beaton Institute Archives

Finding Aid - Scottish Catholic Society fonds (MG 6.26)

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Language of description: English

Beaton Institute Archives

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Scottish Catholic Society fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Beaton Institute Archives
Title:	Scottish Catholic Society fonds
ID:	MG 6.26
Date:	1920-1946 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Language:	Scottish Gaelic
Physical description:	5 cm of textual records

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Scottish Catholic Society of Canada, Diocese of Antigonish, was founded by Rev. Donald M. MacAdam at Iona in 1919. Its purpose was to preserve the Catholic faith among those of Scottish heritage, to propagate the history of Scotland, and to preserve the Gaelic language and Scottish traditions.

Custodial history

Records were donated by Joseph Lawrence MacDonald, Effie MacDonald, Vincent MacLean, J.J. MacKinnon, Mrs. Bernie MacIntosh, Sir D.C. MacDonald, Donald MacGillivray and the Cape Breton Gaelic Society.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of minutes, correspondence, constitution and by-laws, financial records, addresses, cash book, roll book, and membership records that were created by the Scottish Catholic Society.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

File list is available: MG 6.26 [<http://beaton.cbu.ca/ATOM/MGS/6/MG6.26.pdf>]

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Celtic Music (subject)
- Celtic Music - Collections (subject)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings

Item: MG 6.26 A - Minutes of the Boisdale (Mary Stuart) Branch of the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada

Title: Minutes of the Boisdale (Mary Stuart) Branch of the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada

ID: MG 6.26 A

Date: 1920 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item contains information on the members of the Boisdale branch of the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada, information on performances and goals of the recently established society.

Physical description: 1 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Religion - Catholic (subject)
 - Highland Societies (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Boisdale (N.S.) (place)
 - Boisdale (N.S.) (place)
-

Item: MG 6.26 B - Letter Expressing Concern about the Quality of Performances During Society Meetings

Title: Letter Expressing Concern about the Quality of Performances During Society Meetings

ID: MG 6.26 B

Date: 1922 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from the chief of the St. Kentigern Branch of the Scottish Catholic Society to other members.

Physical description: 1 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

File: MG 6.26 C 1-5 - Membership Items

Title: Membership Items

ID: MG 6.26 C 1-5

Date: 1920-1929 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains:

1. Invitations to National Conventions in various places.
2. Records of payment by members collected by the treasurer.
3. Membership cards - dated.
4. The original constitution of 1920.
5. Semi-annual Report of the St. Kentigern Branch, 1927.
6. Blank membership forms.
7. A Letter from the St. Kentigern Branch imploring Catholics of Scottish decent to support the Society.
8. Blank sheets with the society's letterhead.
9. Blank Certificates of enrollment in the society.

Physical description: 3 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Religion - Catholic (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Highland Societies (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

File: MG 6.26 C 6-7 - Constitution and Financial Records for the Society

Title: Constitution and Financial Records for the Society

ID: MG 6.26 C 6-7

Date: 1920-22 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item includes hand and type written revisions to the constitution of the society as well as a number of blank or partially filled-in financial record sheets published by the society. These sheets also include the names of various branches of the society throughout Cape Breton.

Physical description: 3 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Religion - Catholic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

Item: MG 6.26 C 7 - Membership Record Book

Title: Membership Record Book

ID: MG 6.26 C 7

Date: 1920-1932 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a record of payment and membership. Surnames are listed alphabetically as per their name following "Mac". Home addresses for the members are also provided.

Physical description: 6 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Highland Societies (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

Item: MG 6.26 D1 - Minutes of the Society and Correspondence

Creator: MacKinnon, J. J.

Title: Minutes of the Society and Correspondence

Title [statRep]: MacKinnon, J. J.

ID: MG 6.26 D1

Date: 1941-1947 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a book of minutes for the meetings of St. Kentigern (Sydney) branch of the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada. Also included are financial record, correspondence and the picture of Sister Marguerite Bourgeoys. Issues brought up in the writings include: the development of the Gaelic College in St. Anns; the staging of plays as fundraisers; the relationship with the society and Fr. Nearing; and efforts to have a Gaelic broadcast despite the fact the the Canadian government forbade it.

Physical description: 2 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacInnis, Joseph J. (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Literature - Drama (subject)
 - Literature - Plays (subject)
 - Gaelic College (subject)
 - Gaelic Radio (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

Item: MG 6.26 D2 - Report of the Sydney Gaelic School Commitee

Creator: MacKinnon, Joseph

Title: Report of the Sydney Gaelic School Commitee

Title [statRep]: MacKinnon, Joseph

ID: MG 6.26 D2

Date: 1922 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is the report of the first meeting of a committee committed to having Gaelic taught in the public school system. They are acknowledging the demands of the Council of Public Instruction and discussing ways to meet them.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual recordsLanguage of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

In 1920, M. R. MacLeod drew up a petition to have Gaelic taught in the public school system. It gained over 5400 signatures and in 1921 the Nova Scotia Legislature approved Gaelic as a subject in the curriculum. Due to requirements to have teachers trained to teach the language and a lack of teaching materials, no immediate advancements were made. These impediments prompted the James A. MacNeil to produce the first Gaelic instructional aid for schools. Catholics and Protestants came together to organize night classes for adults in the hopes of producing Gaelic teachers that would be adequately skilled for the classroom.

Related material:

The 1920 petition for Gaelic in the Nova Scotia curriculum:
<https://goo.gl/aSe5FP>

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Education (subject)
 - Language Revival (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Education - Gaelic (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
-

File: MG 6.26 E - Speeches Delivered by the Glace Bay Branch of the Society

Creator: MacPherson, Msgr. Hugh P.

Title: Speeches Delivered by the Glace Bay Branch of the Society

ID: MG 6.26 E

Date: 1942 (collection) (date of creation)

Date: 1930 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains two different speeches and their English translations. The first speech is not dated but was a welcome to John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, Governor General of Canada on his visit to Glace Bay. Tweedsmuir died in 1940. A photocopy is also included. The second speech is regarding the history of the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada and its Glace Bay Branch, Saint Margaret. It is dated 1942.

Physical description: 10 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacDougall, John A.
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Highland Societies (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Glace Bay (N.S.) (place)
 - Glace Bay (N.S.) (place)
 - Antigonish (N.S.) (place)
-

File: MG 6.26 F - Port Hood Branch of the Society Materials

Title: Port Hood Branch of the Society Materials

ID: MG 6.26 F

Date: 1920-1923 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of: records of payment for annual membership, membership application forms and financial records.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Port Hood (N.S.) (place)
 - Port Hood (N.S.) (place)
-

File: MG 6.26 G - Papers regarding the Scottish Catholic Society's Involvement in the Creation of the Extension Department

Creator: MacSween, Rev. R.J.

Title: Papers regarding the Scottish Catholic Society's Involvement in the Creation of the Extension Department

ID: MG 6.26 G

Date: 1954 (date of creation)

Date: 1954 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains a paper titled "The Part Played by the Scottish Catholic Society of Canada in the Establishment of the St. F.X. Extension Department". It is signed Fr. R.J. MacSween and dated 1955. Also included is the address to the annual convention of the Society in St. Andrews (N.S.) in 1929 which outlines the goals of the bof the proposed Antigonish Movement (then referred to as "Forward Nova Scotia") and petitions those gathered for financial support. It was written and delivered by Fathers J.R. MacDonald and R.J. MacSween.

Physical description: 20 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

The Antigonish Movement, of which The Education Division was a part, was a socio-economic movement aimed at providing more agency to individuals through education - the end goal being that people will be more financially stable and less victim to manipulation by big business. The conception of Fathers Coady and James Tompkins, the Antigonish Movement was largely a response to rural depopulation and shift from traditional livelihoods to working for large corporations.

Note [generalNote]:

John Roderick MacDonald (1891-1959) was a native of Port Hood and later in childhood moved to Antigonish. He was pastor of St. Andrews parish in 1929.

Note [generalNote]:

Another copy of this paper, which was in the custody of Rev. Michael Gillis, appears in Angus Y. MacLellan fonds.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Education (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - The Antigonish Movement (subject)
 - St. Francis Xavier Extension Department (subject)
 - Antigonish (N.S.) (place)
 - Antigonish (N.S.) (place)
-

Item: MG 6.26 H - Letter To the Canadian Board of Censors

Creator: MacInnis, Joseph J.Walker, J. H.

Title: Letter To the Canadian Board of Censors

Title [statRep]: J.H. Walker and J.J. MacInnis

ID: MG 6.26 H

Date: 1940 (date of creation)

Date: 1940 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter protesting the censorship of Gaelic over telegraph wires during the Second World War.

Physical description: 1 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

Several months prior to this censorship, Gaelic was censored on airwaves. This ban had recently been lifted.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Gaelic Radio (subject)
 - Language Revival (subject)
 - Literature - Political (subject)
 - Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
 - Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
 - Sydney (N.S.) (place)
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