

The logo for Simon Fraser University (SFU) consists of the letters "SFU" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid red rectangular background.

Simon Fraser University Archives and Records Management Department

Finding Aid - Working Women Unite fonds (F-45)

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Working Women Unite fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Archives and Records Management Department
Title:	Working Women Unite fonds
Reference code:	F-45
Wikidata identifier [alternative]:	Q100146310
Wikidata URL [alternative]:	https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q100146310
Date:	1976 - 1982 (date of creation)
Physical description:	25 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Finding aid prepared by Krisztina Laszlo, Caitlin Webster, Frances Fournier, Enid Britt (August 1999). Updated by Richard Dancy (March 2006).

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Working Women Unite was formed to create links between working women and the women's movement. The group focused on issues of women and work, and sought to create a relationship with trade unions that would further the position of women in the work force. Specifically, Working Women Unite sought to encourage the formation of women's committees within local unions, discuss strategies on how to organize in a non-union job, articulate feminist demands for working women to take to their unions when negotiating new contracts, and to recognize the value of all women's work regardless of whether it was paid or unpaid. The group also held conferences, workshops, and seminars on issues such as unpaid work, immigrant female workers, women in unions, women working in the home, equal pay for equal work, and the effects of video display terminals in the workplace.

Working Women Unite emerged from the British Columbia Federation of Women (BCFW) during its convention in 1977. During this convention the lack of representation for working women within the BCFW was addressed by a group of women, primarily members of the Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC), who met and formulated resolutions that were passed at the convention. It was not until 1978 that the group gained momentum with a broader base of support. Women from unions such as the British Columbia Government Employees Union (BCGEU), Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), SORWUC, Letter Carriers Union of Canada (LCUC), and Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), along with non-unionized women, and women in the home, became involved with the group. Structurally, Working Women Unite remained

within the BCFW, a federation of women's groups in British Columbia working toward liberation of women through fundamental social change.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of records created, received and collected by Working Women Unite. Records reflect the activities and functional responsibilities of Working Women Unite and groups associated with them, such as the BCFW and SORWUC. Includes correspondence, minutes, agendas, bulletins, newsletters, financial records, membership lists, reports, convention proceedings, and articles.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title is based on the provenance of the fonds.

Arrangement

Original order was maintained by the Archivist where possible. Where no order was apparent, the materials were arranged by the Archivist.

Restrictions on access

Some files may contain personal or confidential information. Access to these files may be restricted as stipulated by Archives policy or the donor. Files marked 'pending review' must be reviewed by an archivist prior to release, and as a result of the review access restrictions may apply. Please see the file lists and consult the archivist for more details.

Finding aids

Series descriptions and file lists are available.

Accruals

All accessions have been processed as of September 2002. No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Revised

Access points

- Labour (subject)
- Women (subject)

Series descriptions

Series F-45-1: Working Women Unite records

Date: 1978 - 1982 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records relating to Working Women Unite. Includes financial records, correspondence, minutes, conference proceedings, articles, papers and bulletins.

Physical description: 8 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Working Women Unite

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
F-45-1-0-0-1	File - Working Women Unite - financial records	1979 - 1982	Pending review	45-1
F-45-1-0-0-2	File - Working Women Unite - notes and minutes	1978 - 1981	Pending review	45-1
F-45-1-0-0-3	File - Working Women Unite - correspondence and bulletins	1979 - 1981	Pending review	45-1
F-45-1-0-0-4	File - Working Women Unite - workshop on video display terminals and workplace health	1980 - 1982	Pending review	45-1
F-45-1-0-0-5	File - Working Women Unite - Oct. 14, 1979 Conference	1979	Open	45-1
F-45-1-0-0-6	File - Working Women Unite - articles and papers re: women and work	1979 - 1980	Open	45-1

Series F-45-2: British Columbia Federation of Women records

Date: 1977 - 1982 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records relating to the British Columbia Federation of Women (BCFW), the parent organization of Working Women Unite. Includes newsletters, draft convention proposals, minutes, agendas, constitution, policy handbooks, and proceedings of the 1979 and 1980 conventions.

Physical description: 7 cm of textual records

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
F-45-2-0-0-1	File - British Columbia Federation of Women - minutes	1978 - 1982	Open	45-1
F-45-2-0-0-2	File - British Columbia Federation of Women - policy records	1977 - 1980	Open	45-1
F-45-2-0-0-3	File - British Columbia Federation of Women - newsletters	1980 - 1982	Open	45-1
F-45-2-0-0-4	File - British Columbia Federation of Women - 1980 Convention	1980	Open	45-2
F-45-2-0-0-5	File - British Columbia Federation of Women - 1979 Convention	1979	Open	45-2

Series F-45-3: Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada records

Date: 1976 - 1982 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records relating to the Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC). Activities documented include policy development, fundraising, and conventions. Includes newsletters, bulletins, minutes of meetings, correspondence, copies of collective agreements negotiated by the union (with the Simon Fraser Student Society and the Pooh Corner Daycare), financial records, and convention proceedings.

Physical description: 10 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
F-45-3-0-0-1	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - newsletters and policy records	1977 - 1982	Pending review	45-2

F-45-3-0-0-2	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - minutes and membership lists	1980 - 1982	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-3	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - fundraising records	1980 - 1982	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-4	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - 1979 National Convention	1978 - 1979	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-5	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - Local 1 executive minutes	1978 - 1979	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-6	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - Local 1 1980 Convention	1980	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-7	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - Local 1 1979 Convention	1978 - 1979	Pending review	45-2
F-45-3-0-0-8	File - Service, Office, and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) - Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) records	1976 - 1982	Pending review	45-2