

 Simon Fraser University Special Collections
and Rare Books

Finding Aid - Occupy Vancouver Collection (MsC 146)

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Rules for Archival Description

Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

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Occupy Vancouver Collection

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Summary information

Repository:	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
Title:	Occupy Vancouver Collection
ID:	MsC 146
Date:	15 Oct. 2011-25 Nov. 2012 (date of creation)
Physical description:	0.68 m of textual records and other material
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	
Note [generalNote]:	Administrative history based on information from Dispatches from the Occupation: A History of Change (2012) by Stephen Collis and "Occupy Vancouver: Leaderless and Recordless?" (2012) by Joy Rowe.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Occupy Vancouver was a collective of peaceful protests and demonstrations. It was part of Occupy Canada that was also part of the larger Occupy Together movement which first manifested in the financial district of New York City with Occupy Wall Street in March 2011. Occupy Wall Street had initially been organized to answer the call-to-action by the Vancouver-based, advertising-free, anti-consumerist organization Adbusters. Subsequently, the movement spread to over 900 cities around the world.

On October 15, 2011, in Vancouver, around 4000 to 5000 people participated in rallies and the local general assembly. In the days following its inception at the Vancouver Art Gallery there was the arrival of over 150 tents, food, health and safety services, operating on a volunteer basis nearly around the clock. On October 16, 2011, the activists began formalizing their work and agreeing on broad principles at large gatherings called General Assemblies. The group adopted the general format of Wall Street and they declared themselves leaderless and not hierarchical.

On November 7, 2011, city notices asking protesters to pack up their tents were immediately posted at the site. On November 15, 2011, police, firefighters and city workers moved in and started removing several tents and tarps that were described as fire hazards. The City of Vancouver applied for an injunction order to remove the entire camp, but the judge adjourned the hearing to allow protesters to prepare their legal response. On November 18, 2011, Justice Anne MacKenzie granted the city's request to order the removal

of Occupy Vancouver's structures by Monday afternoon. Protesters were given until 2 p.m. on November 21, 2011, to remove their tents and other structures.

On November 21, 2011, protesters abandoned the encampment at the Art Gallery zone and relocated their tents to Robson Square, just outside provincial court facilities. Justice Anne MacKenzie granted the Attorney General of British Columbia an order to remove Occupy Vancouver's new tent city by 5 p.m. November 22, 2011. Just before 5 p.m. the tents were packed up and occupiers moved onto the SkyTrain, and over to the Commercial Drive neighborhood where they moved into Grandview Park.

As of late January 2012, Occupy Vancouver was still holding weekly meetings at the W2 media cafe.

Scope and content

The collection consists of records associated to the Occupy Vancouver movement covering the years 2011 and 2012. It comprises records related to Occupy Vancouver Committees (General Assembly, Volunteer Coordinating Committee, Info Tent), photographs of activists and objects (teddy bear, pins, flags). The collection includes records associated with the court case between the City of Vancouver and Sean O'Flynn-Magee, Jane Doe, John Doe and other unknown persons. The records have been arranged in the following six series: Committee records (2011); Court case records (2011); Photographs and moving images (2011); Notebooks (2011); Publications (2012); Adbusters ([2011-2012]).

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Materials donated in 2013 by Adbusters and Stephen Collis, and in 2014 by Mathew Kagis and Sue Wilson.

Arrangement

Arrangement of the files into series provided by the archivist.

Conditions governing use

Access to some files is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.

Finding aids

File list is available.

Accruals

Further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- Publication status: published
 - Level of detail: Full
 - Status description: Published
 - Physical description: Includes 10 photographs, 1 CD : 50 photographs, 18 videos, and 4 objects
-

Access points

- Occupy Vancouver
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - Photographic material (documentary form)
 - Object (documentary form)
 - Moving images (documentary form)
 - Events and celebrations (subject)
 - Vancouver (place)
-

Series descriptions

Series 1: Committee records

Date: 2011 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records and meeting minutes pertaining to Occupy Vancouver committees: General Assembly, Volunteer Coordinating Committee, Info Tent, Security and Safe Guard Unit. It includes also Occupy Vancouver leaflets, booklets, by-laws and general records related to day-to-day activities.

Physical description: 0.13 m of textual records
2 objects

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Object (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

Conditions governing use:

Access to some files is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	File - [Occupy Vancouver. Volunteer Coordinating Committee]	2011	Access to this file is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information	MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 1
2	File - Info Tent workgroups, activities, seminars	[ca. 2011]	Access to this file is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information	MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 2
3	File - City orders, bylaws, official documents	2011		MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 3
4	File - [Occupy Vancouver. Safe Guard Unit]	2011		MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 4
5	File - [Occupy Vancouver]	[ca. 2011]	Access to this file is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.	MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 5
6	File - Lost & Found	2011	Access to this file is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.	MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 6
7	File - [Occupy Vancouver: Security]	[ca. 2011]	Access to this file is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.	MsC 146 - Box 1 folder 7
8	Item - [Information teddy bear]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 2 folder 1
9	Item - [Paper box]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 2 folder 2

Series 2: Court case records

Date: 2011 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records related to the court case between the City of Vancouver and Sean O'Flynn-Magee, Jane Doe, John Doe and other unknown persons. It includes: affidavits of Garrick Bradshaw, Penny Ballem, Murray Wightman, Frank Dodich, John McKearney, Cael Hopwood, Brenda Proksen, Blake Chersinoff, and Will Johnston; short leave requisition; notice of civil claim; and notice of application.

Physical description: 0.13 m of textual records

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

Conditions governing use:

Access to some records may be restricted. Consult staff for more information.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	File - [Affidavits]	7 Nov. 2011		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 1
2	File - [Short Leave Requisition]	7 Nov. 2011		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 2
3	File - [City of Vancouver's Notice of Application]	7 Nov. 2011		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 3
4	File - [Notice of Civil Claim]	7 Nov. 2011		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 4

Series 3: Photographs and moving images

Date: (2011) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of nine photographs of the same Occupy Vancouver group of activists taken from different angles and one photograph of a single protester. It also includes eighteen digital videos and fifty digital photographs taken on October 15, 2011 by Sue Wilson with images related to the Raging Grannies, activists' activities, policemen, posters and media.

Physical description: 10 photographs

1 CD : 50 digital photographs, 18 digital videos

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver

- Moving images (documentary form)
- Photographic material (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

Arrangement:

Non-digital format photographs have been numbered from 146.1 to 146.10.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	File - [Photographs]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 5
2	File - [Occupy Vancouver photographs and videos]	15 Oct. 2011		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 6

Series 4: Notebooks

Date: [2011] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of five notebooks containing drawings and thoughts made by the activists

Physical description: 0.10 m of textual records

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

Conditions governing use:

Access to some files is restricted for privacy reasons. Consult staff for more information.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - [Journal]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 7
2	Item - [Notebook]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 8
3	Item - [Notebook]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 3 folder 9

4	Item - [Notebook]	[ca. 2011]	MsC 146 - Box 4 folder 1
5	Item - [Notebook]	[ca. 2011]	MsC 146 - Box 4 folder 2

Series 5: Publications

Date: 2012 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of articles and publications, including issues of The Occupied Vancouver Sun, and articles from Extra and MetroNews. It also includes the book Dispatches from the Occupation: A History of Change (2012) by Stephen Collis.

Physical description: 0.07 m of textual records

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	File - [The Occupy Vancouver Sun]	16 Jan 2012 - 25 Feb. 2012		MsC 146 - Box 4 folder 3
2	File - [Newspaper articles]	24 Feb. 2012 - 20 Nov. 2012		MsC 146 - Box 4 folder 4
3	File - [Book. Dispatches from the Occupation: A History of Change]	2012		MsC 146 - Box 4 folder 5

Series 6: Adbusters

Date: [2011-2012] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of material relating to Occupy Vancouver either created or received by Adbusters. Included are two flags similar to the American and Canadian flags. The first flag contains the symbols of large corporations. The second flag is decorated with multiple maple leaves that form "99%." It also includes a copy of the Adbusters magazine The Big Ideas of 2012 and a copy of the book Meme Wars: The Creative Destruction of Neoclassical Economics.

Physical description: 0.07 m of textual records

2 objects

Access points:

- Occupy Vancouver
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Vancouver (place)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1	Item - [Flag]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 5 folder 1
2	Item - [Flag]	[ca. 2011]		MsC 146 - Box 5 folder 2
3	Item - [Book. Meme Wars: The Creative Destruction of Neoclassical Economics]	[ca. 2012]		MsC 146 - Box 6 folder 1
4	Item - [Magazine. The Big Ideas of 2012]	25 Nov. [2012]		MsC 146 - Box 6 folder 2