



POWELL RIVER HISTORICAL MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

FONDS DESCRIPTION

FONDS NUMBER	204
ACCESSION NUMBER	2014.73
TITLE	Powell River Court Watch
DATE(S)	2003-2008
EXTENT	5cm of textual records
ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH	<p>Powell River Court Watch was a private non-profit organization which implemented a Court Watch Program in Powell River. The goal is to monitor and evaluate Powell River's criminal justice system from the public's point of view.</p> <p>Powell River Court Watch became dormant in 2008.</p>
CUSTODIAL HISTORY	Not known
FONDS DESCRIPTION	<p>The fonds consists of records of the Powell River Court Watch organization. It includes legal papers, correspondence, publications and newspaper articles. Most of the records were gathered by the organization in the course of its activities, rather than generated by it.</p> <p>Title based on contents of fonds.</p> <p>Series 1: Legal Date(s): 2003-2005 Extent: .5cm of textual records</p> <p>The series consists of legal claims and court lists.</p> <p>Title based on contents of series.</p> <p>Series 2: Correspondence Date(s): 2006-2008 Extent: 1 cm of textual records</p> <p>The series consists of correspondence.</p> <p>Title based on contents of series.</p> <p>Series 3: Publications Date(s): 1993, 2004-2008 Extent: 4cm of textual records</p> <p>The series consists of "Lost in Translation", a Vancouver Police Department paper on the treatment of mental health issues within the policing and judiciary systems, and two copies of "The Courtwatcher's Manual" produced by the Law Courts</p>



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	<p>Education Society of British Columbia and the Legal Services Society of BC.</p> <p>Title based on contents of series.</p> <p>Series 4: Newspaper Clippings Date(s): 2007 Extent: .5cm of textual records.</p> <p>The series consists of newspaper clippings.</p> <p>Title based on contents of series.</p>
<p>NOTES</p>	<p>The following is a description of Powell River Court Watch from the organization's perspective, retrieved from the Powell River Court Watch website in 2014. (defunct as at February 27, 2020).</p> <p>"Powell River Court Watch is a private non-profit organization which has implemented a much needed Court Watch Program in Powell River. The goal is to monitor and evaluate Powell River's criminal justice system from the public's point of view. We feel that our justice system needs more input from the community it serves.</p> <p>Many people think that court issues are secretive and hidden behind closed doors. CourtWatch brings information about our local judicial system to the public for review and scrutiny. Frankly, if we don't know what is happening there is nothing we can do about it. If we do know then we can react.</p> <p>It is hoped that by making people aware they will be able to react to problems and learn from other's mistakes. There is also the ability for the public to monitor the judicial process and insure the cases are handled in a timely, fair, but expeditious fashion.</p> <p>If one person is discouraged from committing an illegal offense because they know they may be subject to public scrutiny, the program is well worth the effort.</p> <p>Our hope is for a community that is safe today and for our children's future."</p>