

Finding Aid - Agricore United Property Ledgers (MSS SC 182 (A2003-004))

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Language of description: English

Agricore United Property Ledgers

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Summary information

Repository:**Title:** Agricore United Property Ledgers**ID:** MSS SC 182 (A2003-004)**Date:** 1900-1960 (date of creation)**Physical description:** 6 large bound ledger books**Language:** English**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:** Inventory prepared by Brian Hubner in 2003. Finding aid prepared by
Vladimira Zvonik in March 2004.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

On July 30, 2001, Agricore announced that the boards of both United Grain Growers and Agricore Cooperative had unanimously agreed to a merger that would create a new company, Agricore United, which would be modeled after UGG's share structure. On November 1, 2001, the merger took place and Agricore, the last of the prairie cooperatives, ceased to exist. Since the merger, Agricore United became the largest agribusiness in western Canada dealing in grains, oilseeds, special crops, marketing, agri-products, agri-food processing, and feed manufacturing. The merger also allowed for a greater ability to access public markets for additional capital. The company has weathered adverse growing conditions like drought and floods in various parts of western Canada, low grain stocks, and growing competition from international markets. While offering farmers management services like financing, risk management, agronomic expertise, and access to end-use markets, Agricore United has been able to capitalize on a wider system of developed infrastructure networks of port terminals, country elevators, and farm service centres. Built on the foundation of Agricore United and Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Viterra was formed in 2007 through a merger. Refer to the finding aids for earlier history of United Grain Growers Ltd. and Agricore Cooperative Ltd.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The precursor to the United Grain Growers was formed in 1901 in Indian Head, Saskatchewan, by a group of farmers who came together to discuss common problems related to grain farming. The "Grain Growers" concept spread quickly to Alberta and Manitoba and, in 1917, the movement amalgamated its commercial interests in the three Prairie Provinces to form United Grain Growers Ltd. The infrastructure

of the company included grain elevators, terminals, and a farm supply network. U.G.G. bought or built an extensive series of country elevators across the west from 1912 to the 1960s. Grain terminal facilities were also constructed and included facilities at Thunder Bay, New Westminster, and Vancouver. Through their elevator system, the U.G.G. sold supplies such as coal, twine, chemicals, and fertilizer to their farm customers. The new millennium brought much consolidation for Canadian agribusiness and U.G.G. was part of this trend. On November 1, 2001, it merged with Agricore (formed by the consolidation of the Manitoba and Alberta Wheat Pools) to form a new company, Agricore United. In 2007, Agricore United merged with Saskatchewan Wheat Pool to form Viterra. For a more detailed history and chronology of the company from beginnings to 1990, see the finding aid "The Archives of the United Grain Growers Limited", by Jeffery Long.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Agricore Cooperative Ltd. was created November 1, 1998, through the friendly merger of Alberta Wheat Pool Ltd. and Manitoba Pool Elevators. It existed for only three years, then merged with United Grain Growers to form Agricore United in November 2001. Before the merger, it was one of the largest agribusinesses in Western Canada. Moreover, as Agricore United is a publicly traded company, Agricore can be seen as the last of the farmer-owned cooperatives, a movement that significantly altered prairie-farming practices in the twentieth century. Agricore officially began operations on November 1, 1998. Extensive preparations were made to ensure that a seamless transition occurred when the two historic cooperatives became one new entity. Winnipeg was selected as the head office and staff was shifted accordingly. In late 1999, Agricore weathered its first serious crisis when the cooperative's unionized staff went on strike. The next year and a half saw Agricore expand its business in a variety of ways including the establishment of high throughput elevators in Elva, Manitoba and at the junctions of highway 3 and 14 between Morden and Winkler, in Manitoba. Though wheat and grain prices in 1999-2000 reached historic lows, Agricore managed to increase earnings and further enhance its reputation as one of western Canada's most influential agribusinesses. On July 30, 2001, Agricore announced that the boards of both UGG and Agricore had unanimously agreed to a merger that would create a new company, Agricore United, which would be modeled after UGG's share structure. On November 1, 2001, the merger took place and Agricore, the last of the prairie cooperatives, ceased to exist.

Custodial history

The collection was transferred to the Archives & Special Collections by Agricore United through the efforts of Tom Kirk in 2003.

Scope and content

The fonds consist of 6 ledger books used by United Grain Growers in the management of their property in the three Prairie Provinces. The ledgers are generally organized by province, and then locale

alphabetically. The buildings include elevators, warehouses and any other structure used by the company. Entries focus on the payment of mortgages and the cost of repairs and improvements.

Notes

Title notes

Conditions governing use

No restrictions apply. Users must abide by relevant copyright legislation.

Finding aids

A finding aid can be generated from the fonds-level description.

Related material

MSS 76, PC 83, TC 96 - United Grain Growers fonds, 1906-1941, 1960-1995

MSS 150, PC 156, TC 102, MC 6 - Agricore Cooperative Ltd., 1925-2001; predominate 1998-2001

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
-

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Series descriptions

Agricore United Property Ledgers

Scope and content:

Ledgers of mortgages and costs related to maintaining UGG buildings (elevators, warehouses, etc.), circa 1900-1960.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)

Publication status:

published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - "Alberta" (A-L)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0001
	File - "Alberta" (K-Z)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0002
	File - "Saskatchewan" (A-LAW)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0003
	File - "Saskatchewan" (LAP-Z)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0004
	File - Manitoba (A-Z, includes some Alberta and Saskatchewan properties at end of volume)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0005
	File - "Manitoba" (A-Z, includes Winnipeg properties at end of volume)			A2003-004, Box 0001 File 0006