University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Leah Carritt Collection (Mss 278 (A.08-42))

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Language of description: English

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Leah Carritt Collection

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Summary information

Repository: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Title: Leah Carritt Collection

ID: Mss 278 (A.08-42)

Date: 1936 (date of accumulation)

Language: English

Physical description: 0.01 m of textual records.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Indian residential schools were created across Canada in the nineteenth century through the Gradual Civilization Act of 1857. The Canadian parliament administrated the enculturation of Indigenous peoples across Canada with compulsory attendance for children aged 6 to 15 and Christian based curriculum which forbade traditional knowledge and languages. This process of enculturation has been largely referred to as "killing the Indian, saving the child." Due to major under-funding from churches and the federal government, the upkeep and subsistence of the residential school depended on the forced labor of students. The compulsory residential school system lasted until 1948 and official closings of residential schools occurred into the 1990s. Residential schools varied in their corporal treatment towards the students, which has culminated in mixed emotions about individual experiences, though overwhelmingly the residential school program has been condemned by Indigenous people and regretted by portions of the Canadian government. The first official state apology to Indigenous peoples over the abuses incurred at residential schools was made in 1998, followed by an open inquiry into individual and community experience through a Truth and Reconciliation program beginning in 2006.

Custodial history

The collection was donated to University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections by Leah Carritt in 2008.

Scope and content

The collection contains one textual record, correspondence from the Indian Residential School in Brandon, Manitoba dated January 27, 1936. The letter discusses the weather, the death of the Nation Matron, and the well-being of the replacement Matron.

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Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on this material.

Finding aids

Finding aid is currently unavailable.

Accruals

Further accruals are not expected.

Other notes

• **Publication status**: published

Access points

• (documentary form)

Collection holdings