

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Charles Hou collection (RBSC-ARC-1854)

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University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
1961 East Mall
Vancouver
British Columbia
V6T 1Z1
Telephone: 604-822-2521
Fax: 604-822-9587
[Email: rare.books@ubc.ca](mailto:rare.books@ubc.ca)
<http://rbsc.library.ubc.ca/>
<https://rbscarchives.library.ubc.ca/charles-hou-collection>

Charles Hou collection

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Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Charles Hou collection
Reference code:	RBSC-ARC-1854
Date:	1640-2023 (date of creation)
Physical description:	88 cm of textual records 2 photographs
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Finding aid produced by Elizabeth Robertson, October 2023.
Note [generalNote]:	

Harmful content note: This collection includes depictions of and political commentary on people who have been racialized in the Canadian context (especially Indigenous people) that are derogatory, racist, and have the potential to be harmful or triggering. The collection also contains a small number of copies of photographs of children during their time in the residential school system. Please be aware of these materials and consider creating a plan for self-care in advance of your research visit.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Charles Hou is a Canadian educator and writer. He was born in North Vancouver in 1940 and earned Bachelor and Master of Education degrees from the University of British Columbia.

Hou is well known as an innovator in education. He taught high school in Burnaby, British Columbia, for thirty-four years, where, in his drive to engage high school students with Canadian history, he regularly incorporated week-long hikes, mock trials, costumed debates, and music video and film production into his courses. He has received a number of teaching awards, including the Hilroy National Award for Great Merit in 1986, and the Governor General's Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Canadian History in 1996.

In 1993, Hou, along with a group of other BC teachers, established The Begbie Canadian History Contest, a competition designed to raise the popularity of Canadian History among high school students and the wider public. The contest has been enormously successful and has expanded from its provincial roots to become an annual national competition that is offered in both French and English. Contest materials are now routinely used in classrooms across Canada.

Early in his career, Hou developed an interest in political cartoons as a vehicle for teaching history. He has spent decades consulting the archives of hundreds of different newspapers and magazines published across Canada and, to a lesser extent, the United States, in an effort to compile a comprehensive collection

of Canada's most important political cartoons. The result of this work is a series of books, co-authored with his wife, Cynthia Hou. The first volumes in the series, *Great Canadian Political Cartoons, 1820 to 1914* and *Great Canadian Political Cartoons, 1915 to 1945* were published in 1997 and 2002. A third volume, which will cover the years from 1946 to 1982, is forthcoming.

Hou has written or edited several other books, including *The Helping Hand: How Indian Canadians Helped Alexander Mackenzie Reach the Pacific Ocean* (with Sister Mary Paul Howlitt, 1971), *The Riel Rebellion: A Biographical Approach* (with Cynthia Hou, 1984), *The Art of Decoding Political Cartoons: A Teacher's Guide* (with Cynthia Hou, 1998) and *The Begbie Canadian History Contest: The First Ten Years* (2004). He has also published articles in various Canadian History journals and created print and online lesson aids and other materials to support the study and teaching of Canadian history. Most recently, he created the teacher's guides to the award-winning 2007 multimedia production, *From The Heart: The Freeman Legacy*, a joint project of the City of Burnaby and SFU's Learning and Instructional Design Centre.

Hou is now retired from teaching and lives in Vancouver, where he continues his research and his involvement with the Vancouver Historical Society and the British Columbian Historical Federation.

Scope and content

The collection consists primarily of copies, and a small number of photographs, of cartoons commenting on legal, political, social and other matters impacting the relationship between Indigenous people and the settler state of Canada. The collection also includes some other graphical depictions of Indigenous people in settler Canadian media, such as product advertisements, tourism marketing, and depictions of Indigenous people in historical artworks and photographs.

The images were collated from a large number of publications; these are primarily Canadian publications, as well as some American, British, and Indigenous-authored publications. A list of Indigenous sources consulted by the collector is available for researcher reference.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

The items are arranged chronologically according to the year in which the event depicted took place. This arrangement reflects the organizing principle used by the collector.

Related material

Charles Hou Editorial Cartoon collection. MsC-25. Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Photographic material (documentary form)
- First Nations (subject)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-01	File - Indigenous Issues, pre-1800	1640-1969		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 1800-1869	1824-[195-]		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 1870s	1870-1879		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-03-PH-02	Item - Photograph			
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 1880s	1880-1889		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 1890s	1890-1898		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 1900s	1900-1939		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-06-PH-01	Item - Photograph			
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 1910s	1910-1919		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-08	File - Indigenous Issues, 1920s	1920-1929		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-09	File - Indigenous Issues, 1930s	1930-1939		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-10	File - Indigenous Issues, 1940s	1940-1949		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-11	File - Indigenous Issues, 1950s	1950-1959		
RBSC-ARC-1854-01-12	File - Indigenous Issues, 1960s	1960-1969		
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-01	File - Indigenous Issues, 1970	1970		
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 1971	1971		

RBSC-ARC-1854-02-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 1972	1972
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 1973	1973
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 1974	1974
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 1975	1975
RBSC-ARC-1854-02-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 1976	1976
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-01	File - Indigenous Issues, 1977	1977
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 1978	1978
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 1979	1979
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 1980	1980
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 1981	1981
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 1982	1982
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 1983	1983
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-08	File - Indigenous Issues, 1984	1984
RBSC-ARC-1854-03-09	File - Indigenous Issues, 1985	1985
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-01	File - Indigenous Issues, 1986	1986
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 1987	1987
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 1988	1988
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 1989	1989
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 1990	1990
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 1991	1991
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 1992	1992
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-08	File - Indigenous Issues, 1993	1993
RBSC-ARC-1854-04-09	File - Indigenous Issues, 1994	1994
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-01	File - Indigenous Issues, 1995	1995
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 1996	1996
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 1997	1997
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 1998	1998

RBSC-ARC-1854-05-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 1999	1999
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 2000	2000
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 2001	2001
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-08	File - Indigenous Issues, 2002	2002
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-09	File - Indigenous Issues, 2003	2003
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-10	File - Indigenous Issues, 2004	2004
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-11	File - Indigenous Issues, 2005	2005
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-12	File - Indigenous Issues, 2006	2006
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-13	File - Indigenous Issues, 2007	2007
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-14	File - Indigenous Issues, 2008	2008
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-15	File - Indigenous Issues, 2009	2009
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-16	File - Indigenous Issues, 2010	2010
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-17	File - Indigenous Issues, 2011	2011
RBSC-ARC-1854-05-18	File - Indigenous Issues, 2012	2012
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-01	File - Indigenous Issues, 2013	2013
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-02	File - Indigenous Issues, 2014	2014
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-03	File - Indigenous Issues, 2015	2015
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-04	File - Indigenous Issues, 2016	2016
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-05	File - Indigenous Issues, 2017	2017
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-06	File - Indigenous Issues, 2018	2018
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-07	File - Indigenous Issues, 2019	2019
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-08	File - Indigenous Issues, 2020	2020
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-09	File - Indigenous Issues, 2021	2021
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-10	File - Indigenous Issues, 2022-2023	2022-2023
RBSC-ARC-1854-06-11	File - List of Indigenous publications consulted	[before 2023]