

# University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

## Finding Aid - Ian McDonald collection (RBSC- ARC-1783)

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# Ian McDonald collection

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Ian McDonald collection
<b>Reference code:</b>	RBSC-ARC-1783
<b>Date:</b>	[1910?]-2017 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	55 cm of textual records 59 audio cassettes 32 photographs : b&w
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Finding aid created by Devon Mordell in April 2018.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Ian McDonald was born in North Vancouver, British Columbia to parents Monique and Les McDonald. Inspired by the labour activism of his father, he dedicated his graduate studies to the plight of electrical workers involved in International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 213 and received a Master of Arts in History from Simon Fraser University in 1986. Ian McDonald's father, Les McDonald, was a trade union activist with the IBEW Local 213 and past-president of the International Triathlon Union.

### Custodial history

Some materials in the collection have been in the care of the friends and family of Ian McDonald; for example, the "[Correspondence with Bill & Dora Stewart (postcards)]" file contains postcards sent by Les McDonald that were kept by Dora Stewart and given to Ian McDonald.

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## Scope and content

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The collection contains materials related to Ian McDonald's Master's thesis research on the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 213 "Class conflict and political factionalism: a history of Local 213 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, 1901-1961," and related to the activities of his father, Les McDonald, a trade union activist who belonged to Local 213 but was eventually suspended for leading the Lenkurt strike of 1966. Les McDonald was also a multi-sport athlete, and is credited with introducing the triathlon into the Olympics; some materials in the collection relate to Les McDonald's involvement in various sport and environmental organizations, as well as some of his

personal papers. In addition to what he received from his father, Ian McDonald was also given papers by former IBEW Local 213 business manager Art O'Keeffe and Barry Sharbo, a board member of the Canadian Union of Electrical Workers (UE), which are included within the collection.

The collection is largely comprised of newspaper and photocopied journal articles, correspondence between members of IBEW Local 213, legal documentation, newsletters and other printed ephemera related to IBEW Local 213.

The collection also contains sound recordings of interviews with numerous figures in IBEW Local 213 created by Ian McDonald during his thesis research. McDonald's thesis, submitted for the completion of a Master of Arts in History at Simon Fraser University, can be found in the Summit database: <http://summit.sfu.ca/item/6361>.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Arrangement

The first accrual collection was received in a grouping of three distinct aggregations: one which contained Ian McDonald's reference materials for his Master's thesis, and formed the basis for the "Thesis Research series"; one which contained folders and envelopes of materials collected by Ian McDonald from various custodial sources; and one which contained the cassette tapes of oral histories recorded by Ian McDonald as part of his research.

The received order of the "Thesis Research series" has been preserved with the exception of one file on Les McDonald's activities with the Save Cypress Bowl Committee, which was moved to the "Les McDonald series," and the cassette tapes were arranged as a file within the series because they were made for the purposes of Ian McDonald's research. An order loosely based on the groupings of the envelopes and file folders was imposed for the remainder of the materials.

### Accruals

The first accrual was received from Ian McDonald in January 2018.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
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## Access points

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- McDonald, Les, 1933-2017 (subject)
- Gee, George (subject)
- Stewart, Bill, 1919-2008 (subject)
- O'Keeffe, Art, b. 1918 (subject)
- Sharbo, Barry (subject)

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Canadian Electrical Workers Union, Local 1
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Clippings (documentary form)
- Interviews (documentary form)
- Postcards (documentary form)
- Pamphlets (documentary form)
- Periodicals (documentary form)
- Events and celebrations (subject)
- Labour (subject)
- Law and justice (subject)
- Organizations (subject)
- Sports, recreation and leisure (subject)
- Transportation and utilities (subject)
- British Columbia (place)

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## Series descriptions

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### **Thesis research**

Date: [1910?]-2017 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series contains materials collected by Ian McDonald for the purposes of writing his Master's thesis on the history of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 213, from 1901 to 1961. Materials within the series include collective agreements, newspaper and journal articles, court case summaries, interview transcriptions, census tables, meeting minutes, correspondence and dissertations; most materials are photocopies rather than original documents, however.

Also included are materials that pertain to the Lenkurt strike of 1966, which McDonald omitted from his original thesis to limit its scope. He took up the events surrounding the Lenkurt strike in a later essay, "Spontaneity Went Out with Spartacus: IBEW Local 213, Les McDonald, and the Lenkurt Strike of 1966," which McDonald regards as a continuation of his Master's research; the essay is also part of the series.

Physical description: 30 cm of textual records  
59 audio cassettes

Note:

The series contains a considerable amount of photocopied material collected by Ian McDonald for his Master's thesis research in the 1980s.

Access points:

- Gee, George (subject)
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)

Arrangement:

The received order of the "Cypress Bowl Issue" file was between file 2-03 and 2-04; it has been moved to the Les McDonald papers sub-series.

Publication status:

published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-01	File - [Collective agreements: Coal, IBEW, telephone workers, 1944-1971]	1944-1971		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-02	File - FROM THE FILES OF JACK ROSS, INTERNATIONAL REP., IBEW	1949-1955		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-03	File - [IBEW Local] 213's Court Cases – 1920, 1921 & 1958	1920-1921, 1958 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-04	File - Labour Gazette, origins to 1914	1903-1913 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-05	File - Labour Gazette, 1915 - 1921	1915-1921 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-06	File - Labour Gazette, 1925 [to 1958]	1925-1958 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-07	File - Labour Gazette & VTL[C minutes] (1940-56)	1944-1956 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-08	File - IBEW & 213 Official Histories	1951-1981		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-09	File - Correspondence re: use of files – IBEW, 213, BC Hydro	1982-1986		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-10	File - Ecroyd, Western B[usiness] & I[ndustry], 1953	1953-[198-] [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-11	File - Newspaper Clippings - Local 213 issues, 1951-1954	1951-1954 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-12	File - Transcribed Interviews - Gee & Ross	1982		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-13	File - [IBEW local] 213 Minute Book citations & BCER material, 1919-1929	[198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-14	File - Census Tables re: El[ectrical] Workers	1901-[198-] [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-15	File - W. F. Dunne file	1918-1981 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-16	File - The People, WWII articles	1943 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-17	File - Bert Marcuse file	1951-1955 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-18	File - Constitutions - C[ommunist]P[arty] & IBEW	1952-1974 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-19	File - Jimmy Hall (papers) - charges in 1955	1954-1955 [198-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-20	File - Zerox L.U. 213 Correspondence, Minutes & Miscellaneous, 1950-1953	1952-1953 [198-]		

RBSC-ARC-1783-1-21	File - L.U. 213 Minutes & material related to - Jan. 17, 1955	1950-1955 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-22	File - Alex Dorland	1974-1985
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-23	File - Charges & Defence - Don Wilson & the IBEW - Gee affair, 1955	1950-1956 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-24	File - John McCuish	1955-1956 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-1-25	File - Papers from M.B's - 1939-41	1939-1940
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-01	File - Kuzych vs. White (1947)	1947-[1950?] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-02	File - Agreements and Job Related Reports	1910, 1948-1954 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-03	File - [E. Tilford Fenton papers]	[2007?] 1913, 2007
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-04	File - Local 213 - Contemporary Clippings	1986-1989
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-05	File - Miscellaneous - Labour & the Left	1985-1988
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-06	File - Hume & Rumble	1936-1963 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-07	File - BC Electric Histories	1925-1932, 1983-1985 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-08	File - Power Commission Official Histories	1950 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-09	File - Building and Construction Industry Exchange	1942-1962 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-10	File - Some Pioneers of Light and Power	1938 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-11	File - On Cominco - Canadian Mining Journal	1954 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-12	File - Collins Overland Telegraph - Kathleen Fitzgerald	[1982] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-13	File - Hot Line Tool Guide, 1955, & Hambly misc.	1954-1956 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-14	File - Business Manager Reports (1964-1966)	1964-1966
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-15	File - Seniority Lists & Retirement	[198-] [192-?]- [1955]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-16	File - Pacific Tribune, 1957-1958 (strikes) re: 213	1958 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-17	File - Workmen's Compen. Board, 1917-1961	1926-1947, [198-] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-18	File - West Kootenay Power & Light	[1982?]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-19	File - Patricia Roy articles	1972-[198-] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-20	File - B.C. Electric Chronology & Facts, 1897-1962	[1926]-[1963?] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-21	File - [BC Hydro Centennial Issues of Progress and Intercom]	1971 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-22	File - The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers: A Study in Trade Union Structure and Functions	1923 [198-]

RBSC-ARC-1783-2-23	File - [Charles (Charlie) Caron file]	[between 1972 and 1986] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-2-24	File - [Labour During the Cold War - James L. Turk paper]	1980
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-01	File - [Local 213 Minute Books , 1965]	1965 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-02	File - [Lenkurt file (1 of 4)]	[198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-03	File - [Lenkurt file (2 of 4)]	1966 [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-04	File - [Lenkurt file (3 of 4)]	1966-[198-] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-05	File - [Lenkurt file (4 of 4)]	1966-[198-] [198-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-06	File - Transcribed interviews	1983-1985
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-07	File - [Spontaneity Went Out With Spartacus]	2017
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-11	File - Oral history and audio history material re: British Columbia Labour History	1971-1985

### Collected papers

Date: 1949-2016, predominant 1960-1986 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series contains materials belonging to Ian McDonald's father, Leslie (Les) McDonald, and other figures involved in IBEW Local 213. Materials relate predominantly to the activities of IBEW Local 213, though some papers also relate to Les McDonald's involvement in various sports and community organizations, his writings and his personal correspondence.

Materials within the series include notebooks, postcards, letters, newsletters, newspaper articles and issues, legal documents and photographs. Relative to the 'Thesis Research' series, many more materials are original or copies made at the time the originals were created.

Physical description: 25 cm of textual records

32 photographs : b&w

Access points:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)
- McDonald, Les, 1933-2017 (subject)
- Gee, George (subject)
- O'Keefe, Art, b. 1918 (subject)
- Stewart, Bill, 1919-2008 (subject)
- Sharbo, Barry (subject)
- Canadian Electrical Workers Union, Local 1
- Labour (subject)

Publication status:

published

**File / item list****Les McDonald papers**

Creator: McDonald, Les, 1933-2017

Date: 1957-2010 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The subseries contains materials collected by and about Les McDonald including notebooks on his union activities and his participation at the Community Party Education Camp in 1964, newspaper articles he wrote, documents related to the appeal of his suspension from IBEW Local 213, personal correspondence and photographs of IBEW Local 213 members engaging in a job action in 1965. In particular, there are a large number of postcards that he sent to his mentor, Bill Stewart, while McDonald was traveling in his bid to get the sport of triathlon into the Olympics.

Physical description: 15 cm of textual records

32 photographs : b&w

Arrangement:

Most materials related more generally to IBEW Local 213 - that is, not related to Les McDonald directly - were arranged in their own subseries to aid their discovery. See 'IBEW Local 213 papers' in the same series.

Publication status:

published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-08	File - [Notebook from Communist Party Educational Camp]	1964		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-09	File - [Labour conference materials (1 of 3)]	1965		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-10	File - [Labour conference materials (2 of 3)]	1965		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-11	File - [Labour conference materials (3 of 3)]	1966		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-12	File - Union notes [(1 of 3)]	1966-1986		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-13	File - Union notes [(2 of 3)]	1966-1986		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-14	File - Union notes [(3 of 3)]	1966-1986		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-15	File - [1966 injunction documents]	1966		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-16	File - [IBEW suspension appeals (1 of 2)]	1966-1982		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-17	File - [IBEW suspension appeals (2 of 2)]	1966-1982		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-18	File - [Collected Trade Union Research Board materials]	1965-[197-]		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-19	File - [Collected newspapers re: IBEW Local 213]	1965-1975		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-20	File - [Published articles]	1960-1984		
RBSC-ARC-1783-3-21	File - [Issues of Scan publication]	1968		

RBSC-ARC-1783-3-22	File - [IBEW Photographs]	1965-1966
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-01	File - [Newspaper articles on McDonald's political career]	1962-[19--]
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-02	File - [North Shore Transportation committee materials]	[197-]
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-03	File - [Materials related to McDonald's mountaineering activities]	1957-[19--]
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-04	File - [Materials related to McDonald's triathlon activities]	1985-2010
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-05	File - Cypress Bowl Issue	1983-1986
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-06	File - [Personal correspondence (1 of 2)]	1961-2016
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-07	File - [Personal correspondence (2 of 2)]	1961-2016
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-08	File - [Postcards sent to Bill & Dora Stewart (1 of 3)]	1997-2007
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-09	File - [Postcards sent to Bill & Dora Stewart (2 of 3)]	1997-2007
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-10	File - [Postcards sent to Bill & Dora Stewart (3 of 3)]	1997-2007

### Art O'Keeffe papers

Creator: O'Keeffe, Art, b. 1918

Date: 1963-2016, predominant 1963-1983 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The subseries contains materials collected by Art O'Keeffe, former business manager of the IBEW Local 213, including correspondence and legal documentation regarding his suspension from the union following the Lenkurt strike in 1966. Also contains newspaper clippings and court case summaries, some of which may have been added later by Ian McDonald.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Access points:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)
- O'Keeffe, Art, b. 1918 (subject)

Publication status:

published

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-11	File - [Correspondence related to IBEW charges]	1963-1966		
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-12	File - [Lenkurt suspension appeal documents]	1966-1970		
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-13	File - Court Cases	2016		
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-14	File - [Collected newspaper clippings]	1966-1983		

### Barry Sharbo papers

Date: 1966-1967 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The subseries contains newspaper clippings, pamphlets, official correspondence, bulletins and other ephemera collected by Barry Sharbo, who was the spokesperson for the breakaway movement from IBEW Local 213 in 1967 which would eventually become the Canadian Union of Electrical Workers (CEW/CEWU/UE). Also contains a copy of the CEW's constitution and a proof copy of the first issue of Live Wire, the CEW's newspaper.

Physical description: 1.5 cm of textual records

Access points:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Canadian Electrical Workers Union, Local 1
- Sharbo, Barry (subject)
- Labour (subject)

Publication status:

published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-15	File - [Materials related to the Canadian Union of Electrical Workers breakaway movement (1 of 3)]	1966-1967		
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-16	File - [Materials related to the Canadian Union of Electrical Workers breakaway movement (2 of 3)]	1966-1967		
RBSC-ARC-1783-4-17	File - [Materials related to the Canadian Union of Electrical Workers breakaway movement (3 of 3)]	1966-1967		

**IBEW Local 213 papers**

Date: 1949-1975 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The subseries contains materials related to the activities of IBEW Local 213 between 1949 and the mid-1970s, including affidavits, reports, correspondence and newspapers. Documented within the subseries is the internal conflict between the IBEW's American leadership and trade union activists within Local 213, and attempts to unite IBEW Locals in British Columbia through a provincial council. Also contains numerous issues of IBEW Local 213's newspaper, the 213 Live Wire, between the mid-1950s and mid-1970s.

Physical description: 6.5 cm of textual records

Access points:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)

- Gee, George (subject)
- Labour (subject)

Publication status:

published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-01	File - [Collected IBEW Local 213 materials, 1949-1959]	1949-1959		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-02	File - [Collected IBEW Local 213 materials, 1960-1985]	1960-1985		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-03	File - IBEW Provincial Council of BC 1958 [materials (1 of 2)]	1957-1958		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-04	File - IBEW Provincial Council of BC 1958 [materials (2 of 2)]	1957-1958		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-05	File - [Issues of 213 Live Wire (1 of 3)]	1955-1975		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-06	File - [Issues of 213 Live Wire (2 of 3)]	1955-1975		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-07	File - [Issues of 213 Live Wire (3 of 3)]	1955-1975		

**Lenkurt papers**Date: 1966-1986 (date of creation)Scope and content:

The subseries contains materials related to the 1966 wildcat strike by IBEW Local 213 workers at Lenkurt Electric, in which 257 members participated in a walkout that resulted in the loss of their jobs. A large number of the group were women protesting the employer's demands for them to work overtime. The month-long dispute that followed was at times violent in response to the court injunctions and police presence sought by the employer.

The subseries is predominantly comprised of newspaper articles collected around the time of the strike; there are also legal documents related to Les McDonald's appeal of his suspension following the Lenkurt strike, pamphlets, correspondence and photocopies of meeting minutes made by Ian McDonald.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual recordsAccess points:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Local 213 (Vancouver, B.C.)
- McDonald, Les, 1933-2017 (subject)
- O'Keefe, Art, b. 1918 (subject)
- Labour (subject)

Publication status:

published

<b>File / item list</b>				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-08	File - [Lenkurt legal documents, leaflets and correspondence]	1966-1977		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-09	File - [Lenkurt newspaper articles (1 of 2)]	1966-1986		
RBSC-ARC-1783-5-10	File - [Lenkurt newspaper articles (2 of 2)]	1966-1986		