

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Matthew Lindfors fonds (RBSC- ARC-1330)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.7.3 Printed: April 08, 2024

Language of description: English

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/matthew-lindfors-fonds>

Matthew Lindfors fonds

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Access points	4
Series descriptions	4
, Swedish-Canadian Culture and History, 1886-1968	4
, Press Publications and Correspondence, 1909-1971	6
, Sofia Girls' Tour, 1952-1958	7

Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Matthew Lindfors fonds
Reference code:	RBSC-ARC-1330
Date:	1886-1971 (date of creation)
Physical description:	83 cm of textual records and other materials
Language:	English
Language:	Swedish
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Revised by Malcolm Fish, February 2024.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

In 1927 Matthew Lindfors opened the Scandinavian School of English; then from 1939-1954, he operated the Scandinavian film service. In 1951 he founded the Swedish Cultural Society. He also served as correspondent for the Canadian International Service of the C.B.C. from 1947-1959 and editor of the Swedish Press from 1933 until his death in 1971.

Custodial history

The fonds was gifted to RBSC in December 1971 by William Lindfors, son of Matthew Lindfors.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of material related to Matthew Lindfors' advocacy, promotion, and research into the culture and history of the Swedish diaspora in Canada, particularly in BC. The materials are sorted into three series: Swedish-Canadian Culture and History; Press Publications and Correspondence; and Sofia Girls' Tour. Contents include typescripts of interviews and radio broadcasts about Swedish-Canadian history in Canada (broadcasts were produced for the CBC), newspaper clippings about Swedes in Canada and abroad, correspondence with Swedish-Canadians and various groups supporting Swedish cultural activities in Canada (including Swedish-language film screenings in BC, Alberta, and Saskatchewan), and promotional and administrative records related to the 1956-1957 Canadian tour of the Sofia Girls'

Rhythmic Gymnastics Team, which Lindfors helped to organize. The fonds also contains nearly 200 photographs of Swedes, Swedish-Canadians, and the Sofia Girls' Team.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the contents of the fonds.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Physical description:** 83 cm textual records, 191 photographs, 3 wooden print blocks, 3 ribbons, 1 photograph album

Access points

- Swedish Cultural Society
- Scandinavian School of English (subject)
- Swedish (subject)
- Organizations (subject)

Series descriptions

Swedish-Canadian Culture and History

Date: 1886-1968 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records about Swedish migration to and within Canada and Swedish-Canadian cultural life. Records include clippings about Swedish Lucia holiday celebrations, manuscripts and research about Swedish-Canadian history, including song books and writing on Swedish literature in BC, and correspondence and rental receipts concerning Swedish film showings in BC, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. Materials related to the operations of the Scandinavian School of English, including photographs and sets of English vocabulary and grammar cue cards, are also included. An album containing photographs of Swedish-Canadian migrants with handwritten notes is included.

Physical description: 34 cm textual records, 128 photographs, 1 photograph album

Publication status:

published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-01	File - [Manuscripts on Swedish literature and Swedes in B.C.]	1935		
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-09	File - Lucia No. 1	1943-1965		
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-09-PH-17 to 37	Item - [Photographs]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-01	File - Music and Verse	1929-1968		
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-02	File - Lucia No. 2	1942-1946		
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-02-PH-38 to 46	Item - [Photographs]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-06	File - [Interviews - Swedes in BC and Canada in Swedish]	1947-1953		
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-08	File - On Sw.-Can.History	1929-1962		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-01	File - Offerdahl	1958-1965		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-01-PH-57 to 67	Item - [Photographs]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-07	File - Descriptive Material on Films and Publicity	1953-1961		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-01	File - Film BC	1946-1963		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-02	File - Film Alberta	1953-1954		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-03	File - Film Sask.	1933-1966		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-04	File - Film Misc. Corresp.	1936-1962		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-05	File - Film Rentals	1941-1959		
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-10	File - [Scandinavian School of English 1927-1932]	1928-1931		
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-01	File - [Yearly planners]	1964-1967		
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-03	File - [Mount Baker Junior Senior High School Yearbook]	1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-04	File - [Swedish Folk Song book and Clippings]	1914-1928		
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-05	File - [Student Union meeting photographs]	1929		
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-05-PH-105 to 108	Item - [Photographs]			

RBSC-ARC-1330-07-01	File - [Bashful Anton poster]	n.d.
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-03	File - Exercises in Oral Speech Grades Six and Seven	1921
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-04	File - Ideal Language Cards Set 2 for Grades Four and Five	n.d.
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-05	Item - [Cue cards with inverted English text]	n.d.
RBSC-ARC-1330-08-01	File - [Photograph Album]	1886-1931

Press Publications and Correspondence

Date: 1909-1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records related to news articles and news radio transcripts, many written or produced by Matthew Lindfors or related to Swedes in Canada. Records are primarily newspaper clippings and correspondence with Matthew Lindfors from friends, government and cultural groups in Canada and the USA, and individuals concerning the history of Swedish migration in North America. Also included are articles and research for articles for the Swedish Press, correspondence about subscriptions to the Swedish Press, lists of addresses of Swedish Press subscribers, and transcripts of CBC radio broadcasts. Lindfors worked for the Swedish Press for several years and wrote and produced several broadcasts on Swedish Canadian history for the CBC. Subjects of clippings include Swedish industrialist Wenner-Gren, several trips Matthew Lindfors took to Sweden, and stories about Swedes in Canada and the USA.

Physical description: 31 cm textual records, 26 photographs, 3 ribbons

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-02	File - CBC Correspondence	1953-1961		
RBSC-ARC-1330-PH-01	Item - [Photograph]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-03	File - CBC	1960-1961		
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-04	File - CBC Story	1937-1953		
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-04-PH-02 to 16	Item - [Photographs]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-05	File - For Swedish Press or Sweden	1948-1960		
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-06	File - Raio Transcripts 1947	1945-1950		

RBSC-ARC-1330-01-07	File - Radio Manuscripts 1948	1947-1949
RBSC-ARC-1330-01-08	File - Radio Scripts 1949	1949-1950
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-03	File - [Miscellaneous - Swedish Press]	1931-1939
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-04	File - Om Speuskheten	1935-1952
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-05	File - Adresses	1949-1964
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-07	File - [Correspondence]	1934-1970
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-07-PH-47 to 50	Item - [Photographs]	
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-09	File - [Swedish news and correspondence]	1954-1970
RBSC-ARC-1330-02-09-PH-51 to 56	Item - [Photographs]	
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-04	File - [Subscription Lists and Correspondence]	1930-1971
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-05	File - Fran ML till RM	1940-1954
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-06	File - Wenner-Gren	1957-1960
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-06	File - [Clippings]	1965
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-07	File - [Correspondence private and business]	1934-1959
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-08	File - [Lindfors Sweden visit 1948, clippings]	1929-1963
RBSC-ARC-1330-05-09	File - [Matthew M. Lindfors]	1929-1971
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-02	File - [Handwritten notebooks]	1927-1931
RBSC-ARC-1330-06-06	File - [Postcards]	1909
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-02	File - [Delegate and press badges]	1964-1966

Sofia Girls' Tour

Date: 1952-1958 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of correspondence about planning for, posters and other promotional materials about, and photographs of the Sofia Girls' Rhythmic Gymnastics Team's tour of Canada in 1956-1957, which Matthew Lindfors was partially responsible for coordinating. The Sofia Girls' Team were a gymnastics group from Stockholm, Sweden. The group was founded and led by Maja Carlquist, who developed the distinct style of rhythmic gymnastics performed by the Sofia Girls. Contents include: posters, pamphlets, photographs of events and head-shots of the team members, a Swedish Canadian

Club book about the tour, and three wooden printing blocks of photographs of the team members performing.

Physical description: 18 cm textual records, 37 photographs, 3 wood print blocks

Publication status:

published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-02	File - S.F.	1952-1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-03	File - SF 3	1955-1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-04	File - Transportation	1953-1954		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-04-PH-68 to 102	Item - [Photographs]			
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-05	File - Schedule S.F. 2	1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-06	File - Sofia Girls' Tour 1956-57	1954-1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-07	File - Sofia Girls' Tour 1956-57	1952-1957		
RBSC-ARC-1330-03-08	File - Sofia Girls' Tour 1956-57	1955-1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-01	File - Sofia Girls' Tour 1956-57	1955-1956		
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-02	File - Sofia Girls' Tour 1956-57	1953-1958		
RBSC-ARC-1330-04-03	File - The Swedish Canadian Club Golden Book About the Tour of Canada in 1956 by the Sofia Girls of Sweden	[1956]		
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-06	Item - [Print block of Sofia Girls gymnasts mid routine]	n.d.		
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-07	Item - [Print block of seven women near large columns]	n.d.		
RBSC-ARC-1330-07-08	Item - [Print block of a Sofia Girls gymnast mid routine]	n.d.		