

RENATE SHEARER - 1988

AN INVENTORY OF HER PAPERS

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THE RENATE SHEARER PAPERS

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

There is little information about the personal life of Renate Shearer other than what is found in her brief biographical sketch (see Box 4-3). Renate Elizabeth Shearer was educated at the post-secondary level in 1953 at the Ohio State University, where she received her Bachelor of Sciences degree in Social Administration.

From 1956 to 1960 Renate was a practising social worker until 1960 to 1970, where upon she also became a homemaker.

From 1970 to 1971, Renate received the position as a community worker for the YWCA, and between 1972 to 1975 she became Director of Branch and Area Department for the same institution.

In 1975 to 1981, Shearer became a social planner for the city of Vancouver. Her responsibilities included program development and implementation, policy analysis and the co-ordination of existing services in the city. During this time a few of her many accomplishments included: the development of emergency psychiatric and social services for the city core area, the development of an emergency response system for non-english speaking residents, and the production of housing aid for battered women.

From 1981 to 1982 Renate taught classes at the School of Social Work at the University of British Columbia. By 1981, Renate's reputable reputation in the community for her outstanding services led her to form her own project consulting company called, The Adams, Egan and Shearer Planning Consultants Ltd. She continued her extensive and varied work in social services and the promotion of human rights and the abolishment of racism.

Her career then led her in 1983 to become heavily involved with the newly established Solidarity Coalition, where upon her work became more politically motivated and therefore was a vehicle in which she could promote her social causes.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Renate Shearer Papers are an accumulation of records spanning her career as a social activist, planner and teacher, ca. 1975-1988. Records of her career prior to this date in which she was a home maker, a social worker and a member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA are not included. Her papers include a wide variety of different types of documentary records including correspondence, reports, personal notes, addresses, ephemera, minutes, press releases, newspaper clippings and other printed material.

The papers are not only a reflection of her extensive career, but are also important for the variety of social issues which were documented by the media and/or led to the establishment of longlasting social programs in the city of Vancouver; for example, there are a number of primary sources established in accordance with her association with contentious legal and political issues, such as regarding the Andrea Fields Case and also regarding incidents of racism in the province.

The Shearer records are divided according into primary series in human rights, the Solidarity Coalition, and the economic/labour/political situation in B.C. -- and a variety of subject files including racism, race relations affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of B.C. (AMSSA), and social planning.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Series

Human Rights, (Box 1 file 1 - Box 2 file 18)

As expressed in 33 files, the series Human Rights deals with documents in relation to Shearer's work promoting human rights. There are many agendas from meetings of the Human Rights Commission, as well as other material related to specific issues concerning human rights, such as litigation documents in association with acts committed against individuals human rights, literature about human rights, as well as correspondence from politicians and members of other associated organizations to the Human Rights Commission and to Shearer, herself.

Solidarity Coalition, (Box 3 file 1-13)

The series, contains a wide variety and sum of material in relation to Shearer's association with the coalition. As with the series Human Rights, the Solidarity Coalition documents are in similar form in regards to a vast amount of agendas, memos, correspondence, newspaper articles and personal notes, in association with human rights cases and concerning political issues represented by the coalition. The files were arranged into Assembly Minutes, Budget, Bulletins and Steering Committee Meeting Minutes.

British Columbia-Economy/Labour, (Bos 3 File 14 - Box 4 File 1)

British Columbia-Economy/Labour deals with specific issues regarding the subject matter of labour and the economy of British Columbia. There are many reports and news articles on the subject, as well as documents in the form correspondence, memos, news releases, etc.

Subject Files

- (AMSSA) Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Services Agencies of B.C. (Box 4 - File 2)
Subject matter directly related to the specific topic of the AMSSA.
- Biographical - (Box 4 - File 3)
Contains a resume of Renate Shearer as well as a separation decree from her husband.
- Church and Bishops United - (Box 4 - File 4)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- City Hall-Questionnaire - (Box 4 File 5 - Box 4 - File 6)
Contains questionnaires from City Hall.
- Co-op Union International - (Box 4 - File 7)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- Education - (Box 4 File 8 - Box 4 - File 9)
Contains material in relation to various teaching associations, reports on the subject matter of education in B.C., as well as racism in accordance to the teaching profession; other related subjects included as well in respect to education.
- Emergency Services - (Box 4 - File 10)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- Evaulations - (Box 4 - File 11)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- Labour Codes - (Box 4 - File 12)
Contains labour codes, primarily of the B.C. Federation of Labour.
- L.E.A.F. - (Box 4 - File 13)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- Miscellaneous - (Box 4 - File 14)
Contains material not easily placed within a separate file regarding a specific subject matter.
- Nelson - (Box 4 - File 15)
Contains material related to subject matter.
- Notes and Speeches regarding career - (Box 4 - File 16 - Box 4 - File 17)
Contains notes and prepared speeches regarding a variety of different subject matter, but especially regarding Human Rights and the Solidarity Coalition. The majority of the notes and speeches are hand-written and therefore not easily deciphered.
- Pacific Group - (Box 4 - File 18)
Contains material related to subject matter.

Police - (Box 4 - File 19)

Contains documents as a result of Shearer's association with the Vancouver City Police in regards to the development of emergency services programs in the city, and regarding the police force's association with different ethnic groups.

Politics - (Box 4 - File 20)

Contains ephemera and correspondence dealing with the different political parties in British Columbia.

Poverty - (Box 4 - File 21)

Contains material in regards to poverty and different welfare programs, Renate Shearer either helped established or was associated with.

Project North - (Box 4 - File 23-25)

Deals with material related to subject matter.

Race Relations - (Box 4 - File 23-25) and (Box 5 - File 1-3)

Contains material relating to racial relationships between various ethnic groups in the province. Documents are in the form of literature, memos, newspaper articles, etc. The subject listing is varied.

Racism - (Box 5 - File 4-8)

Contains material related to incidents of racism in the province by the Ku Klux Klan and associated organizations. The files also contain racist literature against ethnic groups in the form of newspaper articles and Shearer's responses to them.

Social planning - (Box 5 - File 9 - Box 5 - File 10)

Contains material regarding specific social programs in the city of Vancouver, as well as Shearer's association with them.

Solidarity Alberta - (Box 5 - File 11)

Contains material related to the subject matter.

U.B.C. - Shearer's teaching career - (Box 5 - File 12)

Contains material regarding Renate's work at U.B.C. in the School of Social Work, and is in the form of student evaluations and personal notes.

Addenda

Appointment books (3) 1985, 1986, 1988
Video tapes (4)
Must Freedom Fail ?
Solidarity
Canadian Free Speech League
Crosstalk

RENATE SHEARER PAPERS
INVENTORY

BOX/FOLDER NO.	SUBJECT
HUMAN RIGHTS	
1 1	Human Rights #1
1 2	Human Rights #1
1 3	B.C. Civil Liberties Association
1 4	Cashra
1 5	Coalition of Human Rights
1 6	Codes/Rights & Freedoms
1 7	Codes/Rights & Freedoms
1 8	Correspondence: incoming/outgoing
1 9	Correspondence: incoming/outgoing
1 10	Grant Applications
1 11	Grant Applications
1 12	Human Rights Commission Agendas
1 13	Human Rights Commission Agendas
1 14	Human Rights Commission Agendas
1 15	Human Rights Commission Agendas
2 1	Human Rights Commission Agendas
2 2	Human Rights Commission Agendas
2 3	Human Rights Day
2 4	Human Rights Day
2 5	Literature
2 6	Litigation
2 7	Litigation
2 8	Memos
2 9	Newspaper clippings
2 10	Newspaper clippings
2 11	New releases
2 12	Reports
2 13	Reports
2 14	Reports
2 15	Research
2 16	Research
2 17	Women
2 18	Women

BOX/FOLDER NO.**SUBJECT****SOLIDARITY COALITION**

3	(1-8)	Solidarity Coalition business Files
3	9	Assembly Minutes
3	10	Budget
3	11	Budget
3	12	Bulletins
3	13	Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

BRITISH COLUMBIA-ECONOMY/LABOUR

3	(14-18)	British Columbia-Economy/Labour
3	19	News articles
3	20	Reports
4	1	Reports

SUBJECT FILES

4	2	(AMSSA) Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Services Agencies of B.C.
4	3	Biographical
4	4	Church and Bishops United
4	5	City Hall-Questionnaires
4	6	City Hall-Questionnaires
4	7	Co-op Union International
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4	14	Miscellaneous
4	15	Nelson
4	16	Notes and Speeches regarding career
4	17	Notes and Speeches regarding career
4	18	Pacific Group
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BOX/FOLDER NO.

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4	(23-25)	Race relations
5	(1-3)	Race relations
5	(4-8)	Racism
5	9	Social planning
5	10	Social planning
5	11	Solidarity Alberta
5	12	U.B.C.- Shearer's teaching career-class notes

Addenda

Appointment books (3), 1985, 1986, 1980

Videotapes (4)

Must Freedom Fail?

Solidarity

Canadian Free Speech League

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