

Victoria University Archives

Finding Aid - Lester B. Pearson fonds (2176)

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Lester B. Pearson fonds

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Series descriptions	4

Summary information

Repository: Victoria University Archives
Title: Lester B. Pearson fonds
ID: 2176
Category [alternative]: Students / Alumni Personal Papers
Date: 1913–1924 (date of creation)

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Lester Bowles Pearson was born in Newtonbrook (now part of Toronto), the son of Edwin Arthur Pearson and Anne Sarah Bowles. He graduated from Hamilton Collegiate Institute in 1913, then, at age sixteen, went on to Victoria University that year. At Victoria he lived in residence, and participated in sports such as basketball and rugby. During World War I Pearson served as a Medical Orderly overseas. He completed his B.A. at Victoria in 1919, then returned as a Lecturer in History in 1923; during this period he married Maryon (née Moody). Lester Pearson went on to a distinguished career, first as a diplomat, and then as a politician. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957 for his achievements during the Suez Crisis, and went on to become leader of the federal Liberal Party in 1958, then Prime Minister in 1963. He maintained his affiliation with Victoria University, serving as Chancellor from 1952 to 1959. In 2000, the Lester B. Pearson Peace Garden was established on campus.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of scrapbook compiled by Pearson that contains the following material relating to his student years at Victoria University, 1913-1919: first letter from University; ephemera from events and activities, including "The Bob" and the Union Literary Society, lectures, receptions and dinner; clippings; examination results statements; and convocation programmes. The scrapbook also contains the letter appointing Pearson Lecturer in History, 1923; and clippings of letters written by Pearson during his service in World War I, and published in a newspaper.

Notes

Title notes

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

Immediate source of acquisition

Acquired from Mrs. Landon Pearson, daughter-in-law of Lester Pearson, in 2011.
2011.18V

Alternative form available

Scrapbook has been scanned and is available in PDF format.

Part 1: 30MB - http://library.vicu.utoronto.ca/archives/holdings/f2176_lester_b_pearson/doc/LesterBPearsonScrapbookPart1.pdf

Part 2: 36MB - http://library.vicu.utoronto.ca/archives/holdings/f2176_lester_b_pearson/doc/LesterBPearsonScrapbookPart2.pdf

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2176-2011.18V	Item - Scrapbook	1913-1924		