

LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION:

Series

No.:

AU023.019S

FORMS PART OF:

AU023 Martha Kostuch fonds

TITLE:

Alberta League of Environmentally Responsible Tourism (ALERT) series

CREATOR:

Kostuch, Martha

DATE RANGE:

1972-2007

EXTENT:

0.59 meters of textual records and other material

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/ BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

Martha Kostuch collaborated with other environmentalists to form the Alberta League of Environmentally Responsible Tourism (ALERT) on March 29, 1979, in response to an Order in Council which was passed under the Public Lands Act authorizing the Associate Minister of Energy and Natural Resources to enter into a 50 year conditional lease with Cline River Development Company Ltd. for the construction of the Odyssey Project (also known as the Cline River Resort Complex). In July 1981 another Order in Council was signed increasing the leased area to 340.2 acres in the environmentally sensitive Kootenay Plains Natural Area.

ALERT tried unsuccessfully to have the project moved to a less environmentally sensitive area and when that failed, began legal action to have the lease cancelled and the project stopped. The legal battle lasted until ALERT received a letter from Alberta Energy and Natural Resources informing them that the lease had been cancelled on October 11, 1985. This was the first major environmental battle ever won in Alberta.

ALERT was involved in various other campaigns and legal actions and assisted other environmental organizations with their projects. Kostuch was the President of ALERT from its founding until her death in 2008.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY:

In April 2008, Martha Kostuch signed an agreement with Athabasca University to have her records digitized but she passed away before this work could be started. After her death on April 23, 2008, her records went into the custody of her son Edward and in July 2008, he donated the records to Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of material pertaining to Martha Kostuch's activities as a member of the Alberta League for Environmentally Responsible Tourism (ALERT), as well as the organizations efforts to stop the construction of the Odyssey Project.

This series includes the following sub-series: AU023.019S.001S Organizational Records sub-series, 1979-2007 and AU023.019S.002S Legal Action and Law sub-series, 1972-1988.

The AU023.019S.001S Organizational Records series consists primarily of administrative records for the Alberta League of Environmentally Responsible Tourism and includes textual material including correspondence, agendas, meeting minutes, annual returns and financial records.

AU023.019S.002S The Odyssey sub-series consists of material pertaining to the Odyssey Project including, legal documents, correspondence, articles, newspaper clippings, newsletters, reports, maps, presentations, proposals, resource management plans, and maps. As well, much of the material has been annotated by Martha Kostuch.

This sub-series also includes the following material used in presentations made by Martha Kostuch: transparencies depicting the natural flora and fauna of the Kootenay Plains; photographs of the Kootenay Plains area where the Odyssey Project was to be developed and audio cassettes with accompanying information for the transparencies.

SOURCE OF TITLE:

Title taken from the contents of the fonds.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Series also contains – ca. 239 transparencies. – 26 photographs. 11 maps. – 2 audio cassettes

CONSERVATION:

Conservation copies have been made of some of the newspaper clippings, thermal fax paper and mimeograph paper.

ARRANGEMENT NOTE:

Series have been based on the major topics identified from the creator's arrangement, though some records may pertain to a number of series.

LANGUAGE NOTE:

The material is in English.

ACCESS CONDITIONS:

None.

USE CONDITIONS:

Permission for use required. Subject to *The Copyright Act*.

FINDING AIDS:

Box list and file list are available. Some of the material is available in electronic form.

INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ACCESSIONS:

2008.015

Further accruals are not expected.

ASSOCIATED MATERIAL:

Other records pertaining to the Department of Energy and Natural Resources may be found in the Alberta. Department of Energy and Natural Resources fonds at the Provincial Archives of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta.

GENERAL NOTE:

Information for the administrative history of the Alberta League of Environmentally Responsible Tourism was obtained from the records and from *The Edmonton Journal*, *Calgary Herald* and *Red Deer Advocate* newspapers.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Actions and legal defenses
Environmental impact analysis
Environmental policy
Land use
Tourist trade
Provincial parks and reserves