

Canadian Flower Societies Collection Table of Contents

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Title:

Canadian Flower Societies Collection

Dates:

1926-2008

Physical Description:

48.1 cm of textual records

History:

Canadian flower societies were created as a response to the beautification movement. This movement aimed at making towns and cities tidier and more aesthetically pleasing as a means of fostering good citizenship, social remedy, and morality. Horticultural societies were the first groups that emerged out of this reforming zeal; however, the celebration of gardens soon resulted in the formation of individual flower societies. One of the earliest flower societies was the Ontario Rose Society (now the Canadian Rose Society), which was founded in 1913. Many other flower societies were formed in the following decades, including the: Canadian Gladiolus Society (1921); Canadian Iris Society (1946); Rhododendron Society of Canada (1972); Canadian Prairie Lily Society (1973); and the Canadian Peony Society (1998), to name several. These societies, and many others, are still actively celebrating flowers and gardening in Canadian society.

Scope and Contents:

This collection consists of correspondence, reports, lists, ballots, newsletters, and publications created by Canadian flower societies.

Sources of Acquisition:

This is an artificial collection, meaning that its materials were collected over time by different users, rather than being acquired by a single donor. Thus, the records' original order and provenance have been lost.

Language:

This material is in English and French.

Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on access.

Inventory:

- Series 1**
2018.1.1 **Alberta Regional Lily Society**–1989-1990–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of newsletters. These documents are in box 1.
- Series 2**
2018.1.2 **Canadian Geranium and Pelargonium Society**–1985-1994–4.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of quarterly issues of *Stoksbill* complete with pasted in photographs. These documents are in box 1.
- Series 3**
2018.1.3 **Canadian Gladiolus Society**–1955-1957–2.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of a hand-written source sheet, annual reports, and a quarterly newsletter. These documents are in box 1.
- Series 4**
2018.1.4 **Canadian Iris Society**–1950-1968–0.7 cm of textual records–Series consists of lists, ballots, newsletters, portfolios, and quarterly newsletters. The Canadian Iris Society kept correspondence and reports from the American Iris Society, and this is also included. These documents are in box 1.
- Series 5**
2018.1.5 **Canadian Peony Society**–2001–0.3 cm of textual records–Series consists of a booklet. This document is in box 2.
- Series 6**
2018.1.6 **Canadian Prairie Lily Society**–1976-1979–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of newsletters. These documents are in box 2.
- Series 7**
2018.1.7 **Canadian Rose Society**–1926-1994–1.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of rose show pamphlets. These documents are in box 2.
- Series 8**
2018.1.8 **Canadian Specialist Plant Society**–1979-1985–1.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of documents listing all Canadian Specialist Plant Societies. These documents are in box 2.
- Series 9**
2018.1.9 **Durham Region Gladiolus Society**–1974–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of an annual exhibit pamphlet. This document is in box 2.
- Series 10**
2018.1.10 **Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society**–1978-2000–4 cm of textual records–Series consists of newsletters, programmes, and a rose show schedule. These documents are in box 2.
- Series 11**
2018.1.11 **Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum Society**–1975-1990–0.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of photocopies of correspondence and a flower show programme. These documents are in box 2.
- Series 12**
2018.1.12 **Hamilton District Gladiolus Society**–1942-1972–1 cm of textual records–Series consists of show booklets. These documents are in box 3.
- Series 13**
2018.1.13 **Niagara Peninsula Gladiolus Society**–1948-1974–2 cm of textual records–Series consists of annual show pamphlets. These documents are in box 3.

- Series 14**
2018.1.14 **Ontario Hosta Society**—2002—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of a newsletter. This document is in box 3.
- Series 15**
2018.1.15 **Ontario Rock Garden Society**—1970s—0.6 cm of textual records—Series consists of letters and reports. These documents are in box 3.
- Series 16**
2018.1.16 **Oshawa and District Gladiolus Society**—1948-1964—0.4 cm of textual records—Series consists of programmes. These documents are in box 3.
- Series 17**
2018.1.17 **Province of Quebec Gladiolus Society**—1939-1967—3 cm of textual records—Series consists of yearbooks. These documents are in box 3.
- Series 18**
2018.1.18 **Rhododendron Society of Canada**—1980-2008—23 cm of textual records—Series consists of newsletters and a handbook. These documents are in box 3, 4, and 5.
- 2018.1.18.1 **Sub-series A:** Rhododendron Society of Canada Niagara Region
2018.1.18.2 **Sub-series B:** Rhododendron Society of Canada Toronto Region
2018.1.18.3 **Sub-series C:** Rhododendron Society of Canada Atlantic Region
2018.1.18.4 **Sub-series D:** Rhododendron Society of Canada
- Series 19**
2018.1.19 **Toronto Gesneriad Society**—1977-1983—1.2 cm of textual records—Series consists of newsletters. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 20**
2018.1.20 **Vancouver Gladiolus Society**—1944, 1954—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of exhibition pamphlets. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 21**
2018.1.21 **Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society**—1987-1995—4 cm of textual records—Series consists of newsletters. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 22**
2018.1.22 **Winnipeg Gladiolus Society**—1941, 1945—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of exhibit programmes. These documents are in box 5.

Individual Histories

Canadian Peony Society

The Canadian Peony Society was founded in 1998 by John Simkins. It currently has 300 members within five Canadian regions: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and the Pacific.

Canadian Iris Society

In 1946 the Canadian Iris Society was founded under the leadership of W.J. Moffat of Hamilton, Ontario. Moffat became the society's first president and held this position until 1956. The society functioned within the American Iris Society until 1958; then it reorganized independently to promote irises to the gardening public throughout Canada. Its members are interested in garden irises, culture, trials of newer varieties, and encouraging hybridization.

Canadian Gladiolus Society

The Canadian Gladiolus Society was formed in 1921. Since then, it has promoted interest in the cultivation and improvement of the gladiolus.

Canadian Specialist Plant Society

The Canadian Specialist Plant Society offers a publication issued by the Ottawa Research Station.

Canadian Rock Garden Society

The Canadian Rock Garden Society hosted monthly meetings with different speakers in order to publicize rock gardening, as well as share information with enthusiasts.

The Canadian Rose Society

The society's predecessor, the Rose Society of Ontario, was founded in Toronto in 1913 by a group of dedicated women. Men were admitted in 1918, and by 1954 membership spread across the country. To reflect its growth, the society's name was officially changed to the Canadian Rose Society in 1955.

Canadian Chrysanthemum Society

The Canadian Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society was founded in 1965 with a mission to encourage interest in the cultivation of chrysanthemums and dahlias. It educates gardeners through meetings, garden shows, plant and tuber sales, electronic and print media, and show competitions.

Canadian Prairie Lily Society

The Canadian Prairie Lily Society was founded in 1973. Interest in forming a group began in 1967, when Father M. Doll, Don McPhedran, Ed Maginnes, R.B. “Pops” McCombs, Eugene Mossman, Stu Nelson, Bert Porter, G. Smithson and Herb Sunley staged a centennial flower show with the help of the horticultural department of the University of Saskatchewan. The society is affiliated with the American Lily Society.

Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society

The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society was established in 1957.

Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

The Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society was established in the early 1960s. It is dedicated to assisting fellow gardeners in getting the most out of beautiful plants. It has four annual meetings and a flower show.

Rhododendron Society of Canada

The Rhododendron Society of Canada was established in 1972 under the direction of Leslie Hancock of Woodland Nurseries, Frank Palmer of the Vineland Research Station, and other rhododendron enthusiasts. A Rhododendron Society of Canada Bulletin was published between 1972 and 1991.

Toronto Gesneriad Society

The Toronto Gesneriad Society was founded in 1977. Its current mission is “to stimulate a widespread interest in gesneriads; to provide a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in gesneriads; to gather and publish reliable information relative to the culture, identification and propagation of gesneriads; to provide a forum for the study, exchange and showing of plant material; to support initiatives for the collection and conservation of gesneriads in the wild and to encourage the origination and introduction of new cultivars.”

Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society

The Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society is a group that visits, studies, photographs, draws and grows alpine plants, bog dwellers, and woodlanders.

Relevant Websites

Canadian Peony Society

<https://peony.ca/>

Canadian Prairie Lily Society

<http://www.prairielily.ca/about.htm>

Canadian Iris Society

<http://www.cdn-iris.ca/>

Ontario Rock Garden and Hardy Plant Society

<http://www.onrockgarden.com/>

Canadian Rose Society

<http://canadianrosesociety.org/>

Canadian Chrysanthemum Society

<http://www.mumsanddahlias.com/>

Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

<http://www.hamilton-mum-dahlia.com/>

Canadian Iris Society

<http://www.cdn-iris.ca/>

Ontario Hosta Society

<http://ontariohostasociety.com/index.php/home1>

Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society

<http://www.virags.ca/>

Toronto Gesneriad Society

<http://torontogesneriadsociety.org/>

Library Sources

The following are in the library's serials:

BC Gladiolus Society

Calgary Gladiolus Society

Canadian Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

Canadian Gladiolus Society

Canadian Iris Society

Canadian Rose Society

Toronto Bonsai Society

Toronto District Gladiolus Society

Ontario Regional Lily Society

Canadian Iris Society