

1945-1950

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Opening in January of 1944, Winston Hall was constructed as a Women's residence for wartime housing by the War Munitions and Supply Ministry of the Federal Government. When the property was deemed to be surplus, City Council acquired it through an agreement with the Director of the Veterans' Land Act (October 15th 1945) and by arranging to borrow \$80,000 for the purchase under By-law 3954 (October 9th, 1945). The Ontario Government approved the agreement between the Director of the Veterans' Land Act and Council through enacting the City of Fort William Act, 1946.

Council appointed five of its' members to the Winston Hall Committee on October 23, 1945 in order to direct the management of the facility. The committee first convened 2 days later on October 25th, 1945 and elected Alderman Booth as the chair. Renovations, the appointment of management, personnel, lease and rental arrangements were items addressed by the committee. At various points, the fixtures in Winston Hall included a grocery, concessions, bowling alley, assembly hall and classrooms for the Canadian Vocational Training School.

Between 1945 and 1948, other programs to manage construction of post-war housing were administered by a Housing Committee that was established by council on January 9th 1945. After 1949, however, the Winston Hall Committee advised in these local improvement matters between the City of Fort William and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and was thenceforward known as the Winston Hall and Civic Housing Committee. In Fort William, the last project of this kind was identified as project 10. Details regarding agreements between Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the City of Fort William can be found in the City Clerks Files under Housing.

On November 9, 1950 the members of the Winston Hall and Civic Housing Committee advised council to authorize the sale of the Winston Hall property to Mr. Alan Guyer. Council had already approved a leasing arrangement for the property on May 30, 1950 under by-law 4342. After coming to an agreement of sale on November 28, 1950, By-law 4424, passed through Council on March 30th, authorizing the sale to Mr. Guyer for the Winston Hall Property and ending the City's commitment to the management of the property.

This Series consists of minutes in 2 bound volumes.

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Series 10 - Fort William Winston Hall Committee Records Fort William Fonds

See also Fort William City Clerks Files in TBA 161: Files 177 entitled "Housing".

Winston Hall Committee.