

1895-1948, predominant 1905-1920

1 m., 92 cm. of textual records. - 17 photographs. - 74 cartographic items.

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The Electric Railway and Light Commissioners was established in 1895 with the passing of By-Law 447. The Telephone System of the Town was also placed under its control with the passing of By-Law 819 in 1906. The Commission was abolished in 1910 and a Commissioner was appointed in its place until the establishment of the Public Utilities Commission.

The Public Utilities Commission was established under By-Law 1311 on December 4, 1914. Its members were to be responsible for the control and management of all matters in connection with the construction, operation and maintenance of the power, light, telephone and street railway utilities. Under By-Law 1421, dated February 28, 1916 the Commission also took over the control and management of the waterworks of the City of Port Arthur effective April 1, 1916.

Upon amalgamation of the Cities of Fort William and Port Arthur on January 1, 1970, control of the utilities was handed over to the new City of Thunder Bay.

Although these files appear to have been retained latterly in the offices of the Public Utilities Commission, they were generated in a number of offices including the Electric Railway, Light and Telephone Commissioners, the Utilities Committee and the Office of the City Clerk as well as the Public Utilities Commission.

The files have been artificially arranged under the categories P.U.C. General Files, Hydro Files, Property Files, Street Railway Files, Telephone Files and Waterworks Files and deal with various subjects, including dams, minutes, reports, electricity, power, claims, street cars, crossings, telephone installations, Loch Lomond and water supply.

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A detailed file list is available.

Further accruals are not anticipated.

Title based on contents of series.

The photographs, maps, plans and blueprints, which have been removed from the files, have been replaced with a reference sheet which describes each item, and inventories of the photographs, maps, plans and blueprints are available on the reference shelf.