

1892-1969

8 m., 32 cm. of textual records

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Under the Municipal Act the powers of Council are to be exercised by a by-law. By-laws enable localities to pass and enforce law within their own territorial limits within the framework of established provincial and federal legislation. The Municipal Act also establishes the requirement to maintain original by-laws passed by Town and City Councils in the office of the Clerk. Through the course of their appointments, the following Clerks maintained the Fort William by-laws: Edward Saunders Rutledge (1892-1900), Mr. A. McNaughton (March 1900 to 1945) Donald M. Martin (1945-1964) and Donald B. Morris (1964-1970)

By-laws cover a great variety of issues and concerns. There are By-laws to formalize agreements with other institutions, appoint municipal officials, regulate tax collection, construct sidewalks and roadways, license local establishments, provide for holding elections, establish rates for water and other applicable utilities, and construct City facilities. While most By-laws pass after three readings by council, some early by-laws affecting the “future position” of the municipality required the electoral approval by ratepayers according to the Municipal Act. These by-laws would generally include debenture by-laws for the borrowing of funds on credit, but would also include by-laws for annexation or separation, a re-division of wards, construction of street railways, local assessment and improvement to name a few.

This series consists of 64 volumes of numerically sequenced By-laws. Copies are available on microform. By-laws are accessible through an index that is available in both hard copy and microform. Interspersed with the earliest Fort William By-laws, there are also sundry by-laws generated by the Municipality of Neebing (1890-1894).

Microfilm copies of the By-Laws are available. The use of the microfilm copies is recommended.

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An index is available (microfilm)

Also included with this series are the Street & Lane Opening & Closing By-Laws (1892-1969) which are indexed and the Restricted Areas & Zoning By-Law Index (1937-1969).

