

**LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION:**

Series

**No.:**

AU023.013S

**FORMS PART OF:**

AU023 Martha Kostuch fonds

**TITLE:**

Environmental enforcement, protection and legislation series

**CREATOR:**

Kostuch, Martha

**DATE RANGE:**

1930- 2005, predominantly 1978-2005

**EXTENT:**

2.95 meters of textual records and other material

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/ BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:**

Martha Kostuch believed that the public should have substantial involvement in deciding regulations and legislation for all facets of the environment. She also believed that protection laws should be strong enough to safeguard and preserve the environment, and that the means to enforce those laws with adequate penalties were written into the Canadian *Constitution Act*.

Kostuch was a member of the National Advisory Group on Harmonization (NAGH) from 1996-1998. She was appointed to the NAGH as a representative of the Canadian Environmental Network (CEN) Harmonization Working Group subcommittee, which she chaired from 1996-1998. These two groups worked towards creating a Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization which envisioned governments working in partnership to achieve the highest level of environmental quality for all Canadians.

She was actively involved in the 1992 constitution debate, writing letters to members of the government and newspaper editors. She submitted a brief on the environment to the constitutional hearings held in Alberta and attended the National Constitutional Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Kostuch also researched environmental law, policy, protection, enforcement and penalties. She attended workshops and meetings and worked with various government and environmental groups to form policies and regulations. A policy that needed constant revising was the *Environmental Impact Assessment Act* and one of the

regulations Kostuch worked on concerned emission caps both within Canada and Transboundary.

**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 work creating national and provincial environmental policies, regulations and legislation.

Textual records consist of agendas, meeting minutes, reports, correspondence, briefs, conference proceedings, workshop proceedings, briefs, copies of the *Environmental Enforcement Act*, a variety of legislative acts for Alberta and Canada, newspaper clippings, news releases, and background articles, studies and reports about various chemicals. As well, much of the material has been annotated by Martha Kostuch. The photographs are of a CN train derailment that spilled sulphur and diesel fuel. The three charts are of evaluation of forest harvesting. One videotape is a recording of the House of Commons Committee Meetings. The other is a taped interview of Martha Kostuch.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:**

Title taken from the contents of the fonds.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

Series also includes 13 photographs. -2 videotapes. – 3 charts. – 1 newsletter.

**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.

**GENERAL NOTE:**

Information for the administrative history was obtained from the records and from *The Edmonton Journal*, *Calgary Herald* and *Red Deer Advocate* newspapers.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Environmental policy

Environmental law

Environmental impact analysis