

Donald Fraser Collection

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Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Wambheim

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

April 2016

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Summary Information

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Repository | James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library |
| Creator - Author | Fraser, Donald MacKay, b. 1924 |
| Title | Donald Fraser Collection |
| Date | 1968-1994 |
| Extent | 2.42 Linear feet |
| Language | English |

Biography

Donald M. Fraser was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on February 20, 1924. Fraser was educated in the Minneapolis Public School system and went on to receive a law degree from the University of Minnesota. He was admitted to the bar in 1948 and practiced law in Minneapolis for the Firm of Larson, Lindquist, Fraser, and Magnuson.

Donald Fraser, a member of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, served in the Minnesota Senate from 1955-1962 representing Hennepin County District 29. In 1962 Fraser was elected to the United States House of Representatives where he served for Minnesota's Fifth District until 1979. In 1979, Fraser was elected Mayor of Minneapolis, where he has thus far been the city's longest serving Mayor representing the city from January 1, 1980 until December 31, 1993.

Description of the Collection

Seven boxes of documents, newsletters, political ephemera, campaign literature, newspaper clippings, intern manuals, photographs, slides, and audiocassettes primarily regarding the political career of Donald M. Fraser as Minneapolis Mayor.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library April 2016

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- United States. Congress. House.

Genre(s)

- Audiotapes.

Geographic Name(s)

- Minneapolis (Minn.). Mayor.

Subject(s)

- Political campaigns -- Minnesota.

Collection Inventory

| Auto/Biographical Materials 1981-1993 | Box | Folder |
|---|-----|--------|
| <p data-bbox="152 516 610 546">Conditions Governing Access note</p> <p data-bbox="152 583 1130 663">Contains career summaries for Donald Fraser as well as an article written by Fraser entitled "Growing up in Minneapolis" published in 1989.</p> | 1 | 1 |
| <p data-bbox="152 743 435 772">Campaign Materials</p> | | |
| <p data-bbox="152 863 480 892">Scope and Contents note</p> <p data-bbox="152 930 1414 1104">Includes election and re-election materials, including brochures, mass mailings, and campaign statements. One of Don Fraser's major projects in the 1988/1989 re-election bid was the support of a proposed amendment to the city charter. Most of the documents pertaining to that project are in a separate folder, but there will be some letters and related material about it in these folders as well.</p> | | |
| | Box | Folder |
| Mayoral Elections 1978-1989 | 1 | 2 |
| Mayoral Newsletters 1978-1989 | 1 | 3 |
| Mayoral Statements 1979-1989 | 1 | 4 |
| Congress/Senate Elections 1974-1978 | 1 | 5 |
| <p data-bbox="152 1715 375 1745">Correspondence</p> | | |

Projects

Scope and Contents note

Most of the correspondence here will be official/formal correspondence, though there are some handwritten notes in the Individual Correspondence file. Envelopes have been included in the Invitations file when possible.

| | Box | Folder |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Letters About 1969-1978 | 1 | 6 |
| Individual Correspondence 1977-1993 | 1 | 7 |
| Holiday Letters 1971-1993 | 1 | 8 |
| Invitations 1976-1988 | 1 | 9 |

Projects

| | Box | Folder |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| City Charter Amendments 1988-1989 | 1 | 10 |

Scope and Contents note

One of Fraser's main projects in 1988/89 was the adjustment of the city charter. This was concurrent with his campaign to be reelected Mayor of Minneapolis. The items in this folder pertain partially to the re-election and mainly to the city-wide petition for the city charter amendments. Information pertaining to the charter amendments are present, as are documents from the mayor's office describing the petition itself. This file will include mass mailings, speeches, budget sheets, and a blank copy of the petition itself.

Reports

USSR Sister City Conference 1989

1

11

Scope and Contents note

To promote deeper understanding and to lessen political tensions between Soviet and American cities, the mayors of St. Paul/Minneapolis and Novosibirsk formalized their cities' relationships as sister-cities in 1989. The materials in this folder document Mayor Fraser's trip to Novosibirsk in May/June of 1989. Included are schedules, long-range plans (1989-1992), correspondence pertaining to the project, and proposals for technological/cultural transfers. Newspaper clippings are also included, some of which are in Russian.

Manual for Interns 1983-1987

1

12

Scope and Contents note

Contains the contents of the binder of materials for the "Aide to the Mayor of Minneapolis," including listings of the office staff; instructions for taking phone calls, answering letters, driving Mayor Fraser; and examples of written documents to be used in style guidance. Some newspaper clippings appear in the back as recommended reading material.

Reports

Scope and Contents note

Official publications from Donald Fraser in his role either as mayor or congressman. Take the form of official, formal publications or as press releases. City Accomplishments includes documents mainly from 1980 and from 1986-1988.

Box

Folder

Speeches

| | | |
|--|------------|---------------|
| Mayoral Reports 1980-1988 | 1 | 13 |
| Congress/Senate Reports 1966-1978 | 1 | 14 |
| City Accomplishments 1980-1988 | 1 | 15 |
| Speeches 1980-1993 | Box | Folder |
| | 2 | 1 |
| Scope and Contents note | | |
| Includes the text of, drafts of, and official printings of Mayor Fraser's State of the City Addresses from 1980 to 1993. 1981, 1983, 1984, 1988, and 1992 are the only years in this range without materials in this folder. | | |
| Media | | |
| Scope and Contents note | | |
| Photographs (A) and (B) and (C) folders all contain photographs from the USSR Sister City Conference in 1989. The final photograph in (C) folder is undated, but does feature Don Fraser. Photographs are arranged five to each folder. The audio cassettes are mostly recordings of press conferences, dates unknown. | | |
| | Box | Folder |
| Photographs (A) 1989 | 2 | 2 |
| Photographs (B) 1989 | 2 | 3 |
| Photographs (C) | 2 | 4 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Audio Cassettes | 2 | 5 |
| | Box | Carton |
| Slides undated, 1951-1953 | 2 | |
| Newspaper Clippings | | |
| | Box | Folder |
| Newspaper Clippings 1951 | 3 | 1 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1952 | 3 | 2 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1953 | 3 | 3 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1954 | 3 | 4 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1955 | 3 | 5 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1956 | 3 | 6 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1957 | 3 | 7 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1958 | 3 | 8 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1959 | 3 | 9 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1960 | 3 | 10 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----|
| Newspaper Clippings 1961 | 3 | 11 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1962 | 3 | 12 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1962 | 3 | 13 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1962 | 3 | 14 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1963 | 3 | 15 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1963 | 3 | 16 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1964 | 3 | 17 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1964 | 3 | 18 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1964 | 3 | 19 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1965 | 4 | 1 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1965 | 4 | 2 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1966 | 4 | 3 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1966 | 4 | 4 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1967 | 4 | 5 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----|
| Newspaper Clippings 1967 | 4 | 6 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1968 | 4 | 7 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1968 | 4 | 8 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1969 | 4 | 9 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1969 | 4 | 10 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1970 | 4 | 11 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1970 | 4 | 12 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1971 | 4 | 13 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1971 | 4 | 14 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1972 | 4 | 15 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1972 | 4 | 16 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1973 | 4 | 17 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1974 | 4 | 18 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1974 | 4 | 19 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----|
| Newspaper Clippings 1975 | 5 | 1 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1975 | 5 | 2 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1976 | 5 | 3 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1976 | 5 | 4 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1977 | 5 | 5 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1977 | 5 | 6 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1977 | 5 | 7 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1978 | 5 | 8 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1978 | 5 | 9 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1978 | 5 | 10 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1978 | 5 | 11 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1979 | 5 | 12 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1979 | 5 | 13 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1979 | 5 | 14 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----|
| Newspaper Clippings 1979 | 5 | 15 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1979 | 5 | 16 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1980 | 6 | 1 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1980 | 6 | 2 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1980 | 6 | 3 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1981 | 6 | 4 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1981 | 6 | 5 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1981 | 6 | 6 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1982 | 6 | 7 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1982 | 6 | 8 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1983 | 6 | 9 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1983 | 6 | 10 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1984 | 6 | 11 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1984 | 6 | 12 |

Newspaper Clippings

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----|
| Newspaper Clippings 1985 | 7 | 1 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1985 | 7 | 2 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1985 | 7 | 3 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1986 | 7 | 4 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1987 | 7 | 5 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1988 | 7 | 6 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1989 | 7 | 7 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1990 | 7 | 8 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1991 | 7 | 9 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1992 | 7 | 10 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1993 | 7 | 11 |
| Newspaper Clippings 1994-1998 | 7 | 12 |