

**P 204- William O. Mackasey fonds**  
**1970-1999 (predominant dates: 1993-1999)**  
**3.33 lm. of textual documents, maps and videotapes.**

**Biographical sketch:** After graduating in 1959 from Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, where he received a B. Sc. in Geology, William Olver Mackasey enrolled in Carleton University where he obtained a Master's in Science (Geology).

Mackasey began his career in exploration and mining geology, and progressed from site-specific earth science projects to broader studies of land-use issues at the regional, provincial and national level. During most of his career he worked for the Ontario government as a mine geologist specializing in abandoned mines, mine reclamation, land-use planning and policy development. Mackasey managed the Ontario program to inventory, assess, and remediate abandoned mine hazards in the province. He was, for example, the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines' representative on the Joint Review Committee for decommissioning the uranium mines of Elliot Lake, Agnew Lake and Bancroft.

Recognizing that abandoned mines were the result of poor planning and regulation, he focused on developing policies on mine rehabilitation that were eventually incorporated into a revision of *Mining Act*.

In 1996 he established his own company in Sudbury ON, as a consultant on mineral potential assessment, policy development, and restoration. The same year and until 1999, he represented the Ontario Mining Association [on the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Round Table, one of three established by the Ontario government as part of the Lands for Life planning exercise.](#) (The other two roundtables focused on two other areas, Boreal West and Boreal East, and their task was to decide what forests to give to corporations, after getting input from the public and interested companies.)

**Scope and Content:** The William (Bill) Mackasey fonds documents Mackasey's various activities as a geologist and more specifically his interest in mining and the environment. Video tapes, reports, and studies relating to abandoned mines and tailings mostly focus on Northern Ontario but some also concern Western Canada and the United States. Workshops on Current Development on the Stability of Uranium, Elliot Lake (1993), documentation on rehabilitation of abandoned mines and waste management can also be found in the files.

Consisting of correspondence, minutes, memos, notes, maps and briefs, the files of the Lands for Life Round Tables not only document the mandate, the goal and process of these roundtables and their consultations but it also inform us on the different perspectives of the groups, and associations from different regions of Ontario who participated and submitted briefs and studies to the 'Lands for Life

Round Tables. Consultations were held throughout Ontario and information exists for the meetings held in Northern Ontario: North Bay, Sturgeon Falls, Sudbury, Elliot Lake, Espanola, and Thunder Bay. Many groups, associations and industries submitted briefs. The forest industry, mining industry along with the tourism industry and indigenous communities, provincial parks as well as regional anglers & hunters and snowmobiling associations all presented their points of view and suggestions about the use of Crown Lands. A report on the Ancient Forest Ecology and Conservation of Lake Temagami is amongst the studies and reports presented. Also included are some original maps created for consultation with the public in general which illustrate what was suggested by the different groups for each region and the current situation at the time of the hearings and reports of the suggested land use.

**Note: Immediate source of acquisition:** William Mackasey donated his files in January 2015.

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**Accruals:** a second accrual was received in February and a third one in March 2015. No further accruals expected.

**Finding aid:** the fonds is not processed, no finding aid is available.