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LESSER SLAVE LAKE INDIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

TREATY AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS RESEARCH (TARR)

ARCHIVES ACQUISITION POLICY

Created June 18, 2013

Last Revised November 6, 2013

1. **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the acquisition policy is to outline the areas of acquisition at the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council Treaty & Aboriginal Rights Research Program (LSLIRC TARR) Archives as it seeks to support the role and mission of the TARR Program.

2. **DEFINITIONS:**

LSLIRC-TARR Program Archives refers to the Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research Program Archives, which operates under the auspices of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

LSLIRC First Nations Members refers to the five First Nations forming the LSLIRC:

<i>Driftpile Cree Nation</i>	<i>Swan River First Nation</i>
<i>Kapawe'no First Nation</i>	<i>Sawridge First Nation</i>
<i>Sucker Creek First Nation</i>	

TARR Sponsoring First Nations Members refers to the seven First Nations that sponsor the TARR program. Despite the TARR Program operating under the auspices of the LSLIRC, there are First Nation communities who are not part of the LSLIRC, but that still sponsor the TARR program. The TARR sponsoring First Nation Members are:

<i>Driftpile Cree Nation</i>	<i>Swan River First Nation</i>
<i>Kapawe'no First Nation</i>	<i>Sawridge First Nation</i>
<i>Sucker Creek First Nation</i>	
<i>Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation</i>	<i>Horse Lake First Nation</i>

Oral History refers to unwritten cultural, historical and spiritual knowledge passed down by family and community members to others over time. It is considered the most important source of specific information about a community's history, members, beliefs and activities from the past.¹ The Archives houses over 200 recorded and transcribed Elder interviews in English, as well as 75 un-transcribed Elder interviews in Cree.

Annuity Treaty Pay Lists refers to records of annuity payments made annually to registered Indians belonging to First Nation communities who signed treaties with the

¹ Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs Website "6.01 Oral History" <http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/files/PDF/ch6.pdf>.
Reviewed on October 31, 2013

Federal Crown. The Archives houses the original records of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Agency Annuity Treaty Pay lists from 1910 to 1955.

3. ROLE & MISSION:

LSLIRC-TARR Archives operates under the LSLIRC-TARR Program, a branch of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council (LSLIRC). The TARR program is overseen by the TARR Program Director, and governed by LSLIRC Chiefs and Councilors.

The mandate of the LSLIRC-TARR Program is to employ professional researchers to document historical claims or treaty grievances of First Nations against the Federal Government. The program provides claims research services to the LSLIRC First Nations members and, in special circumstances, to other non-member First Nations as well.

Thus, the role and mission of the LSLIRC-TARR Program Archives is to:

- Maintain an archives of historical records, oral history, genealogical records, photographs and other such material in accordance to the LSLIRC TARR Circulation Policy approved by the LSLIRC TARR Chiefs and Councilors.
- Function as a resource center in support of the efforts of claims researchers employed under the TARR program
- Preserve the collective memory of the LSLIRC First Nations and Treaty 8 Alberta First Nations, and to act as a cultural resource by preserving the historical legacy of its member and client Nations.

4. ACQUISITION RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARCHIVES

a) Scope of Acquisition

1. The Archives is responsible for acquiring records to preserve the collective memory of the LSLIRC, as well as that of any predecessor of the TARR program (e.g. the Indian Association of Alberta (IAA)).
2. The Archives is responsible for acquiring records and other related archival material from TARR Sponsoring Nations.
3. The Archives is responsible for acquiring material that facilitates and supports Specific Claims research, which include both primary and secondary source material.
4. The Archives is responsible for acquiring general records related to the history of Treaty No. 8.

5. The Archives is responsible for gathering genealogical records of the LSLIRC First Nations and Treaty 8 Alberta First Nations.

The Archives acquires various materials of historical value to the LSLIRC-TARR First Nations. These primary and secondary source materials include but are not limited to the following formats:

Archival material	Manuscripts
Rare Books	Photographs
Ephemera	

b) Current Acquisition

Currently the TARR Archives maintains an archival collection of:

Textual records	Historical photographs
Oral History	Audio and Video material
Genealogical information	

The Archives also maintains a collection of secondary sources to further support claims research consisting of:

Published books and articles	Reports
Magazines	Specific claims
Unpublished manuscripts	

c) Methods of Acquisition

The Archives acquires material in the following manner:

Gifts

The Archives acquires material donated by private individuals and by community organizations. Donors should refer to the Archives' **Donor Agreement Policy**, which outlines the policies and procedures for donating material. The purpose of this Policy is to ensure a positive and transparent relationship between the Archives and the Donor. Donations can be made with certain conditions and restrictions, agreed upon between the Archives and Donor at the time of transfer.

Purchases

The Archives has a limited budget for purchases but, in exceptional cases, the Archives will purchase material from individuals or organizations if the material falls within the Acquisition Policy.

Transfers

The LSLIRC-TARR Program Archives accepts record transfers from the LSLIRC office, as well as historical research companies (e.g. HML and Hochstein & Associates). Under special circumstances, and with approval by the Archivist and Director, transfers are also permitted between the Archives and the Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta.

Loans

In exceptional cases, the Archives will borrow records and related material from individuals and organizations temporarily. The Archives also provides a digitization service for the material being loaned. In this case, the Archivist will require a written agreement between the loaner and the Archives. Individuals and organizations interested in lending their material can also refer to the **Donor Agreement Policy**.

d) Acquisition Decisions

All regular acquisition decisions are made by the TARR Archivist. For acquisitions in exceptional circumstances, the TARR Director may be consulted for a final decision.

6. APPROVAL OF POLICY

Recommended by:		October 31, 2013
	TARR Archivist	
		October 31, 2013
	Archivist & Research Associate	
Approved by:		November 7, 2013
	LSLIRC-TARR Director	
Last reviewed:		

REFERENCES:

Canadian Council of Archives, "Guidelines for Developing an Acquisition Policy, Canadian Council of Archives," accessed on 20 July 2013: <http://aabc.ca/STORAGE/Toolkit_storage/Toolkit_files_old_linked/toolkit_guidelines_for_an_acquisition_policy.html