

## DUCC Archives Bi-Annual Report November 2022- June 2024

**ARCHIVES** are so very important and now is the time to set a file aside on your computer or in a file cabinet to put all things diaconal into. You could set that file up with **several categories:** articles written, photographs (write the names on the photograph), magazine or news stories written about your work, interesting things you do in the congregation and community, challenges you face, support groups you developed for yourself and others; other education and training done, reflections you have done, all things related to your ministry as a diaconal minister. **WHY would I do this?** So future generations can learn from our experiences and be challenged and supported by the ministries we are doing and have done.

**A story:** In my search for oral history participants, I learned of a woman in Ontario who as a Deaconess worked with people in her community to respond to housing needs. She was told by a member of the congregation she should not be doing that and her colleague supported the member without speaking with the Deaconess. She left ministry, received a degree from OISE and fell in love and moved to India.

Her story has gone unheard by our DUCC community until early in 2024. We will interview her.

**Another Story:** A woman just about to be designated as a Deaconess learned that a classmate was being denied designation because she was a smoker. In solidarity with her classmate, she refused designation.

These stories are part of our history and for me and I hope for you it is fascinating to discover what our ancestors faced as they journeyed through their education and ministry journeys.

We have several people who were not able to be designated or commissioned and some who left or felt forced out of diaconal ministry for a variety of reasons. We need all their stories and **WE NEED YOUR STORIES**, that come to us in your record keeping using the suggested filing system. Stories fill out our broad ministries from working as educational staff in congregations and sometimes in community ministries in our early ministries days, to conference staff and national staff, hospital chaplains to full time solo ministry in congregations. We have worked in intentional interim ministries, team ministries and full-time community ministries that range from environmental to housing and peace and justice, and we have been Moderators, Conference Presidents, Executive ministers, college professors and principals. Our diaconal footprint has touched many areas of ministry and we have made a difference even when we think we don't. Little seeds planted.

Archives is about our stories in our great tapestry of varied ministries and how our ministries intersect with the communities we find ourselves in.

### **What did Archives do since we last met.**

1. Disappointed we did not collect more files and photos at the last DUCC Gathering. So, for this year we have set up a new process for collecting and identifying photos.
2. Sent a letter to all DUCCS to remember to include in your will that all your DUCC files come to the DUCC Archives. Several letters came back with a wrong address and that information was shared with Deb Kiger who keeps the DUCC data base updated. We will send further reminders and updates about DUCC Archives. We might even do a webinar in the new year.
3. Tracking down files and correspondence that are missing from the DUCC Archived files. Many of you who have been around for a while and may have served on The Committee of Diaconal Ministry and The Task Force on Diaconal Ministry. Some of you may have taken minutes at National DUCC Gatherings. We are looking for those missing minutes/notes. Please be in touch with me. Find out who I am at the end of the document.
4. **DUCC History writing** had to be delayed because the Archives were closed due to COVID. That writing is now back on track. Kathy Toivanen is writing the history. Soon you will see our HISTORY book.
5. **We need a good detective.** Perhaps Detective Murdock who was recently commissioned could assist. We are attempting to locate our missing framed DUCC Statement from 40 years ago. I will know you read this if you ask me about Detective Murdock.
6. We are also exploring how we will archive documents like the DUCC website.
7. Oral History project has begun. BC Pacific Mountain Region agreed to finance and support the interviewing of six people. Glad to report the first of six interviews are done, second is scheduled. Kimiko Karkoff is our interviewer. Blair Galston is the BC Archivist who is working with DUCC Archives on this project along with Erin Aclan from the Prairie to Pine Archives. **DUCC Regional REPS**, please find six people in your region to be interviewed and send their names to me. We will begin the interviewing process very soon. We have funding but will require more to get six oral histories from each of our regions.
8. **ASK Eric Tusz-King or Kathy Toivanen or me** about the **Research Guide**. Cheryl Kirk has put in hours of work getting the Research Guide organized along with assistance from Erin Acland.
9. We will be having conversations with CCS and Sandy Saulteaux Centre regarding Archives.
10. If you are interested in assisting Archives with transcription of the oral histories, we would be very grateful. We do have a mechanism that can assist but we do need a human to review. If you are interested in being on the committee speak to one of the team.

11. Archives did interview several elder DUCCs for the 2024 National Gathering. Hopefully we can find a way to use the video as it contains incredible history.
12. Many years ago, 1982, Kay Huer developed a resource **Waiting as Fast as We Can**; a slide show which is now in the DUCC and CCS archives. We hope to show you the video presentation of the slide show at the national gathering that has been done by Jen Dresser.

Please be in touch if you have any questions. Please contact any of the team.

Thank you to Erin Acland for your invaluable assistance with Archives and thank you to the team, Cheryl Kirk, Kathy Toivanen and Eric Tusz-King and the Digital/Photo sub group of the DUCC Archives Team: Ann Naylor, Linda Gow and Kimiko Karkoff.

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