



Dalhousie University Archives

Finding Aid - Kell Antoft fonds (MS-2-743)

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Kell Antoft fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Dalhousie University Archives
Title:	Kell Antoft fonds
Reference code:	MS-2-743
Date:	1929-2002 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Physical description:	20 m of textual records
Physical location:	Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A82 G and Range A82 H
Note [generalNote]:	Preferred citation: [Identification of item], Kell Antoft fonds, MS-2-743, Box [box number], Folder [folder number], Dalhousie University Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Kell Antoft was a professor in Dalhousie's School of Public Administration and had a distinguished research career in local government, municipal planning, taxation and non-resident land ownership. Born on 24 July 1923 in Roskilde, Denmark, at age seven Antoft immigrated to Canada with his parents, Otto and Asta (Rump) Antoft, eventually settling in Lakeville, Nova Scotia. He received his early education at the King's County Academy and later at Sir George Williams College, Montreal, and Dalhousie University.

Antoft was a keen hosteller and founded the Nova Scotia branch of the Canadian Hostelling Association in 1938, remaining active in the hostelling movement for many decades as a member of the Trustee Committee. From 1943-1946 he served as a Royal Canadian Air Force navigator and settled in Montreal after the war, where he founded two successful businesses: Viking Air Service and Nordic Biochemicals Ltd. Under his presidency of Nordic Biochemicals (1951-1956), the company conducted foundational growth hormone research.

In 1966 Antoft sold his business interests and moved to Toronto to work as the Assistant Executive Director of the National Cancer Institute of Canada. In 1969 he returned to Nova Scotia to take up an appointment as Assistant Director of the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA). He served as Director from 1977-1984, when he took up a full-time professorial appointment at Dalhousie's School of Public Administration. On his retirement in 1989, he was appointed as an adjunct professor at Henson College, which in 2003 amalgamated with several other historically separate institutions to become Dalhousie's College of Continuing Education.

Antoft was a member of the Canadian Cancer Society in Nova Scotia for over twenty years, with a two-year term as president (1980-1982); he was involved in both provincial and national public issues committees and the Nova Scotia and Canada Councils on Smoking and Health. His papers help to

document the Cancer Society's move towards an active role in voicing opposition to tobacco advertising campaigns and sponsorship and in supporting anti-smoking campaigns.

An avid lifelong skier, Antoft worked in various capacities with many ski clubs and programs in Canada, including co-founding with Al Raine the Nancy Greene Ski League. He served on boards and committees with various clubs and associations, including the Canadian Ski Association, the Atlantic Ski Zone, the Wentworth Valley Ski Club, the Nova Scotia Ski Areas Association, the Nova Scotia Seniors' Ski Club, Dalhousie Alpine Ski Team and the Dalhousie Penguin Club. He was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sport Heritage Hall of Fame in 2000.

Antoft's work with young people led him to serve on both the national and Atlantic Region boards of Katimavik. He was also actively involved in politics, working on behalf of the New Democratic Party from the mid-1980s and running for Halifax City Council in 1985. He co-founded Veterans Against Nuclear Arms (VANA) and its affiliated organization, the Defence Research and Education Centre. Kell Antoft was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 2001 and a Member of the Council of the Order of Nova Scotia in 2002. He died in 2005, survived by his second wife, Mary Lou Courtney.

Custodial history

Fonds was donated by Kell Antoft in three accessions. The first accession (2002-012) was donated by Kell Antoft in 2002. The second accession (2005-024) was donated by Henson College in 2005. The third accession was transferred from Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management in 2010.

Scope and content

Fonds is arranged into series reflecting Kell Antoft's activities and functions. Series and file lists are arranged alphabetically by title.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

Fonds is arranged into series reflecting Kell Antoft's various activities and functions. Series and file lists are arranged alphabetically by title.

Restrictions on access

Some files are restricted. See series descriptions for more information.

Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Dalhousie University. Institute of Public Affairs (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Correspondence (documentary form)
- Reports, publications, studies, and documentation (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Associations, institutions, etc. (subject)
- Personal archives (subject)
- Skiing (subject)
- Halifax (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings
