

History of Margaret Forks Exchange

The first telephone in Margaret Forks Exchange area was in Mariner Smith's store in North East Margaret. This was installed by the Inverness and Victoria Telephone Company around 1901 and worked as a toll station from their Baddick Exchange. Mr. Smith would ^{have} paid 25^{00} per year for this service and collected 25^c a call from outside users, retaining 10% for himself.

The Eastern Telephone Company of Sydney bought out the J.W. & Co. in 1902 and in ^{late} 1906 the line was continued onto Margaret Forks. Service continued by this system until May 1909 when a five line ^{WA} switch box was installed in Margaret with 18 telephones connected. This was replaced 10 years later with a 137A wall switchboard but in January of 1919, the Margaret Forks ^{got} ¹⁹⁰² ^{no} ¹⁹²

Ray Allen

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6224

By 1917, the exchange had grown to 30 stations plus 12 Connecting Company telephones, the South West Margaree Mutual Tel Co having connected 2 Oct 1914. In October 1917, the switchboard was moved from Margaree Forks to W. F. Dawson's residence in Margaree Harbour but little more than a year later, the Margaree ^{Fork} Harbour Exchange was re-established with 4 telephones and has grown from that point to nearly 300 at dial conversion 17 Nov 1973.

There have been five agents in charge of the Exchange since ~~1916~~ ^{1909 beginning with} Mrs. M. A. Doyle was the first and held the position for 37 years, then Miss Sophie Chiasson for two years, followed by Mrs. Jessie Chiselm for 13 years and Mrs. Margaret MacDonald until a year before the dial cutover when Mrs. Doreen M. Carrell became agent for the 64th and final year of manual service.

MT&T Bd disc offer to sell
Apr 14, 1931 German Goudge

2434 shares.

JH & McK made first trip as "1 share" shareholders

Oct 16/31 Bd approved

Nov 1/31 Bd approved

A meeting was held in Barrington by the Board of Comm of M.
attended by J.H. Winfield, T.W. Goudge, W.A. Winfield &
A.M. MacKay - Mr. MacKay recalls no representation
by local citizens

318 telephones - 65 miles pole line - 120 miles cat. - 3 substs
Barr
Clks Hbr
Wood Hbr

Chairman John D. Ross
Vice R.T. Smedley
Lester Colpitt City Elect
Peter Sawyer Hollis Street ofc. for Steel
ex Mayor. Able man
also chairman of 1914 Comm
Miss Laura B. Taylor
years as clerk.

Dec Feb 1931 Cost \$100,000+

W.H. Hayes was one of 3 Bell Commissioners of Manitoba Sys.
and when MTS took over JH brought him in as prospective G.M.
in prospect of withdrawing into fur furs War fellid prices
& W.H. ended up as G.M. (or equiv.)

Jim Jones began 1914 Inventory & EMC took over.