



The Law Society
of Upper Canada

Barreau du
Haut-Canada

FINDING AID FOR

John Geller fonds

PF202

Summary

The "John Geller fonds" Fonds contains:

0 Subgroups or Sous-fonds

0 Series

0 Sub-series

0 Sub-sub-series

3 Files

0 File parts

28 Items

0 Components

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John Geller fonds. -- Photocopied 2011. -- 7 cm of textual records, 28 photographs (jpeg) : b&w and col.

Biographical/Sketch/Administrative History

John Geller was born in Toronto, Ontario, to Kalman Geller and Katy Ladowsky. He attended Forest Hill Collegiate and University College at the University of Toronto, where he graduated with a BA degree in 1951. After enrolling at Osgoode Hall Law School later that year, and articling at the firm Campbell Godfrey & Lewtas, he was called to the Bar in 1955. Geller began his legal practice with Campbell Godfrey & Lewtas, where he remained for the entirety of his career. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1966. In 1993, Geller retired from legal practice and was appointed Vice-Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission. He served in different capacities with the Commission until his 2001 retirement. In addition to his work as a lawyer and for the Ontario Securities Commission, Geller served as a director on the board of Leitch Transport Limited and Ford Glass Limited. He has also been a member of the Canadian Jewish Congress, served as president of B'nai Brith, Central Region, and was the National President of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS), and a member and Honorary President for Life of Holy Blossom Temple.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of copies of scrapbooks created and maintained by lawyer John Geller. The scrapbooks document his years as a student at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School, his volunteer work for Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada and Holy Blossom Temple, his legal career at the law firm of Campbell Godfrey & Lewtas, his work as Vice-Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission, and his involvement with the Aphasia Institute after his retirement. The records in the scrapbooks include correspondence, photographs, newspaper and magazine articles, newsletters, speaking notes and ephemera. The original material in the scrapbooks dates from 1948 to 2010.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Arrangement

The original order of the scrapbooks has been maintained.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the fonds.

2011001-001 Photocopy of scrapbook. -- Photocopied 2011. -- 1.5 cm of textual records, 20 photographs (jpeg) : b&w and col.

Scope and Content

Item is a photocopy of a scrapbook created and maintained by John Geller. The scrapbook documents Geller's student years at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School, particularly his participation in student debates, as well as his membership in the Canadian Jewish Congress and the American Conference of Cantors and his work at law firm Campbell, Godfrey & Lewtas. The records in this file include photographs, certificates, newspaper clippings, correspondence, Holy Blossom Temple bulletins, a transcript, letterhead and speaking notes. The original material in this scrapbook dates from 1948 to the 2000s.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2011001-01P Photograph of John and Sybil Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller and his wife, Sybil, taken at the Bar Mitzvah of Lee Gangbar in 2004.

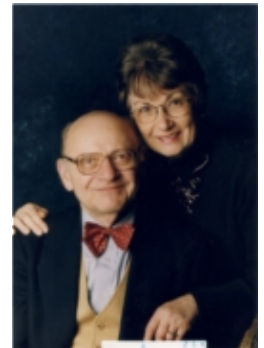
Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-02P Photograph of John and Sybil Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Photograph is a portrait of John Geller and his wife, Sybil.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-03P Photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller. -- Digitized 2011.
-- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller in formal dress at a temple youth group dance at Grossman's Tavern in Toronto in 1949 or 1950.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-04P Photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller. -- Digitized 2011.
-- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller posing in a carnival cut-out featuring an illustration of two figures in a bed and the expression "Keepin company".

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-05P Photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller. -- Digitized 2011.
-- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller casually posed on the front lawn of University College at the University of Toronto.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-06P Photograph of John Geller and Sybil Gangbar. -- Digitized 2011.
-- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller, Sybil Gangbar and an unidentified man and woman posed standing outside the entrance of the Berkeley Hotel in Montreal, Quebec.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-07P Photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller at the 1949 University College Arts Ball. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Sybil Gangbar and John Geller, seated and posed in formalwear at the first University College Arts Ball, University of Toronto, in January 1949. Geller is wearing a tie emblazoned with "J.A.G.", his initials.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the photograph and caption.

2011001-08P Photograph of John Geller at Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada meeting. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller (third from the right) posing with six unidentified men at a meeting of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada (JIAS). The other men in the image are holding framed certificates.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-09P Photograph of John Geller at Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada annual election meeting. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller speaking at a lectern during a Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada annual election meeting in May 1959.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image and inscription on verso of photograph.

2011001-10P Photograph of John Geller presenting an award. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller holding a plaque and standing at a lectern next to Tess Strauss at a meeting of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society in April 1972.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-11P Photograph of John Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller at the 70th birthday party of Marvin Gan in October 2009.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-12P Photograph of John Geller, Ed Everle and Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller seated with fellow University of Toronto student Ed Everle and Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent at a 27 March 1950 Hart House debate on the subject "There is no effective national alternative to the Liberal party".

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-13P Photograph of John Arthur Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) ; b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a portrait of John Geller mounted on a card that details his personal and professional biography.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-14P Photograph of Luc Couture, John Geller, Harry Crowe and Maurice Wright. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Luc Couture, John Geller, Harry Crowe and Maurice Wright sitting at a table during the 1962 Norris Commission.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-15P Photograph of Luc Couture, John Geller and Maurice Wright. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of Luc Couture, John Geller and Maurice Wright sitting at a table in a courtroom, likely pertaining to the Norris Commission in 1962.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-16P Photograph of John Geller and Audrey Hozack. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller making a presentation to Audrey Hozack on the occasion of her retirement from Hart House at the University of Toronto.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-17P Photograph of John Geller at Salada Shirriff Horsey plant. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller and others at the opening of the Salada Shirriff Horsey potato processing plant in Alliston, Ontario, on 5 March 1960.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-18P Photograph of John Geller in boardroom. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller and 13 other lawyers posing in a boardroom in 1970. Geller is standing second from the left.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-19P Photograph of John Geller in boardroom. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller and nine other lawyers in a law office boardroom. Geller is seated second from the left.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-20P Photograph of John Geller in boardroom. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller and other lawyers posed around a boardroom table. Geller is standing in the back row, fifth from the right.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-002 Photocopy of scrapbook. -- Photocopied 2011. -- 4 cm of textual records, 6 photographs (jpeg) : b&w and col.

Scope and Content

Item is a photocopy of a scrapbook created and maintained by John Geller. The scrapbook pertains in part to Geller's law firm, Campbell, Godfrey & Lewtas in 1986, but is mainly comprised of records documenting Geller's

retirement from practice at Fasken Campbell Godfrey in 1993 and his subsequent appointment as Vice-Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC). The records in this file include Campbell, Godfrey & Lewtas publications, photographs, letterhead, OSC bulletins, a press release, a 1991 Osgoode Hall Law School special convocation booklet, as well as letters of congratulations on his OSC appointment, his replies, newspaper clippings, and copies of OSC decisions. The original material in this scrapbook dates from 1986 to 2003.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the item.

2011001-21P Photograph of John Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Photograph is a formal head shot of John Geller.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-22P Asbestos hearing: July 20/94. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of a hearing room and participants in a session of the Ontario Securities Commission. This photograph pertains to John Geller's first case as Vice-Chair of the Commission regarding Asbestos Corporation Limited.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title taken from caption written on recto of original photograph.

2011001-23P Photograph of John Geller at the Ontario Securities Commission. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Photograph is a portrait of John Geller sitting at a desk in front of a Canadian flag, an Ontario flag and the Ontario provincial crest.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-24P Photograph of John Geller and other members of the Ontario Securities Commission. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Photograph is a formal portrait of John Geller and the other members of the Ontario Securities Commission posed in a hearing room. Geller is in the second row, second from the right. Also depicted in the photograph is OSC chairman Edward Waitzer, seated in the centre of the group, as well as Jack Blain, Morley Carscallen, Dean Kitts, Robin Korthals, Dan Iggers, Helen Meyer, Joan Smart and Glorianne Stromberg.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-25P Photograph of John Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : b&w



Scope and Content

Photograph is a formal portrait of John Geller.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-26P "Mentoring" at Innis: November 2001. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller posing with a group of students at Innis College, University of Toronto, where he participated in a student mentoring program.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title taken from recto of photograph.

2011001-003 Photocopy of scrapbook. -- Photocopied 2011. -- 1.5 cm of textual records, 2 photographs (jpeg) : col.

Scope and Content

Item is a photocopy of a scrapbook created and maintained by John Geller. The scrapbook documents Geller's activities and life after a 2002 stroke, specifically his involvement with the Aphasia Institute and his participation in the Aphasia Gavel Club, an affiliate of Toastmasters International. Records in this scrapbook include correspondence; photographs; Aphasia Institute newsletters; magazine and newspaper articles about Geller and his wife, Sybil; and records pertaining to the Aphasia Gavel Club, including agendas, certificates, presentation slides, a ribbon, notes, and newspaper articles about Geller and the club. Also included in the scrapbook is an e-mail regarding a CBC News television report, "Struggling for understanding", which featured the Gellers. The original material in this scrapbook dates from 2001 to 2010.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2011001-27P Photograph of John Geller. -- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Photograph is an informal portrait of John Geller.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on content of the image.

2011001-28P Photograph of John Geller for Toronto Rehab window display. -
- Digitized 2011. -- 1 photograph (jpeg) : col.



Scope and Content

Item is a photograph of John Geller standing with books by his feet. This image was created for use in a promotional window display at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute on University Avenue.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the image.