



MG 646 – Elizabeth Philips

Dates: 1978-2017 (inclusive) ; 1978-2000 (predominant)

Extent: 2.02 meters of textual material; 14 photographs; 20 negatives; 7 slides; 6 Floppy disks; 1 cassette tape; 5 CD-Rs; 2 laptops ((4.9 GB of textual records and graphic material)); 1 OS box.

Biography: Elizabeth Philips was born and went to elementary and high school in Manitoba. She moved to Saskatchewan to attend the University of Saskatchewan and graduated with a B.A. in 1985. She has published four books of poetry (*Time in a Green Country*, *Beyond my Keeping*, *A Blue with Blood in it*, *Torch River*), as well as the novel *The Afterlife of Birds*. She has written articles for a variety of publications and has worked as the editor of *Grain* as well as other books of poetry and prose. In 2018 she was named Saskatoon Public Library's Writer in Residence.

Scope and content: This fonds contains mainly textual material relating to the writing of Elizabeth Philips. Much of it is notes, rough drafts, and copies of poems and some prose work. There is also correspondence which relates to the business side of writing and getting published as well as some personal correspondence that relates to every day life and also on writing, as she corresponded with other writers.

Arrangement: Documents which were found in folders were retained in that folder. If the folder was labeled the finding aid reflects that label, if the folder was unlabeled a title has been added in [brackets]. Some boxes contained loose papers, which have been retained in the order in which it was found, however the documents were put into folders based on changes in topic or context. Such as items on different types of paper from vastly different dates, or when poetry changed to prose. Items within folders have been left in the order they were found, and folders were left in the order they were found as much as possible, except to rearrange larger groups of folders to put them into different categories such as "personal" or "writing". It has been arranged into the following:

1. Personal
 - a. Calendars
 - b. School
 - c. Correspondence (& miscellaneous)
2. Writing
 - a. Drafts/Writings/Notes
 - b. Correspondence
 - c. Publications
3. Media
 - a. Floppy Disks
 - b. Cassettes
 - c. CDs
 - d. Laptops

Restrictions: Files marked as **RESTRICTED** require vetting by the archivist prior to release. All restrictions are applied as per privacy legislation.

Finding aid by Amy Putnam, 2018.

1. **Personal**

a. Calendars. - 1990-1996 (**OS Box**)

Wall calendars for the years 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996. Calendar art includes Van Gogh, wolves, Ukiyo-e, Raoul Dufy, Georgia O'Keefe & The Stieglitz Circle.

b. School. – 1978-1985.

i) [B.A. U of S] – 1985.

Elizabeth Philips degree from University of Saskatchewan

ii) [Statements of Final Standing]. – 1978-1980. – **RESTRICTED.**

High school transcripts.

iii) [Miscellaneous]. – 1981, 1986, nd.

Letter from U of S saying they don't need Elizabeth as a small group leader, list of book from Birth press, copy of "To Gabriel Dumont" poem by Pamela Banting.

iv) [School work.] – nd, 1978.

Folder is labeled debate club and appears to contain notes and homework from high school English class.

v) [University Essays (English).] – 1982-1985.

Essays on Shakespeare, Huckleberry Finn, Brave new World, Cat's Cradle, and others.

vi) [Application for Campus Club.] – 1982.

Application to start a campus Abortion Rights Association, information on how to apply for a campus club.

vii) [Notebook (Far Eastern Studies)]. – 1982-1983.

Far Eastern Studies 111. More notes tucked inside the notebook.

viii) [Notebook (Metaphysics)]. – 1983.

Metaphysics 222.3. More notes tucked inside the notebook.

ix) [Notebook (Aesthetics)] – 1982.

Philosophy 271.3. More notes tucked inside the notebook.

x) [Philosophy 110]– nd, 1981.

Notes, essays, quizzes.

xi) [Anthropology.] – nd., 1983.

Anth 220.3 and Anth 120b.

xii) [English.] – 1983.
ENG 239.

xiii) [French notebook.]– 1983.
French 120.

xiv) [English essays.] – 1978-1980.
High school essays

xv) [Misc. Handwritten notes.]– nd.
Found within the stack of English essays before and after this file, but left in
between as found.

xvi) English. – 1982-1985.
Essays, notes. Eng 110.

c. Correspondence.

Correspondence and other textual miscellany that appears to relate more to Philips
personal life rather than writing and business.

i) Peter McGehee and Doug Wilson. – 1990-1992.
Correspondence, notes, clippings, Perceptions, St. Peter's Abbey newsletter
containing image of Elizabeth Philips and Peter McGehee, XTRA.

ii) [Mary to Liz]. – 1993.

iii) [Cards.] – nd.
Two Graduation congratulation cards

Box 2

iv) Archival. – 2005-2014 – 3 colour photographs.
Cards, correspondence, amazon first novel award info, notes, poster for winter
word fest, poems, pamphlets, clippings, Saskatoon Library book award.

v) European Trip. – 1984-1985.
Notes, map of Manitoba, pamphlets, map of Paris, Blue Cross pamphlet, map of
Brussels, clippings, map of London, .Eurorail pamphlet, map of Rome, map of
Salerno, map of Nice, other maps, pamphlet for Pheadra, Time Out magazine
(No.805), Broadway Theatre (Saskatoon) show calendar.

vi) Misc. – 1984, 1990.

Notes, acceptance letters, autobus tickets (Italy?), Hannon travel Scholarship, correspondence, pamphlets.

- vii) [Loose] – 1978-1987. – **RESTRICTED.**
Postcards, pamphlets, correspondence.
- viii) Letters, Other Writers. – 1980-2007.
Names listed on the folder: Sylvia Legris [?], Douglas Glover, Ken Howe, Anne Campbell, Rosemary Sullivan, Doug Wilson, Peter McGehee, Don McKay, Alayna Munce [?], Pamela Banting, George Amabile [?], Anne Szumigalski.
- ix) Writing related – 1979-1982, 1992-1993.
Writers News Manitoba (no.5); correspondence, pamphlets.
- x) Jan Zwicky. – 1998-2003. – **RESTRICTED.**
- xi) Writing Students Correspondence & Faculty. – 1978, 1997-2002. - 2 colour photos.**RESTRICTED.**
- xii) Tonja Gunvaldsen Klaassen. – 2008, nd.
Correspondence, poems.
- xiii) Letters Patrick Lane. – nd, 1993-1996. – **RESTRICTED.**
- xiv) Susan Andrews Grace Correspondence. – 1981-1997.
- xv) Letters Lorna Crozier. – 1978-1995.
Correspondence, poems with notes.
- xvi) [Miscellaneous.]– 2000, 2002, nd.
Correspondence about Sask Writers Guild event, directions to Christopher Lake.
- xvii) [Miscellaneous.] – nd, 1992-1993.
Loose correspondence (postcards, letter, greeting card) found loose in the boxes in between files, 2 buttons which read “Abortion: A woman’s right to choose” and International Women’s Day Saskatoon 1983”.

2. Writing

a. Drafts/Writings/Notes

- i) Becoming Earth. – n.d.
Typed essay.

- ii) Pepper. – nd.
CV for Thelma Pepper and a typed article.

Note: iii.-xi. were found loose together. They have been retained in the same order they were found, but put into folders based on differences in topic and context.

- iii) Poems/notes. - nd, 1985.
- iv) Torch River manuscript. – nd.
- v) [The Old Man, Harry...]. – essay. - nd.
5 copies of draft, possibly from the Transformations project.
- vi) [If you are like my friend Doris...]. – nd.
Notes, essay.
- vii) Transformations: A Care-givers journey. – 1998. – 1 folder.
Rejection letter and manuscript.]
- viii) [Judy Robb Loose Poems]. – nd, 1997.
With a letter from Judy Robb in which she says she is sending her “next batch”?

Box 3

- ix) [Notes from the “transformation” project?] – n.d.
- x) “SAIS 94” – nd.
Similar content to that in the loose Judy Robb [?] poems. This was actually found in a folder amongst the loose papers, and is titled here as it was found.
- xi) [Misc]. – nd, 1997.
Correspondence with Ken Stange regarding a reading; poems; possibly more pages from transformations?
- xii) [Loose poems]. – 1983-84, nd.
- xiii) Novel. – n.d.
Untitled drafts of a novel [or some kind of prose].
- xiv) Caroline Heath. – n.d., 1991-1992.
Poems and outlines for book about Caroline Heath.
- xv) [Loose diary pages] – 1979-1980. – **RESTRICTED.**

xvi) Poems to be revised. – 1978-1980.

xvii) Loose Papers. 1980-1985. – 2 folders.
Poems; letter; certificate of attendance (Saskatchewan School of the Arts,
Poetry, with Anne Szumigalski); *Freelance*, Saskatchewan Writers Guild, Vol. XIV
no.7, March 1985; couple pages of untitled prose, school notes, etc.

xviii) Genevieve Lehr MSS. – nd, 2002.
Copy of MSS that Philips edited.

xix) [Notebooks.]– nd, 2001-2005.
Poems, notes.

Box 4

xx) [Loose poetry]. – nd.

xxi) Poetry favourites. – nd.
Poems by others such as e.e. Cummings, D.G. Jones, typed, photocopied and
handwritten, Alden Nowlen.

xxii) “Breaking Through Ice”.
Notes, poems with notes and critiques, correspondence.

xxiii) [Loose poems.] – nd, 1978 - 1981. – 3 folders.

xxiv) Vivaldi Poems. – n.d.
Folder was also labelled: “B’s. (Some really quite good).”

xxv) Poems 2001. – 2001.

xxvi) Manuscript rough draft. – 07/10/02. – 2002.

xxvii) Poems. – nd. – 2 folders.

Box 5

xxviii) Poems in [prayers?]. – nd.

xxix) [Poems]. - n.d.
Typed.

xxx) [Notes.] – nd.
Also correspondence. On different kind of paper.

- xxxi) [Humour in Canadian Women's Poetry.] – nd.
Speech.
- xxxii) [Poems.] – nd.
- xxxiii) [Beyond my Keeping.] – Manuscript. – nd.
- xxxiv) Arts Board '98. - [The Colour Garden: and other poems] – 1998[?]
- xxxv) [notepad] – nd.
- xxxvi) [Notebook]. – 2003-2004.

Box 6

- xxxvii) [Notebook.] – 1998-1999.
- xxxviii) [Notebook]. – nd.
- xxxix) Notebooks. – 1979-1998. – 6 folders

Box 7

- xl) Notebooks. – 1991-2001. – 6 folders.

Box 8

- xli) SAB ap. – nd.
Mix of prose and poetry writing. Copy of Blackflash summer 1993.
- xl ii) Torch River early version. – nd, 2002.
Included correspondence from publisher.

b. Correspondence

Letters and documents relating more about the business and publishing aspect of writing.

- i) Westworld. – 1991-1993. – 5 photographs, 20 negatives, 7 slides.
Correspondence and notes regarding articles written for WestWorld.
- ii) Westworld. – 1993-1994.
Correspondence, clippings on article Philips wrote for Westworld magazine on weekend getaways.
- iii) Western Faces. – nd, 1990.

Typed article, article photocopies from Western Living.

- iv) Equinox. – nd, 1986-1990.
Correspondence (article pitches), photo copies of subject indexes.
- v) Waneskewin. – 1992.
Correspondence, articles regarding article for Westworld.
- vi) SAB Grant. – 1995.
- vii) SAB Grant. – 2007.
- viii) Saskatchewan School of the Arts. – 1986-1987.
- ix) Coteau Books posters. – n.d.
- x) Business correspondence. – 1990-1997.
- xi) [Publicity] – 1994-1997.
Correspondence, posters, clippings about poetry and publishing.
- xii) Marketing - poetry. – n.d., 1995-1996. – 4 colour photographs.
- xiii) Grant Applications. – 1991. – **RESTRICTED.**
- xiv) SAB 97 – 1996-1997.
- xv) Coteau. - 1990-1996.
Correspondence, publications.
- xvi) Grant application. – 1987.
- xvii) Archival. – 1980-1993.
Acceptance/rejections letters, poems, notes.
- xviii) Poetry rejections. – 1980-1981.
- xix) Acceptances. – 1981-1982.
- xx) Brick [books]. – 2001-2017.
Correspondence, contracts.
- xxi) Contracts. – 2005-2010 – **RESTRICTED.**

- xxii) League of Canadian Poets. – Membership list. – nd. – **RESTRICTED.**
- xxiii) Writers Guild of Canada. – 2005.
Grievance.
- xxiv) D&L Conference. – 1997.
- xxv) Canada Council 2003 - 2003-2004.
Correspondence, applications.
- xxvi) SAB 2002. – 1985-2004.
Correspondence, pamphlets, funeral cards, statements of author fees,
memorandum of agreement regarding The Colour Garden with Coteau, other
publisher correspondence.
- xxvii) Archives. – 2000-2003.
Wilde About Sappho, pamphlets, correspondence, cards, essay by a student on
one of Philips's poems, memorial card for Peter Millard.
- xxviii) Sagehill. – 1999 -2000. - **RESTRICTED.**
Photocopies of poems, correspondence, documents relating to Philips
Introduction to Fiction and Poetry class.
- xxix) Reviews. – 1988-2000.
Copies of reviews about Philip's poems, poster for Wild About Sappho, Books In
Canada Sept 1995, correspondence.
- xxx) [Canada Council grant request.] – 2002.
- xxxi) Readings Fall 2000. – 2000.
Correspondence.

Box 9

- xxxii) Writerly business. – 1986-1989.
Correspondence.

c. Publications

- i) "UFO/TearSheets". – 1990-1993.
Copies of articles and full publications containing Philips' published writing.
- ii) The Dinosaur Review. Fall 1985.

- iii) This Country Canada. No.6 Summer 1994.
- iv) Equinox: The magazine of Canadian Discovery. No.52 July/August 1990.
- v) *Breaking Through Ice* by Elizabeth Philips. – 2 chapbooks – 1982.
- vi) Turnstone Press 1982 Catalogue. – 1 book. – 1982.
- vii) *Save the Crow: The Saskatchewan Solution*. – 1 book. – Gordon MacMurchy, Minister of Agriculture.
- viii) Reviews. – 2004, 2007.
Printouts of reviews of Philips poetry.

3. Audio/Visual

- a. Floppy disks. – 6 disks.
Canada Council 2 Grain Aug 16/01; Poetry Torch River Feb/05; Poetry Dir #2 June 29/98; Journal Dir #1 June 29/98; Journal Dir #2 June 29/98/ Current Poems June /98
- b. Ambience Feb 22/92. – 1 cassette tape. - 1992.
- c. CD-Rs. – 5 disks.
CBC Radio Regina Afternoon Edition. Poetry Finale Elizabeth Philips. – Oct 13 2006. – 17:15.
May Writing Studio Readings Banff Summer Arts Festival. Bentley Chamber Music Studio, May 10 2007. – 2 disks.
Man Readings Woman – Liz Version & edits. – Sept 4/08
Tone Cluster – Quite a Queer Choir. – from “Denverbound” May 26th 2012.

Box 10

- d. Laptops. – **4.9 GB of textual records and graphic material. - RESTRICTED.**

Contents transferred to server; consult with archivist to arrange access.

Two laptops were donated with the collection – an HP Elite and an older Compaq. It was confirmed that all files from the older laptop had been transferred to the HP Elite, so only the files on that computer have been processed. Documents transferred have been retained in the existing folder structure (with miscellaneous documents at the top level moved into a new folder). At this point, there has been no migration of file formats, but most documents are Microsoft Word.

Restrictions: Due to the volume of records, additional document-level review of all folders will be required in order to enable access. Some identified restrictions are indicated in the file descriptions.

Miscellaneous [new folder]. – 2012-2015. – 1.7 MB

Miscellaneous documents including unidentified drafts; chat logs from a “Get Connected Boot Camp” meeting (re dog training); and workshop contact lists.

Abley manuscript. – 2014. – 1.8 MB

Drafts and notes relating to *The Tongues of Earth: New and Selected Poems* by Mark Abley. Edited by Philips; includes in-line comments and tracked changes.

Arleen manuscript. – 2014-2015. – 3.2 MB

Drafts, general comments, and other documents relating to writing by Arleen Paré, including “Face in the Funeral Car”, “Fall Into Sky”, “This Mercy”, “Inflammable”. Edited by Philips; includes in-line comments and tracked changes.

Backups (email). – 2012-2015. – 1.69 GB.

Includes Contacts, Inbox, Sent Items, Deleted Items. Messages are currently saved as individual .eml (Outlook) files.

Brick [Books]. – 2005-2014. – 13.2 MB.

Primarily editorial work done by Philips for the Brick Books, a publishing house for Canadian poetry. Includes some personal information relating to writers.

Canada Council. – 2005-2013. – 1.4 MB

Project descriptions, literary resume, application and report drafts, and other material relating to Canada Council funding.

Contacts. – 2005-2014. – 515 KB

Various contact lists (requires restrictions)

Coteau. – 2005-2014. – 11.2 MB

Primarily editorial work done by Philips for Coteau Books, including manuscript assessments and marked up manuscripts (using tracked changes)

Crozier manuscript. – 2014. – 6.1 MB

Marked up drafts and comments relating to Philips’ editing of Lorna Crozier’s poetry collection *The Wild in You*

Dogs. – 2005-2015. – 60.0 MB

Various documents relating to Philips’ interest in and work with dogs, including therapy dogs. Subfolders include Behaviour; Behaviour Consultations; Dog Book (drafts of a book by Philips); St. John’s Ambulance; Training

Editing. – 2013-2014. – 2.8 MB

Documents relating to editorial work by Philips, primarily marked up drafts.

Emailers [photographs]. – 2004-2012. – 168 MB

Digital photographs, some labelled and most organized by year.

Family matters. – 2012-2014. – 315 KB

Includes health and other personal information.

Financial. – 2012-2015. – 369 KB

Tax and financial information, including correspondence relating to questions about a Saskatchewan Arts Board grant.

Freehand Books. – 2014-2015. – 1.69 MB

Correspondence, marketing material, etc. relating to the publication of *The Afterlife of Birds*.

Gardening. – 2005-2013. – 429 KB

“Cultivation of Lilies”; lily order forms.

General dogginess. – 2005-2009. – 12.4 MB

Digital photographs of dogs

Heidi’s manuscript. – 2014. – 2.1 MB

Marked up drafts and other documents relating to poetry by Heidi Garnett, edited by Philips.

Kate’s manuscript. – 2014-2015. – 1.5 MB

Marked up drafts, notes, correspondence and other documents relating to Kate Armstrong’s memoir *Stone Frigate*, edited by Philips.

Kathleen. – 2014-2015. – 2.0 MB

Marked up drafts and notes relating to Kathleen Whelan’s novel *Swimmin on Ice*, edited by Philips.

Leah mentorship. – 2015. – 293 KB

Marked up drafts and related documents; Philips served as a mentor for the University of Saskatchewan MFA in Writing program.

Letters. – 2005-2015. – 2.5 MB

Outgoing correspondence with various individuals.

Lily. – 2005-2013. – 14.3 MB

Digital photographs of Philips’ dog Lily

Lisa mentorship. – 2015. – 7.0 MB

Marked up drafts, reports, and other documentation relating to Philips' mentorship of Lisa Bird-Wilson

Little jobs. – 2014-2016. - 199 KB

Drafts and other documents relating to miscellaneous editorial work.

Miscellany. – 2013-2015. – 3.7 MB

Miscellaneous documents

New Hope. – 2012. – 28 KB

Document titled "Help for Rider" – notes about training a dog.

Novel. – 2005-2015. – 70.4 MB

Drafts, notes, a style guide, etc. relating to *The Afterlife of Birds*

Obsessors. – 2014. – 542 KB

Primarily marked up drafts by different writers – appears to relate to the "Obsessors" poetry group.

Phoebe – 2012-2015. – 4.7 MB

Marked up drafts, correspondence, etc. relating to mentorship of Phoebe Tsang.

Photos Sept 09. – 2008-2010. – 2.8 GB

Digital photographs. By date, no identification

Photos Torch 09. – December 2009 and January 2010. – 332 MB

Digital photographs of Philips' dog Torch.

Poetry. – 2005-2015. – 2.7 MB

Poetry by Philips and others, including *Torch River*

Poetry workshop. – 2015. – 10.9 MB

Primarily poems submitted for workshop led by Philips in April 2015.

Rita's manuscript. – 2014. – 2.2 MB

Editorial work for *nakamowin'sa for the seasons*, a collection of poetry by Rita Bouvier.

SAB [Saskatchewan Arts Board]. – 2005-2015. – 3.1 MB

Documents relating to Saskatchewan Arts Board grants, including budgets, reports, and application components (artist's statement, list of works, etc.)

Sandy Bonny manuscript

Editorial work for Sandy Bonny – *Yes, And Back Again*, published by Thistledown Press

Submissions. – 2012. – 48 KB

Glimmer Train short story submission entitled “Elsewhere”

SWG [Saskatchewan Writers Guild]. – 2013-2015. – 7.9 MB

Drafts, correspondence and other documents primarily relating to SWG mentorship program.

Tara. – 2014-2015. – 956 KB

Drafts and other material relating to poetry mentorship.

Thistledown. – 2012-2014. – 10.9 MB

Editorial work for Thistledown Press – poetry and fiction.

Timmins. – 2014. – 1.2 MB

Editorial/advisory work for Leslie Timmins.

Writing business. – 2005-2015. – 47.6 MB

Editorial work (marked up drafts etc.), financial information, grant applications, taxes, invoices, etc. Includes subfolders for Banff May Studio, Pepper project, St. Pete’s workshop, Wired studio, and workshop

Writing with Style. – 2009-2015. – 13.6 MB

Documents relating to Writing with Style workshop at the Banff Centre; Philips served as the director of this annual workshop.

Yoga. – 2007-2011. – 365 KB

Documents relating to The Yoga Mat Studio; Philips’ role is unclear, but she was involved in editing website content.

Zephie. – 2005. – 78.1 MB

Digital photographs of dogs: Zephie/Zephyr, some identified as Torch (see above, Photos Torch 09)