



CANADIAN RED CROSS COLLECTION

ABSTRACT

In 2022, a large collection of Canadian Red Cross, Oshawa/Durham branch, items was donated to the museum and archives. The collection includes pins, booklets, and newsletters, and many other items for a total of 71 items across both the archives and museum.

Photograph: [022.1.1-3](#)

Brief History of the Canadian Red Cross

The Red Cross was founded in 1859 by Henry Dumont. Dumont witnessed a battle between the French and Austrian armies in Northern Italy. Here he saw many soldiers wounded. With medics unable to cope with the volume of patients, he set up a temporary hospital. Three years later, Dumont wrote a novel proposing his idea of countries establishing a neutral and independent group of helpers that could provide care during times of conflicts. This sparked the creation of the Red Cross movement.

Here in Canada, the Red Cross movement began with the North West Resistance of 1885. Certain individuals familiar with the Red Cross movement in Europe used the Red Cross flag to act as independent medics. It was not until 1896 that Toronto surgeon and militia member Dr. George Sterling Ryerson gained permission to establish a branch of the British Red Cross in Canada.

In its early years, the Canadian Red Cross only worked during wartime. However, a turning point came at the end of the First World War.

During the war, the Canadian Red Cross had increased substantially with funding and volunteers, so much so that Canadian Red Cross leaders did not want to see the organization disappear until another war broke out. So, the Canadian Red Cross expanded their mandate to include the phrase "in times of peace". This allowed the Red Cross to be involved in many peacetime public health and welfare work. Finally in 1927, rather than a branch of the British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross officially became an independent Red Cross society.

022.1/ A022.23

*022.1 is Collections

*A022.23 is Archives

022.1

022.1.1	Jacket	Dark blue wool uniform jacket, womens. Four leather buttons. Four pockets on front. Two pins on collar. On proper right sleeve, red cross patch. On proper left sleeve, blue star patch. Both shoulders embroidered with the words "Canadian Red Cross Corps".
022.1.2	Skirt	Dark blue uniform skirt, womens. Uniform for the Canadian Red Cross. Zipper and button on proper left side.
022.1.3	Cap	Dark blue uniform side cap, womens. Uniform for the Canadian Red Cross. Cap has a red cross with white background in the shape of a circle embroidered on proper left side. Two button on front.
022.1.4	Pin	White pin with a red cross on middle. The year 1940 is underneath red cross.
022.1.5	Pin	A red pin. A red cross is in the middle with the number 50 above and the word Canada below.
022.1.6	Pin	A red pin. A red cross is in the middle outlined in gold, with the number 100 above and the word Canada below.
022.1.7	Pin	A gold pin in the shape of a maple leaf. In middle is a red cross within a white circle. The word Canada is within the white circle, at the top.
022.1.8	Pin	A dark blue pin. In middle of pin is a red cross, with the words Canada Blood Donor around the red cross.
022.1.9	Pin	A dark blue pin. In middle of pin is a red cross, with the words Canada Blood Donor around the red cross. A circular piece fits within the pin, with the number 35 hanging below the pin.
022.1.10	Pin	A blue pin with a gold interior. A red cross is in the middle. The words Canadian Red Cross Society is written on the blue band. The words Blood Donor Service is written on the gold. The pin fits within a button hole, has no sharp point.
022.1.11	Pin	A gold pin with a black border. A red cross is in the middle. The words Canadian Red Cross Society are on the black border. The words Blood Donor Service surround the red cross in the middle.
022.1.12	Pin	A gold pin with a dark blue border. A red cross is in the middle. The words Canadian Red Cross Society are on the dark blue border. The words Blood Donor Service are on the middle gold surrounding the red cross.
022.1.13	Pin	A white pin with a dark blue border. A red cross in in the middle. The words First Aid Instructor are underneath the dark blue border. Pin fits within a button hole.

022.1.14	Armband	A blue armband with a triangular patch sewed on. The patch has the words Canada Volunteer Volontaire embroidered on. A red cross is embroidered in the middle. Velcro secures armband.
022.1.15	Armband	A red armband. A white fabric is glued on, with a red cross and the words The Canadian Red Cross Society cut out of the white.
022.1.16	Armband	A red armband with a white fabric glued on. A red cross and the words The Canadian Red Cross Society Emergency Services are cut out of the white fabric.
022.1.17	Bib	A white sleeveless bid. The bib ties up on both sides. Bib has a red cross on both front and back.
022.1.18	Flag	A white flag with a red cross.
022.1.19	Flag	A white flag with a red cross.
022.1.20	Tapestry	A white quilted tapestry, or wall hanging. The words "Canadian Red Cross Region of Durham Branch 1939" is sown on, along with a red cross.
022.1.21	Patch	A white square patch with a blue circular border. Within border is a red cross. One blue border are the words "Canadian Red Cross volunteer".
022.1.22	Patch	A handmade white circular patch. Blue border with a red cross in the middle. The words Red Cross Homemaker are embroidered underneath the blue border.

A022.23

A022.23.1	Certificate, Membership	A life membership certificate to the Canadian Red Cross Society for Mrs. William Kincaid (Effie May Kincaid), dated April 18, 1919.
A022.23.2	Certificate, Membership	A life membership certificate for ?, dated December 31, 1915.
A022.23.3	Print, Photographic	Group photograph of fifteen women.
A022.23.4	Booklet	The Branch Organizational Guide, Revised Edition, for the Canadian Red Cross Society, Ontario Division. 1969.
A022.23.5	Booklet, Instruction	An instruction booklet created by the Canadian Red Cross Society, Ontario Division, containing tips and instructions for visiting seniors.
A022.23.6	Book	"History Ontario Red Cross 1914-1946" by E. H. A. Watson.
A022.23.7	Book	Minute book for the Oshawa branch of the Canadian Red Cross, Ontario Division, 1947-1950.
A022.23.8	Booklet	The 1978 annual report for the Toronto/Central Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.9	Booklet	A booklet entitled "A vision for the 1990s: A strategic vision for the Red Cross in Ontario", September, 1991. An update for the mandate and purpose of the Canadian Red Cross.
A022.23.10	Booklet, Instruction	A knitting instruction booklet, created by the Canadian Red Cross Society, for women and children. WWII?
A022.23.11	Booklet, Instruction	A knitting instruction booklet, created by the Canadian Red Cross Society. WWII?
A022.23.12	Booklet, Instruction	A knitting instruction booklet for service members, created by the Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.13	Booklet, Instruction	A knitting instruction booklet, created by the Canadian Red Cross. Patterns and instructions for womens' clothing.
A022.23.14	Book	The minute book for the Canadian Red Cross, Oshawa Branch, from January 19, 1954 - February 9, 1956.
A022.23.15	Book	Minute book for the Canadian Red Cross, Oshawa Branch, from March 15, 1956 - November 27, 1958.
A022.23.16	Book	Minute book of the Canadian Red Cross, Oshawa Branch, dated January 5, 1959 - January 18, 1960.
A022.23.17	Book	Minute book for the Canadian Red Cross, Oshawa Branch, dated March 9, 1939 - February 6, 1947.
A022.23.18	Book, Instruction	An instruction book, created by the Canadian Red Cross Society, for war injuries and how to treat them.
A022.23.19	Book, Instruction	An instruction book, created by the Canadian Red Cross, for caring for the sick.
A022.23.20	Book	Book on the history of the Red Cross Blood Clinic.
A022.23.21	Book, Instruction	World War II ration menu booklet, 1942. Prepared Household Science Alumnae Association University of Toronto for the Nutrition Committee The Health League of Canada.

A022.23.22	Papers, Personal	Papers from the course Health - Home Nursing - Emergencies, from Mrs. L. G. Cassels.
A022.23.23	Certificate, Membership	Membership card to the Whitby Branch of the Canadian Red Cross for Mrs. Robert Barnes.
A022.23.24	Newsletter	Edition No. 3, 1980 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.25	Newsletter	Edition No. 4, 1980 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.26	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1981 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.27	Newsletter	Edition No. 3, 1981 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.28	Newsletter	Edition No. 4, 1981 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.29	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1982 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.30	Newsletter	Edition No. 3, 1982 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.31	Newsletter	Edition No. 4, 1982 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.32	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1983 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.33	Newsletter	Edition No. 3, 1983 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.34	Newsletter	Edition No. 4, 1983 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.35	Newsletter	Edition No. 1, 1984 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.36	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1984 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.37	Newsletter	Edition No. 1, 1985 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.38	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1987 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.39	Newsletter	Edition No. 1, 1988 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.40	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1988 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.41	Newsletter	Edition No. 2, 1989 of the bulletin. Published by Ontario division Canadian Red Cross Society.
A022.23.42	Booklet	A booklet for the 1st Annual Elegant Gala fundraiser for the Durham Branch of the Canadian Red Cross, May 6, 2006.
A022.23.43	Booklet	1989 annual report for the Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross.
A022.23.44	Booklet	1990 Annual Report for the Ontario division of the Canadian Red Cross.

A022.23.45	Booklet	1994-1995 annual report for the Oshawa Branch of the Canadian Red Cross.
A022.23.46	Booklet	1995-1996 annual report for the Region of Durham branch of the Canadian Red Cross.
A022.23.47	Booklet	1998-1999 annual regional review (Ontario?), for the Canadian Red Cross.
A022.23.48	Scrapbook	Scrapbook on the Red Cross activities in Oshawa, from 1942-1945. Scrapbook is filled with newspaper clippings from the Times Gazette.
A022.23.49	Registration, Certificate	Registration certificate for the Oshawa Branch of the Canadian Red Cross, September 16, 1939.

Red Cross Collection acquisitioned, processed, and catalogued by Kes Murray, 2022.