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MAGGIE SIGGINS

DECEMBER 2013  
By ELIZABETH SETIZ

**Biographical Sketch:** Maggie Siggins was born on May 28, 1942 in Toronto and attended Ryerson Polytechnical University from 1962 to 1965 earning a Bachelor degree in Applied Arts.

She is an author who has worked as a magazine writer, political columnist and television reporter and film producer. From 1965 to 1970 she was a general reporter with the Toronto *Telegram*. She was a freelance writer with *Chatelaine* from 1970-71 in Toronto. At City-TV, also in Toronto, she worked as an on-air political reporter/commentator. She worked with CBC Toronto as a reporter/interviewer/producer from 1975 until 1977. From 1979 to 1981 she was with CityPulse News in Toronto as a producer. From 1981 to 1983 (still in Toronto), she produced freelance work for *Toronto Life*, *Reader's Digest*, *Financial Post*, *Today Magazine*, *MacLean's* and others. While in China, in 1985-86 she worked at the New China News Agency.

She has taught Journalism while a Max Bell Professor in Journalism at the University of Regina in 1983-84 and Professor of Graduate Studies at the Beijing Broadcast Institute during her 1985-86 visit to China.

Siggins has written twelve books including: *A Guide to Skiing in Eastern North America*, 1969; *How to Catch a Man* co-authored with Ben Wicks, 1970; *Bassett: his Forty Years in Politics, Publishing, Business and Sports*, 1979; *Brian and the Boys: a Story of Gang Rape*, 1984; *A Canadian Tragedy JoAnn and Colin Thatcher: a Story of Love and Hate*, 1985; *Revenge of the Land: a Century of Greed, Tragedy and Murder on a Saskatchewan Farm*, 1991; *Louis Riel: a Life of Revolution*, 1994; *In her Own Time: a Class Reunion Inspires a Cultural History of Women*, 1999; *Bitter Embrace: White Society's Assault on the Woodland Cree*, 2005 and *Marie-Anne: The Extraordinary Life of Louis Riel's Grandmother*. Two novels are scheduled for 2014. *Scattered Bones* which takes place in Pelican Narrows, Saskatchewan and *Greedy*, a story of insider trading. *Louis Riel: a Life of Revolution* and *Marie-Anne* have both been published in French.

She has received numerous awards: Southam Journalism Fellowship at the University of Toronto in 1974-75; Arthur Ellis Award in the Best True Crime Category for *A Canadian Tragedy JoAnn and Colin Thatcher: A Story of Love and Hate* in 1986; Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction for *Revenge of the Land: a Century of Greed, Tragedy and Murder on a Saskatchewan Farm* in 1992; City of Regina Best Book Award for *Louis Riel: a Life of Revolution* in 1994; and City of Regina Best Book Award for *In her Own Time: a Class Reunion Inspires a Cultural History of Women* in 1999.

*A Canadian Tragedy JoAnn and Colin Thatcher: A Story of Love and Hate* was produced as a four-hour mini-series by CBC Television. The CBC aired the series in December 1989 NBC in July 1990 in the United States, BBC in England in 1991 and over 40 other countries since. *Louis Riel: a Life of Revolution* was translated into French by Editions Québec-Amérique of Montreal in the spring of 1996. *Revenge of the Land: A Century of Greed, Tragedy and Murder on a Saskatchewan Farm* was produced into a four-hour mini-series with CBC and aired in December 2000.

*The Life and Times of Gordon Tootossis, Unhealed Wounds, Scarred by History*, was nominated for "Best Historical Documentary" at Toronto's International Documentary Film Festival and the second episode, *Nanjing Nightmares* was nominated for two awards at Canada's Yorkton Film Festival. The highly acclaimed *A Cruel Wind Blows* was the first Saskatchewan movie to win Yorkton's Best Film award.

Updated with Information by Maggie Siggins  
August 2013

**Scope and Content:** This open collection contains photocopied portions of transcripts from the Saskatchewan Legislature Debates and Proceedings dated 1975 to 1984 from the Saskatchewan Legislative Library. This material was used for research for Siggins' *A Canadian Tragedy JoAnn and Colin Thatcher: A Story of Love and Hate*. The majority of the documents are sections of transcripts featuring W.C. Thatcher, the last folder contains material from the Speaker of the House.

**Future Accruals:** Future accruals are expected.

**Related Accessions:** 84-4, 84-26, 86-15, 87-46, 88-65, 90-1, 92-63, 94-67, 2000-23, 2002-43, 2005-30 2008-18 and 2013-22.

**Custodial History:** This collection was given to the Archives by Sandy Bartlett, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) in November 1988.

Box 1

Writing by Maggie Siggins

*A Canadian Tragedy, JoAnne and Colin Thatcher**Research Material**Saskatchewan Legislature Debates and Proceedings*

1	November 25, 1975
2	December 10, 1975
3	January 8, 1975
4	March 23, 1976
5	March 23, 1977
6	April 21, 1977
7	March 9, 1978
8	March 16, 1978
9	April 3, 1978
10	May 26, 1978
11	April 3, 1979
12	April 24, 1979
13	April 29, 1979
14	May 2, 1979
15	June 9, 1980
16	December 1, 1980
17	March 12, 1981
18	March 23, 1981
19	March 26, 1981
20	May 5, 1981
21	May 7, 1981
22	December 8, 1981
23	December 10, 1981
24	June 21, 1982
25	July 12, 1982
26	April 3, 1984
27	April 3, 1984