

**UMFK World Acadian Congress Banner**

**MCC-00573**

Prepared by  
Madeline Soucie  
Acadian Archives / Archives acadiennes  
University of Maine at Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine  
September 2024

# UMFK World Acadian Congress Banner (MCC-00573)

Shelf List Number: Reading Room, AX-573

## Collection Overview

### Creator(s)

Fort Kent/Saint John Valley community  
University of Maine at Fort Kent community(?)

### Dates

2014

### Extent

1 banner measuring 25 x 41 inches.

### Provenance

Brought to the Archives by Susan Tardie, who works in outreach and alumni relations department, 2024.

### Language

English

### Conservation Notes

Not applicable

## Conditions Governing Access and Use

### Restrictions

Access: No restrictions

Physical: No restrictions

Technical: No restrictions

### Rights Statement

Copyright (has or has not) been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes.

### Recommended Citation

UMFK World Acadian Congress Banner (MCC-00573). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

## Collection Description

### Historical and Biographical Information

The World Acadian Congress or Le Congrès Mondial Acadien is an international festival of Acadian and Cajun culture that is held every five years. The first Congress took place in August

1994 in New Brunswick. Each Congress lasts a week long and is filled with events and family reunions.

The 2014 Congress was the first Congress to be co-hosted by two countries-Canada and the United States. Events were held in Madawaska, Maine; Victoria, Madawaska and Restigouche counties, New Brunswick; and Temiscouata County, Quebec. Making this event successful took immense planning and cooperation from the three Quebec, New Brunswick, and Maine governments and planning committee members.

The University of Maine at Fort Kent is a four year liberal arts university that is part of the larger University of Maine System. Situated in the town of Fort Kent, UMFK is situated on the Canadian Border in the Saint John Valley, offering students and faculty an unique cultural opportunity. Fort Kent is located two towns west of Madawaska, (about a half an hour drive).

The University of Maine at Fort Kent originally started as the Madawaska Training School (MTS) which was established February 21, 1878 by the Maine Legislature "for the purpose of training persons to teach in the common schools of the [Madawaska] territory." Originally the school year was split between separate locations at Fort Kent and Van Buren (1879-1883) or Fort Kent and Grand Isle (1884-1887), but in 1888 the Legislature established a year-round facility at Fort Kent.<sup>1</sup> Over the years, the Madawaska Training School would go through a number of name changes, the last of which would rebrand it as the University of Maine at Fort Kent in the 1970s. Despite its various names, the institution remained the same and continuously open and expanded its campus to accommodate growth.

#### Scope and Content

This collection consists of one banner commemorating the 2014 World Acadian Congress being held in the Saint John River Valley.

This banner was created as part of a contest during the 2014 World Acadian Congress. The contest consisted of having each community submit an idea for a banner that incorporated the ideas of Acadian Heritage and community. This banner was designed by Linda Masse, Anna Raymond, and others.

#### Arrangement

Not applicable

#### Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

#### Subject Headings

Acadians-Education

Acadians-History

Acadians-New Brunswick-Saint John River Valley-Kinship

Aroostook County (Me.)-History

Culture and tourism

---

<sup>1</sup>Grindle, Roger. *The University of Maine at Fort Kent: A century of progress*, p. 30.

Education, higher  
Events and entertainments  
Promotional materials  
St. John River Valley (Me. and N.B.)-History

Related Materials

World Acadian Congress 2014 = Congrès mondial Acadien 2014, (MCC-00480). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

**Collection Inventory**

---

1 banner made out of what appears to be a nylon or durable material in the colors of the Acadian Flag. On the white section of the banner is the image of two hands shaking with lettering spelling 'UMFK' and 'CMA' on either side of the hands. Below them are the numbers 2014 to commemorate the World Acadian Congress taking place during that year.