

# THE BNA PERFORATOR

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## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

PATRICK DURBANO

Happy New Year. It has been six months since I have released an issue of THE BNA PERFORATOR. As I write this issue, our Canadian Olympians are teaching the world how to play Hockey and Curl.

To all those that called, wrote or asked why the delay in the next issue of the newsletter let me spend a paragraph or so updating you on the ever changing Durbano household.

On October 7th, I became a father for the second time when Timothy Sean arrived and weighed in at seven and a half pounds. All four of the Durbano clan members are doing well and Matthew (now 2½) says that we can "keep Timmy" and that "Timmy's getting bigger." On the business front, I have made another career move -- from Eaton's to Inquiry Management Systems (IMS) a database marketing company. This time I have a senior management position (pay's good -- hours aren't) anyhow, it now allows me to correspond to everyone through cyberspace. So for all of you that have access to e-mail you can now reach me directly via [patrick@ims.ca](mailto:patrick@ims.ca) or through our company website [www.ims.ca](http://www.ims.ca).

Now that the annual personal updates are aside, welcome to 1998 and the 19th volume of THE BNA PERFORATOR. It is once again my pleasure to assemble the articles, thoughts, research and ramblings of this "HOLEY" group of philatelists.

This issue contains our Secretary/Treasurer's report that was read at BNAPEX 97 but was not voted on since only six members were present.

On other fronts, our Chairman has also made a career change, this one resulted in a move of some 1,000 miles -- from Terrace Bay, ON to Clarendville, NF. Good luck in the new job Barry! Barry has also provided some Chairman's Chatter for this issue. Another change is that Stephen Koning has taken over for Conrad Tremblay who has stepped down after many fine years as the Study Group Auctioneer. On behalf of Barry Senior, Stephen Koning, Marcus Fennell and the entire membership I want to personally thank Conrad for the many hours he has devoted to the position of Auctioneer and wish him much fun in his retirement. As well, Barry and I want to thank Stephen Koning for increasing his workload in the Study Group.

I have listed our 5 new members, a closed album and a properly used 5-hole perfined Loyalist on a Registered cover to England. To round out the first issue of 1998, we have a book review from Steve Koning and the investigative journalism of Marcus Fennell who has successfully hunted down the identity of the unknown "IB" pattern.

Sincerely,

*Patrick Durbano*

Patrick Durbano  
Publisher and Editor  
THE BNA PERFORATOR

<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	<u>SEC/TREASURER</u>	<u>PUBLISHER/EDITOR</u>	<u>AUCTIONEER</u>
Barry Senior	Steven M. Koning	Patrick Durbano	Steven M. Koning
PO Box 1676	RR #1	Box 26532, Markville PO	RR #1
Clarendville, NF	Bloomfield, ON	Markham, ON	Bloomfield, ON
Canada A0E 1J0	Canada K0K 1G0	Canada L3R 0M4	Canada K0K 1G0

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

BARRY SENIOR

Well fall is upon us and most people are getting back to their collections following the usual summer time hiatus. Of course the highlight of summer was the BNAPS convention in St. John's, Nfld. The great thing for me was that I was able to tie it in with my vacation and I managed to spend four weeks back home in Newfoundland. Our editor, Patrick Durbano attended and we spent an enjoyable three days at the show and managed to get in a little sight seeing as well. Our study group meeting was attended by nine people, only six of which were members. This could probably be attributed to the tours which were ongoing at the same time as the meeting. Most people making a once in a lifetime trip to Newfoundland would certainly be more interested in the local sights than in a bunch of stamps with holes in them. I think this was the case with most meetings as I attended the Revenue group meeting which had about the same attendance. All in all a very well attended show (the largest ever) and a great opportunity to meet other people with a similar interest in perfins.

Now for the business at hand. I am sad to announce that Conrad Tremblay has tendered his resignation as Auctioneer effective with the finish of the ongoing Auction # 16. Conrad puts in an unbelievable amount of time doing these auctions and has become disheartened with the lack of bidders, usually only five to seven bidders participate per auction. In my mind, these auctions serve three purposes. First they give members a way to add individual items to their collection without having to buy large lots or bid against large numbers of people. Secondly, they provide members with a way to dispose of duplicate or unwanted material. Finally with the modest 10% commission, they provide the study group with a small income. With copying and postage costs so high it costs a couple of dollars each to get these auctions out to everyone. With this in mind I ask that any member who does not wish to receive these auctions to please let the

secretary know so your name can be removed from the mailing list. You would continue to receive the regular issues but not the auctions. Now that I've got your attention I'm going to ask for **volunteers** for the soon to be vacant position of **auctioneer**. If anyone is interested please let me know as soon as possible so we can transfer all necessary materials in a timely manner for a smooth change over. (Editor's Note: Stephen Koning has agreed to become our new Auctioneer, this is in addition to the duties he already performs in the role of Secretary/Treasurer.)

On the collecting front, part 2 of the collection of the late Jim Catterick was in the Robert A. Lee Auction #85. Part one seemed to create quite a bit of interest as most lots were sold. I have been told that the collection of Gary Tomasson will be in the next Lee auction in February. I am sure there will be some interesting and unique material to be had there as well. If you don't get the Lee catalogue it might be worth your while to get a copy of his next one.

In closing I wish to thank Conrad Tremblay for his tireless efforts as auctioneer and wish him well in his continuing endeavors in the search for and study of perfins. Our last newsletter is a prime example of the work that Conrad has done over the years as a member of our study group.

Thanks Conrad.

Sincerely,

*Barry Senior*

Barry Senior  
Chairman  
The BNA Perfins Study Group

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## CLOSED ALBUMS

It is with great sadness that I must report that one of our long time Perfin Study Group members, David Harding of Victoria BC passed away late last year after a long battle with cancer. He will be missed by many members.

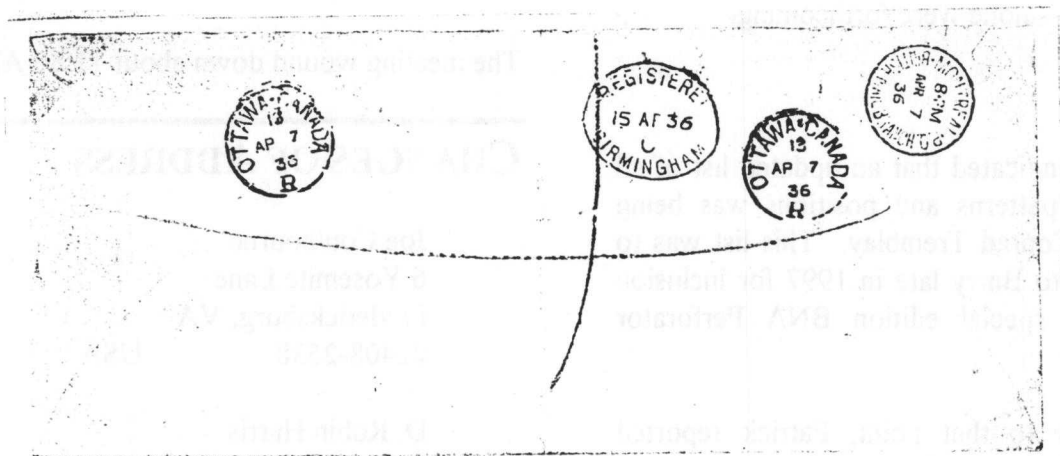
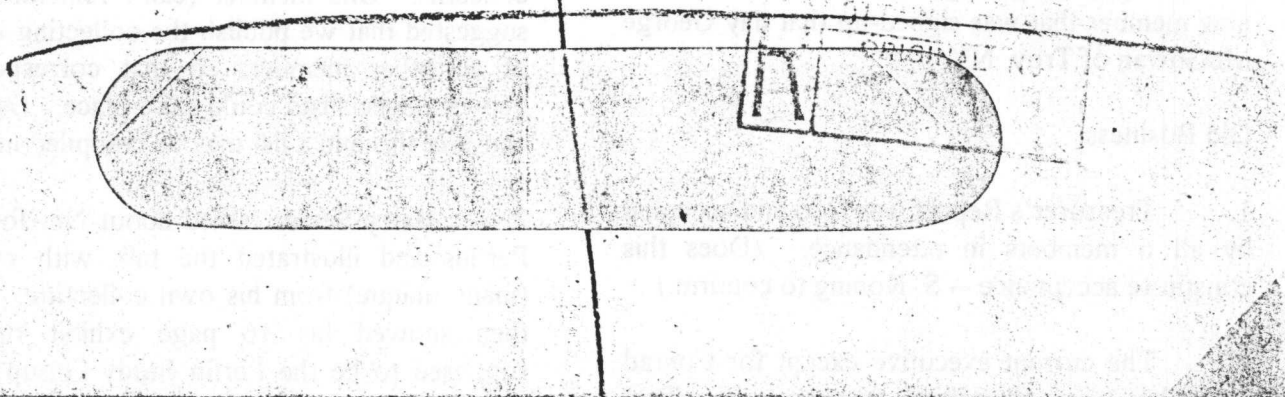
# CANADA - OFFICIALS

10c Loyalist on Registered Cover to U.K.

## NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS

Please deliver to addressee personally or to his responsible representative. Failing delivery as above, return immediately to Dept. of Finance, Ottawa.

O. H. M.



Properly used by the Department of Finance in Ottawa and sent via Registered Mail to Birmingham, England. Hand cancelled on April 7, 1936, in the Registration Terminal in Ottawa. Transit marking "Montreal P.O. - APR 7/36 - British Mail Branch" on back along with an oval receiver from the Registration office in Birmingham, England dated "15 AP 36". Paying the 13 cent Registration rate to the U.K. The 10c Loyalist and the 3c Medallion are both position "A".

# BNAPS97 STUDY GROUP MEETING

## COMPILED BY PATRICK DURBANO

Meeting was brought to order by Chairman Barry Senior at 10:05 AM August 31, 1997.

Barry and Patrick introduced themselves. A sign-in sheet was circulated. A total of 9 people (including Barry & Patrick) signed in. Study Group members in attendance included John M. Hillmer of North York, ON, Wally Gutzman of Dorval, QC, Doug Lingard of Ottawa, ON and a new member that was signed-up that day George McGowan of Troy, NY.

### Old Business:

1. Treasurer's Report was read and accepted by all 6 members in attendance. (Does this constitute acceptance -- S. Koning to confirm.)
2. The current executive except for Conrad Tremblay were all willing to remain in office. Barry then asked for volunteers for the position of Auctioneer -- none were forthcoming.

### New Business:

1. Barry indicated that an updated list of all known issues/patterns and positions was being compiled by Conrad Tremblay. This list was to be forwarded to Barry late in 1997 for inclusion as one large special edition BNA Perforator issue.
2. Further to that point, Patrick reported that a joint BNA Perfins and Revenue Study Group project would be undertaken to determine the extent of perfins on Canadian and provincial revenue issues. This study would in part be coordinated by Dave Hannay of Cambridge, ON. The day previous, Patrick got verbal acceptance from Fritz Angst the Chairman of the Revenue Study Group (also a new member signed up at BNAPS 97) that they would participate.
3. Membership reaction to the split issue format of THE BNA PERFORATOR (one issue with all news then one issue with an auction) was

queried. Most members said that it would be more valuable to them if the Auction was part of the newsletter since they got little value out of receiving just an Auction. (Editor's Note: Our new Auctioneer, Stephen Koning, is scheduling a Spring and Fall auction. Based on this, we will revert back to the old newsletter format and incorporate the semi-annual Auctions into the regular newsletters.)

### Other Business:

1. The floor was opened up for membership concerns. One member (can't remember who) suggested that we publish the collecting interests of all other members so that correspondence between specialists could take place. Barry will consider this and a list may be compiled in 1998.
2. Barry Senior talked about Newfoundland Perfins and illustrated the talk with examples (many unique) from his own collection. Patrick then showed his 16 page exhibit that was supposed to be the Perfin Study Group Exhibit but was not showed due to a shortage of frames available in Newfoundland.

The meeting wound down about 11:30 AM.

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## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Joe Coulbourne  
6 Yosemite Lane  
Fredericksburg, VA  
22408-2538 USA

D. Robin Harris  
2708 Ferguson Avenue  
Saskatoon, SK S7J 1N9

Dr. Bruce Nesbitt  
76 John Street  
Ottawa, ON K1M 1N4

Barry Senior  
Box 1676  
Clarenceville, NF A0E 1J0



## NEW MEMBERS

Fritz Angst  
W2200 First National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN  
55101 USA

Blaine Martinac  
Box 1701  
Regina, SK S4P 3C6

George McGowan  
12 Woods Path  
Troy, NY  
12182 USA

Erik Thureson  
152 Roosevelt Ave.  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON  
P6C 5M8

Merv Woike  
516 E. 84th St. 4W  
New York, NY  
10028 USA

Total number of Paying Members is now 77.

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## PHILATELIC BOOK REVIEW

REVIEWED BY STEPHEN KONING

“Caricatures and Landscape Definitive Series 1972 - 1978” is a very useful booklet of 68 pages written by D. Robin Harris of Winnipeg and published in the Spring of 1997.

Mr. Harris covers every possible aspect of the philatelic study of this series in a logical fashion starting with the series background, then progressing with the detailed treatment of each of the sixteen different denominations of the series. Also covered in detail are booklets, precancels, paper varieties, errors, printing techniques AND perfin!

Harris deserves full credit for acting on the knowledge that no study of an issue, or series,

can be complete without mention of perfins on such stamps.

Perfin collectors will be pleased to know that all known perfins of this series have been priced, courtesy of Patrick Durbano, who also contributed to the two pages specifically about perfins in general, and about the eleven patterns found on this series in particular.

It is quite possible that all existing values with patterns such as C15, C24, C25 and L1 have not yet been reported, and may even be lodged in the reader's collection. If you wish to know more about this interesting series, and about how your Caricature and Landscape perfins stack up against those listed, you will find this booklet, at \$18.45 (postage included) a good value.

It is possible to obtain a copy from Saskatoon Stamp Centre, P.O. Box 1870, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3S2 or telephone 1-800-205-8814.

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## CYBERSPACE MEMBERS

### (MEMBER E-MAIL ADDRESSES)

COMPILED BY PATRICK DURBANO

Many of our members are now connected at home or at work to the Internet. As this is a growing area of communications amongst philatelists, I feel that we should begin a directory of E-mail addresses. So, if you wish to share your E-mail address with the rest of us please forward your E-mail address to Patrick Durbano, [patrick@ims.ca](mailto:patrick@ims.ca), for inclusion in the next and subsequent issues.

### CURRENT MEMBER E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

Patrick Durbano [patrick@ims.ca](mailto:patrick@ims.ca)

D. Robin Harris [rharris@adminware.ca](mailto:rharris@adminware.ca)

Jon Johnson [jcjohnso@junction.net](mailto:jcjohnso@junction.net)

Barry Senior [barry.senior@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:barry.senior@nf.sympatico.ca)

## Report of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Perfins Study Group

Last year our group had 66 members. We now have 74 members of which 16 still have to pay their current dues. They will receive a reminder shortly. We now have overseas members who have volunteered to pay \$10.00 Canadian due to the higher cost of mailing to their addresses. Our split issues for auctions allow our Auction Chairman to control his auction deadlines. Special thanks to Conrad Tremblay for his good work which helps our club in many ways.

Our treasury is in satisfactory shape.

Our bank balance on August 27, 1996 was \$ 1,091.23

### Income since then:

BNAPS Stipend	\$ 87.00		
Dues (members)	\$483.98		
Interest	\$ 3.04	Total Income	\$ 574.02
		Total	\$ 1,665.25

### Expenses since then:

Bank Charges	\$ .60		
P. Durbano for Perforator 98 and 99	\$549.15	Total Expenses	\$ 549.75
		Net Total	\$ 1,115.50

Bank Balance as of August 8, 1997 \$ 1,115.50

### Assets:

Bank	\$ 1,115.50		
Dues Receivable	\$ 80.00		
Auction 13 Receipts	\$ 120.00 (estimate)	Total	\$ 1,315.50

### Liabilities:

Pre-paid Dues	\$ 110.00		
P. Durbano for Perforators #100 & #102	\$ 500.00 (estimate)	Total	\$ 510.00

August 1997	Net Assets	\$ 505.50
August 1996	Net Assets	\$ 607.08

### Motion:

That the Perfins Study Group Fee for 1997 be:

- \$5.00 Canadian for members whose address is in Canada
- \$5.00 US for members whose address is in the US of A
- \$10.00 Canadian for all others countries

Respectfully Submitted,

*Stephen M. Koning*

Stephen M. Koning  
Secretary-Treasurer

# The Story of the IB Perfin

By Marcus Fennell

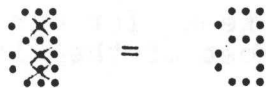


The illustration of this perfin first appeared in the May 1996 issue of THE BNA PERFORATOR but there was no clue to enable one to try and track it down.

In the March 1997 issue of THE BNA PERFORATOR member Neil Dowsley provided an illustration of #1376 the \$2.00 Truro Normal School with a postmark not entirely clear. After studying the postmark it seemed obvious that the location ended in BANK and that the province was SK. There are only 3 towns ending in BANK in Saskatchewan -- Claybank, Mossbank and Vibank -- the latter seemed a good fit.

My next step was to the library to look through the phone directory for Vibank, which was only one page and one column of the next. I was looking for a business with the initials IB, but to no avail, however, in reading all the names listed, I saw Brian Best. Several years ago I used to do business with a person of that name in Regina who operated Best Philatelics and was a source of PS perfins. Vibank is a village of 399 souls about 50 kilometres southeast of Regina.

I then wrote to Neil asking if he could confirm that the postmark was from Vibank, which he was able to do, giving the PO number and date of cancel.



Having Neil's confirmation and the above doodling, I phoned Brian in Vibank, not once but twelve times before I got an answer. After

identifying myself and our former business dealings, I asked him if he was using an IB or BB perfin. He said that the perfin was actually a stylized B but yes he did use it as part of a stamp business with 2 others whose names also started with the letter B.

Further to my phone call I wrote to him enclosing a page from the 1996 BNA Perforator and the March 1997 issue in its entirety. I explained the reason for researching the perfin, and also how I had pinpointed Vibank and subsequently his name then asked if he would supply details.

Brian sent my correspondence to Blain Martinac, one of the partners, who replied in 2 letters. I have consolidated them as one and represent them here with his permission.

While we think of perfins as belonging to a bygone era, Canada Post still makes provision for their use in their regulations. I'm hoping that this perfin is listed, as it had Canada Post authorization, it was used by a legitimate business for business purposes only as long as they existed, and their control was very stringent.

Editor Note: I also received a letter from Jon Johnson who knew that the pattern was owned by BEES Stamps and considers it to be philatelic. Jon indicated that it will be included on page 113 of the handbook along with the F.E. Eaton & Sons pattern. However, it was still some great detective work Mark and you even convinced Mr. Martinac to join our Study Group. (see NEW MEMBERS listing)

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## Highlights of Future Articles

Patrick Durbano

Some articles that I have on hand include:

- 1.) A 23 page report by Conrad Tremblay on Newfoundland "Type Dated" cancels.
- 2.) The first update on the Post-Centennial Definitives.
- 3.) The first listing of Revenue Stamps with Perforated Initials.
- 4.) Ron Whyte's review of "PERFILEX '97" that was put on by the Netherlands Perfin Club.

June 22, 1997.

July 13, 1997

Dear Mark,

My name is Blaine Martinac. Brian Best and I have been friends for quite some time, and were partners in BEES STAMPS from 1984 to just recently. We sold Canadian MNH and used stamps wholesale, through the mail. Since I have plans to move in about a year, we decided it would be best to end our business. We have kept the Post Office box to answer old ads, etc.

Since I was a bit more involved with the perfin situation, Brian asked me to answer this letter.

Since we have been using the perforator for over 7 years, yours is only the second real response of interest. It seems odd.

I work for the Post Office, and one day I came across a manual which explained the regulations regarding precancels, private perfins and the like. As the section regarding perfins did not seem obsolete, I wrote to the people in charge. After much correspondence, we got permission to use our own design to perforate stamps for postage for our business of BEES STAMPS.

We are not a big outfit, so the purpose of us using perfins was more philatelic than practical, but we thought it might be fun, would tie in with our hobby, was perfectly legitimate with the Post Office and we would get hordes of philatelists showing interest, and so we went ahead with it.

Brian and I agreed from the start that we would do this as legitimate as possible, i.e. we would perforate only current definitive stamps which would be used for postage, we would not perforate used stamps, we would not perforate non-current stamps, even if we had done so when they were in use, we would use only nonphilatelic stock (no plate blocks, etc.), and so on. To the best of our knowledge, there were no irregularities such as one stamp of a pair unperfed, doubles, inverts, etc.

As a result, the only used copies we have for ourselves are copies on returned list requests.

Slight deviations to this rule were 1) we made a couple of 1st Day Covers of our first issues, and 2) we have kept for our own personal collections/trade, etc. a small stock of most of the issues MNH.



Our business started out with a third partner whose name also began with a 'B', so we decided to call our business BEES STAMPS, and have a bee as our logo.

The perfin is merely a stylized 'B', not a double B or IB. Our perforator is a single die press purchased locally, but made for them by A.B.E. Perforator Company in New Haven Connecticut.

Since most of our business was American or foreign, most of the perfins have gone outside Canada, where interest is probably minimal. In fact, one Japanese customer requested us to use regular stamps, not ones with holes in them.

Brian and I were quite amused and impressed with your detective work in tracking us down.

I have attempted to keep track of which stamps we have perforated, the dates, quantities, etc., but I may have made some errors.

Scott #s of stamps we have perforated:

From May 1990 to July 1997, the following stamps were perforated:

1155	200	1182	}	1364	150
1156	200	1182x	} 75	1366	50
1157	200	1183	77	1367	200
1158	100	1194B	100	1368	142
1159	100	1349	198	*** 1369	100
1160	100	1350	200	1373	50
1161	100	1352	200	1375	15
* 1172	50	1353	30	1375x	30
1175	60	1354	200	1376	15
1179	40	1355	250	1376x	30
** 1181	}	1361	200	1394	50
1181x	} 56	1362	200	1395	100
				1396	200

- \* : One perfin had 2 blind holes
- \*\* : Both perfs of the \$1 & \$2 values
- \*\*\* : Don't know which perf

all 1364 and 1369 are perf 13.

TOTAL 4068 stamps, 33 different (37 if you count perfs)

The perforator has not been destroyed. Brian and I have a formal written agreement that if either of us decides to continue with a philatelic endeavour, with mutual agreement, one of us at some time in the future may reinstate the machine. This would comply with the postal regulations.

To the best of my knowledge, this is it; there will be no more unless Brian or I decide to go into business sometime in the future. We may decide to remove one or more pins if this is the case.

On September 30, 1997, our BEES Stamps, Box 1701 will expire, and since we do not want to use the perfin from another address, we will consider all unused perfins after that date as remainders. Our stock will be small, and we will wish to keep some for ourselves, but we will offer what we have left for sale, at a premium. If any of your group are interested, they could write to us at our Box 1701 S4P 3C6 address, and we will forward a price list franked with a 45c coil perfin. We expect to have about 10-12 different to offer, though some will be in quite limited quantities.

Yours truly.



B.W. Martinac

3321 13th Ave  
Regina SK S4T 1P6

for BEES STAMPS

BEES STAMPS  
WHOLESALE CANADA  
P.O. BOX 1701  
REGINA, SASK. S4P 3C6

120 S4P 085 970625 21:07 ||| ||| ||| |||



CODE/ CODE POSTAL ||| ||| ||| |||

MARCUS B FENNEL  
816 3RD AVE N  
SASKATOON SK S7K 2K2



Canada Post Société canadienne  
Corporation des postes  
Marketing and Sales  
Station 879  
OTTAWA, Ontario  
K1A 0B1

July 17, 1989

Mr. B.W. Martinac  
3321-13th Avenue  
REGINA, Saskatchewan  
S4T 1P6

Dear Mr. Martinac:

It has come to our attention that you have not received a reply to your letter of September 25, 1987, concerning perforated stamps. I apologize for this unfortunate oversight.

Enclosed please find a copy of the policy regarding perforated designs on postage stamps. In addition to meeting these requirements, the design must not punch out any of the phosphor tagging on the margins of the stamp. You have our permission to use your perforated design on postage stamps in accordance with these guidelines.

Thank you for writing and for your interest in Canadian postage stamps. Once again, please accept my apologies for the delay in the reply.

Yours sincerely,

*for*  
R.L. Maffett  
Corporate Manager  
Stamps and Philately

Encl.:

DOMESTIC MAIL	SUBJECT 29 POSTAGE (METHODS OF PAYMENT)
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## 29.2 STAMPS

Postage stamps must be affixed on the address side of an item of mail in the upper right corner. The stamp or meter impression should not overlap the item.

Stamps can be purchased at any postal installations, authorized retailers and through vending machines.

Stamps that are mutilated, soiled, covered with transparent material or defaced in any way are not acceptable for postage. Previously used stamps, postage stamps from another country or any other type of stamps not usually acceptable as postage are not to be used for payment of postage.

### \* PERFORATED STAMPS

Customers wishing to use perforated stamps with a distinctive mark must apply to the Canada Post Corporation for authorization giving details of the design they wish to use. The perforations must be designed so that it is easy to recognize the stamp as genuine and unused.

In addition, the following conditions apply:

- a) The mark or design is for the purpose of identification not for advertising purposes.
- b) The complete mark or design must not exceed 13 mm<sup>2</sup> while each perforation must not exceed 0.80 mm in diameter.
- c) Ink or other colouring materials is not to be used in the perforation process.
- d) Applications must be directed to

CORPORATE MANAGER  
 STAMPS AND PHILATELY  
 CANADA POST CORPORATION  
 OTTAWA, ONTARIO  
 K1A 0B1

#### REPRODUCTION OF POSTAGE STAMP

All stamp reproductions must be at least 50% larger or smaller than the original and clearly defaced. The defacing line is to be in the plate or die from which the reproduction is made.

The plates or dies used to reproduce stamps must be made entirely of babbitt or other soft metal or material, steel is not acceptable.