



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
POSTAL HISTORY  
RESEARCH GROUP

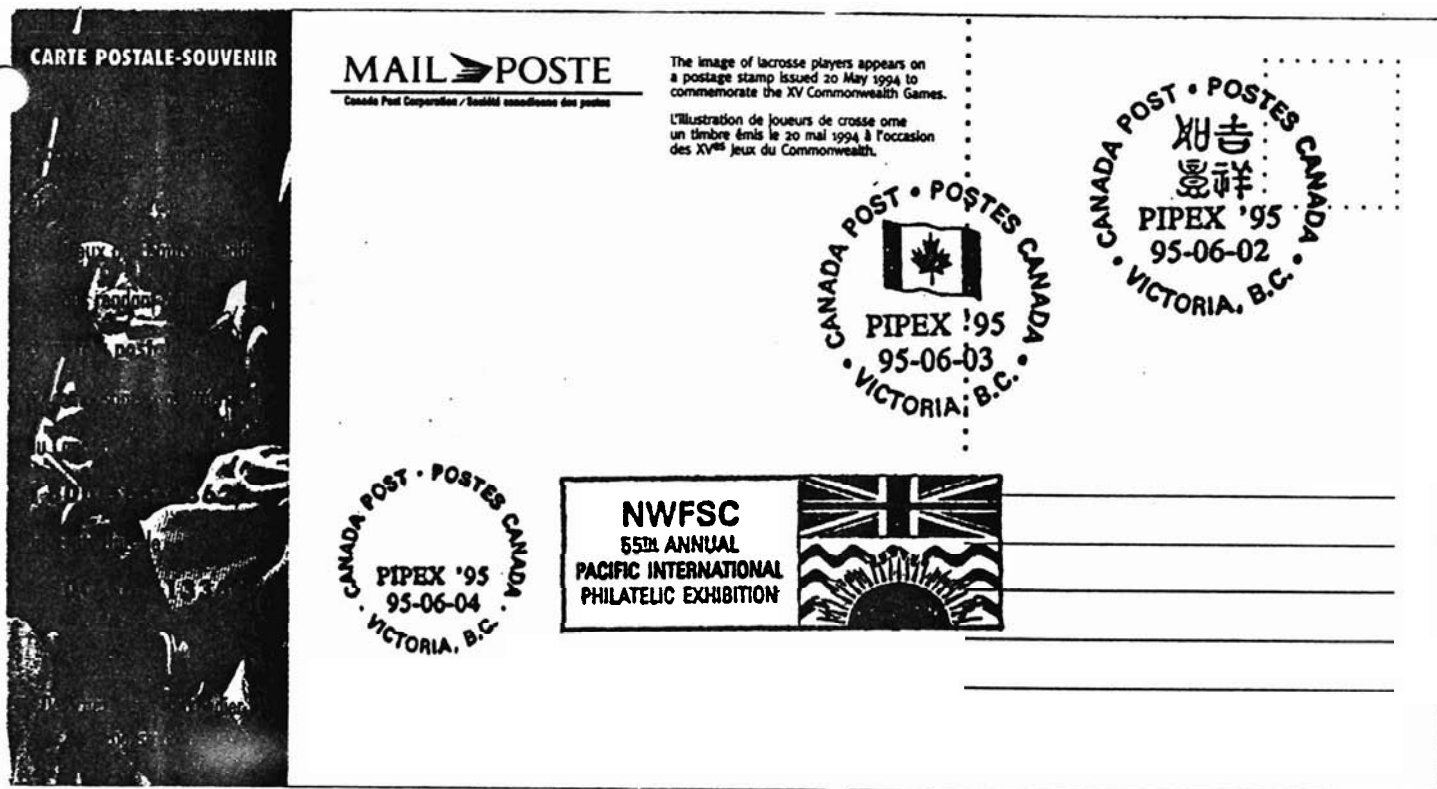
Volume 4 - Number 2

WHOLE NUMBER 14

JUNE 1995

## NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS - PIPEX

PIPEX was held in Victoria from June 2 to June 4, 1995. Thanks to the efforts of Bill Bartlett, of the Canada Postal Corporation, Postal Service was provided for those attending. Three special exhibition cancellations were available, a different one for each day of the exhibition, for those who enjoy collecting this material. Many collectors like obtaining unusual or special cancellations but since May of last year Victoria has used almost two dozen special cancellations and of these only two saw regular postal service. These were used on the Toshiba and I.P.S. rapid cancelling equipment (See Vol. 3 No. 3 page 87). Enough said.



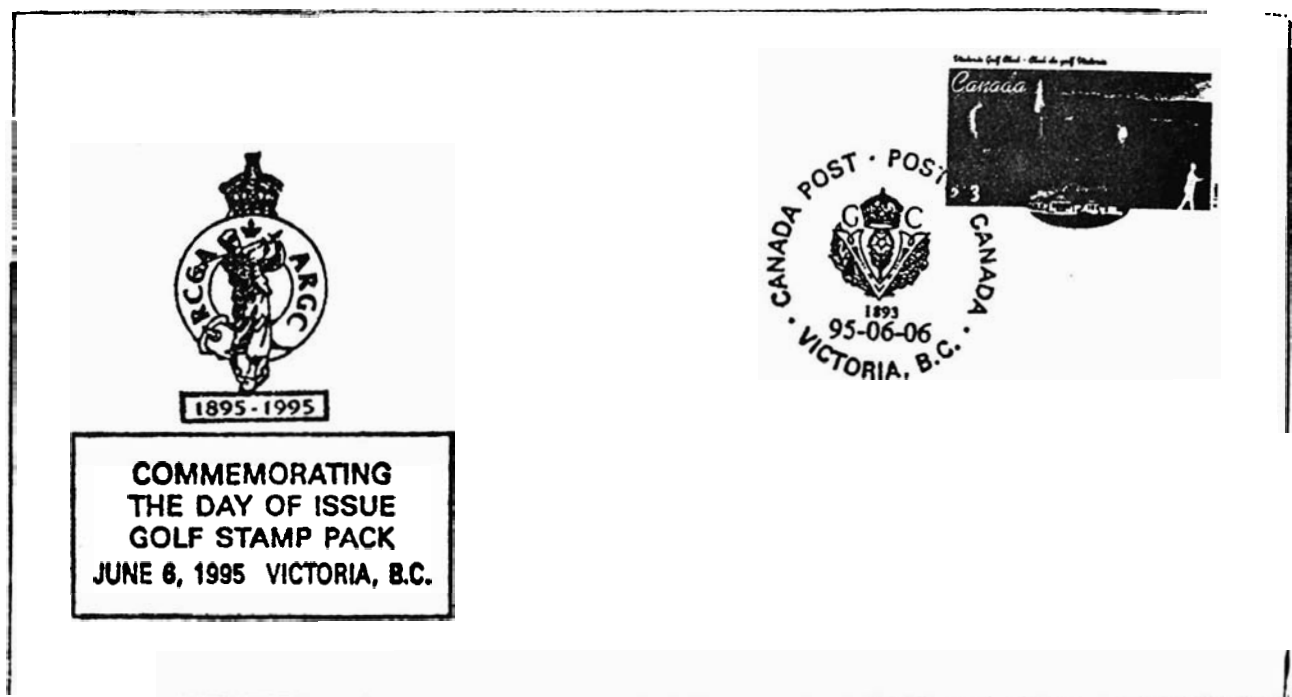
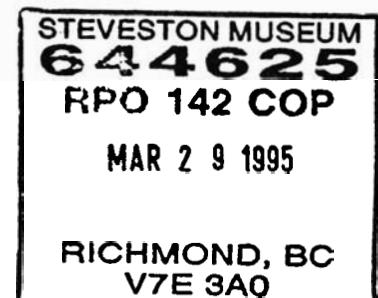
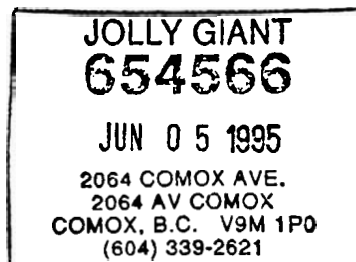
At the same time a large number of other regular and special cancellations from other parts of BC have crossed the editors desk. The editor appreciates receiving this type of information and within the limitations of space will try to include many of these. On the next page is a selection of those received during the past six months. Some are new, some are old, and some are just recent finds.

**CANCELLATIONS - NEW AND OLD**

The cancellation on this page are a few of the fifty or so new and old cancellations that reached the editor in the past few months.

Thanks to those who helped provide the material.

Bill Bartlett  
Sid Bedwell  
Pete Jacobi  
Bob Smith  
Bill Tidball  
Bill Warwaryick  
to name a few



COMMEMORATING  
THE DAY OF ISSUE  
GOLF STAMP PACK  
JUNE 6, 1995 VICTORIA, B.C.

The British Columbia Postal History News Letter is published quarterly for the Pacific Northwest Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society. The annual membership fee is \$5.00 in Canadian or US funds. Bill Topping, Editor, 7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5K2, Canada.

## FIRE VALLEY

Pete Jacobi provides a number of quotes from the late Marvel Milne's book Just where is Edgewood? regarding the establishment and location of Fire Valley and the change of name to Needles. The main question is "Why there was a distinction between Needles (1) and Needles (2) when its postal service was continuous from October 1, 1906 to March 7, 1968".

This is not the first time this question has been asked. The postal records (see next pages) clearly show what officially happened but fail to recognize that Needles moved back and forth from one side of the narrows to the other and at least one postmaster appears to have moved taking the post office with him.

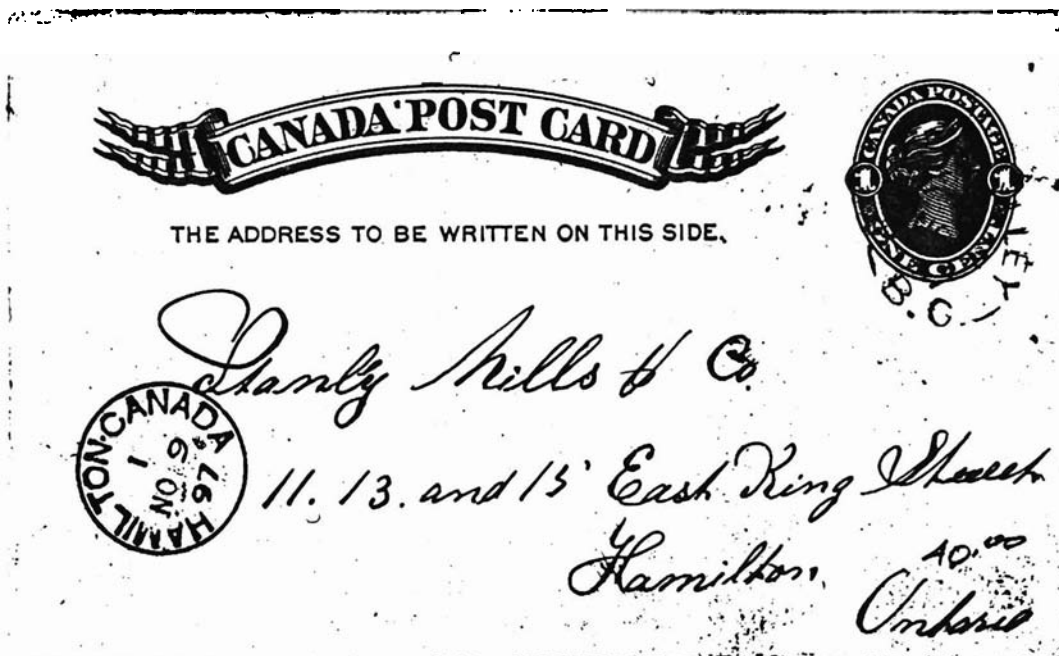
Ms. Milne states the "By the fall of 1894 there were twenty-two settlers. They found a post office was needed, so John Bangs contacted the authorities and they gave him permission to have one in his house in October of that year. In 1902 John went to Calgary to study law so he could become the Justice of the peace." Like many local historians Ms. Milne is partly correct. The Fire Valley Post Office was established on October 1, 1894 but the Postmaster was O.J. Vail, not John Bangs. Mr. Bangs had pre-empted land on Barnes Creek near the present Needles Airport in 1891 but did not become postmaster until March 1, 1898. His land was some 4 miles up the creek from Needles spit on the Arrow Lakes and 10 miles from Killarney Landing located near the present site of Edgewood.

Mr. Bangs left for Calgary in October 1902 and two months later Mr. R. Shiell took over the Fire Valley post office. Indication are that Mr. Shiell lived near the Needle, a narrow spit of land, on the west side of the narrows between the Upper and Lower Arrow Lakes. Shortly after taking over the Fire Valley Post Office he had the name changed to Needles. He resigned July 1, 1908 at which time the name of the Needles (1) Post Office was changed back to Fire Valley (2) and a new Needles (2) Post Office was established. Maps of the period show the Needles Post Office on the east side of the narrows not in its present location on the west side. Fire Valley Post Office remained in operation until October 24, 1910 when it was closed, listed as being "no longer required".

Some time between the closing of the Fire Valley (2) Post Office in 1910 and the opening of the Fauquier Post Office on June 1, 1913 the Needles Post Office must have moved back to the west side of the lake near the present Needles ferry landing. The Needles office was closed April 30, 1968 and the Fauquier office was moved to its present location following the building of the Arrow Lakes Dam.

FIRE VALLEY  
NO 2 / 97

Back -  
REVELSTOKE  
NO 3 / 97



934

## THE CANADA GAZETTE.

THE FOLLOWING NEW POST OFFICES WERE ESTABLISHED IN CANADA ON THE  
1st OCTOBER, 1906.

## CHANGES IN POST OFFICES ALREADY ESTABLISHED.

## NAMES CHANGED

Ainagundus Pond.....	County of N. Cape Breton an	Victoria, N.S.	to Castle Bay.
Astleyville.....	District of Edmonton, Alta.		to Battenburg.
Burnaby.....	" New Westminster, B.C.		to Burnaby Lake.
Cross Roads Lot 48.....	County of Queen's, P.E.I.		to Lot 48.
Fire Valley.....	District of Kootenay, B.C.		to Needles.
Murray Harbour Road.....	County of Queen's, P.E.I.		to Bellevue.
North Thistakaming.....	Pontiac, Q.		to Murray City.
Fincher.....	District of Alberta.		to Fincher Station.

QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENT  
May, June, July 1908

7

NAME OF POST OFFICE.	TOWNSHIP OR PARISH.	ELECTORAL COUNTY AND PROVINCE OR TERRITORY.	POSTMASTERS.
Needles.....	Sec. 1, Tp. 12, R. 23.	Kootenay.....B.C.	L. Geo. Payne.
Neascliffe.....	W. 2nd M.....	Qu'Appelle.....Sask.	A. Armstrong.
Netherton (April 8).....	Sec. 14, Tp. 31, R. 2.		

## CHANGES IN POST OFFICES ALREADY ESTABLISHED.

## NAMES CHANGED.

Blue Bonnets.....	County of Jacques Cartier.	Q.	to Ville St. Pierre.
Bracondale.....	" York, S.R.	O	to Toronto sub-office No. 36.
Denwood.....	District of Strathcona.	Alta	to Wainwright.
Ebor.....	County of Brandon.	M.	to Arawana.
Eyebrow Hill.....	District of Assa. West.	Sask.	to Eskbank.
Eyebrow Station.....	"	Sask.	to Eyebrow.
Garnier.....	County of Labelle.	Q.	to Lac Windigo.
Green Mountain.....	District of Yale-Cariboo.	B.C.	to Allen Grove.
Kitimaat.....	" Comox-Atlin.	B.C.	to Kitimaat Mission.
Lao Leroux.....	County of Terrebonne.	Q.	to Entralac.
Lot 67.....	" Queen's.	P.E.I.	to Springton.
Millside.....	District of New Westminster.	B.C.	to Fraser Mills.
Mountain Side.....	" Humboldt.	Sask.	to Duval.
Mount Pleasant.....	† City of Vancouver.	B.C.	to Vancouver sub-office No. 3.
Murray Harbour South.....	County of Kings.	P.E.I.	to Murray Harbour.
* Needles.....	District of Kootenay.	B.C.	to Fire Valley.
Nelson.....	County of Lisgar.	M.	to Dunston.
Shilson.....	" Souris.	M.	to Ruth.
Sleipner.....	District of Humboldt.	Sask.	to Wynyard.
Toronto Junction.....	County of York, S.R.	O.	to Postal Station D, West Toronto.
Woody River.....	" Dauphin.	M.	to Rowman River.

Change in name of Needles and a new post office opened under the same name.  
† From 1st May.

QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENT  
Nov. & Dec. 1910 & Jan. 1911  
OFFICES CLOSED.

7

Belloni.....	County of South Cape Breton.	N.S.	
Benbecula.....	District of Qu'Appelle.	Sask.	Closed 1st October.
Bishopville.....	County of Kings.	N.S.	Closed 3rd October.
Bison.....	District of Battleford.	Sask.	
Carden.....	County of Victoria and Haliburton.	O.	
Chester.....	County of Carleton.	N.B.	
Daniel.....	County of Sunbury-Queens.	N.B.	
Darrell.....	County of Kent, E.R.	O.	
Denora.....	District of Yale-Cariboo.	B.C.	Closed 1st October.
Fairmuir.....	District of Regina.	Sask.	
Fire Valley.....	District of Kootenay.	B.C.	
Grand Bernier.....	County of St. John and Ibertville.	Q.	

**FIRE VALLEY - NEEDLES - FAUQUIER**

Vancouver Postal Records  
(now in Ottawa ?)

**FIRE VALLEY (1)**  
"Nakusp 40 miles south"

Authorized PMG 804 1894 08 23  
Established 1894 10 01  
Postmaster J.O. Vail

Changed to **NEEDLES (1)**  
Authorized PMG 24446 1906 08 27  
Effective 1906 10 01

**NEEDLES (1)**

Authorized PMG 24446 1906 08 27  
Effective 1906 10 01

Changed to **FIRE VALLEY (2)**  
Authorized PMG 31994 1908 05 26  
Effective 1908 07 01  
"No longer required"

**FIRE VALLEY (2)**

Authorized PMG 31994 1908 05 26  
Equipment sent 1908 06 24  
Effective 1908 07 01

Closed PMG 410 1910 10 24  
Effective 1910 10 30

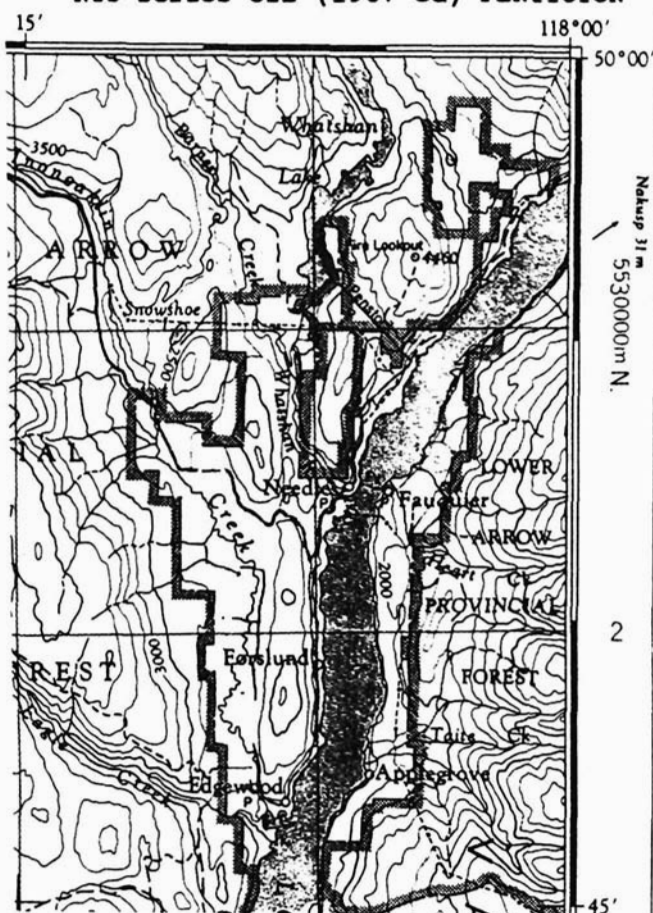
**NEEDLES (2)**

Authorized PMG 31994 1908 05 26  
Equipment sent 1908 06 24  
Established 1908 07 01  
Postmaster L. Geo. Payne

Closed 1968 04 30  
Due to flooding of Arrow Lakes  
Mail to Fauquier

**FAUQUIER**

Authorized PMG 60006 1913 04 24  
Equipment sent 1913 05 28  
Established 1913 06 01  
Postmaster Geo E. Smedley

**NTS Series 82E (1967 ed) PENTICTON**

Melvin George H.

**The Post Offices of British Columbia****FIRE VALLEY (1)**

6 mi. N. of Edgewood on Lower Arrow Lake.  
Named for big fire in valley many years ago.  
Est. 1-10-1894; changed to Needles (1) 1-10-06.

O. J. Vail	1-10-94	12-11-96
P. J. Jansen	1- 5-97	6-12-97
J. Bangs	1- 3-98	31-10-02
R. Shiell	1-12-02	1-10-06

**NEEDLES (1)**

28 mi. SW of Nakusp on W. side of Arrow Lake.  
Named on account of long point of land reaching into lake.  
Former Fire Valley, 1-10-1906.  
Changed to Fire Valley 1-7-1908.

R. Shiell	1-10-06	1- 7-08
-----------	---------	---------

**FIRE VALLEY (2)**

Location and name as Fire Valley (1)  
Former Needles (2) 1-7-1908.  
Closed 30-10-10.

W. H. Page	1- 7-08	30-10-10
------------	---------	----------

**NEEDLES (2)**

Location and name as for Needles (1).  
Est. 1-7-1908, closed 30-4-68; flooded by High Arrow Dam.

L. G. Payne	1- 7-08	31- 5-10
N. C. Freeman	1- 8-10	25- 6-12
A. W. Lift	1- 9-12	14- 5-18
E. R. Freeman	2- 7-18	22-11-19
G. Craft	1- 4-20	29-10-42
Mrs. E. Craft Sr.	31-10-42	10- 1-45
Mrs. E. Craft Jr.	18- 4-45	25- 1-47
T. Ewings	1- 4-47	6- 2-64
Mrs. A. B. Ewings	19- 2-64	27- 4-66
Mrs. E. Craft	29- 6-66	7- 3-68

**ALEX PRICE - writes**

(See Number 13 pp. 100 &amp; 104)

Whonnock - Whonock. I always found this one interesting because the original CPR station name was Warnock and is so listed in the first Pacific Division time tables but that name was never used postally.

Lardo - Lardeau. I don't have any postal data on this one but I do have CPR station daters, samples enclosed, showing the two names in use. I suppose the change was politically motivated, even then.

Abbotsford. General Superintendent Abbott of the Pacific Division, was correctly named Harry Braithwaite Abbott, the "Harry" being a name in its own right.

Enclosed two samples of CPR station daters which add spice to the stew. Since the RPO people have given status (?) to these things we are obliged to present them. First, PENTINGTON 1896 and ROSEBERRY 1923. I have seen Pentington elsewhere. I kind of like it.

The item "Beyond Limits of Carrier's Delivery" tripped a memory sensor. Years ago, while trying to complete my rural Vancouver Post Offices (now long wound up) I became intrigued with View Hill. Was it or was it not in the limits of Vancouver? I set out to establish the precise location of this office and struck out in all directions. I can hear the loud laughter in the distance. I did all the usual stuff, directories, Municipal Offices, maps, foot slogging and so on. The only thing I did not do was try for post office records as I did not think that would be necessary. I reasoned that it probably was on the high ground in North Burnaby very close to Boundary Road, and was probably in a corner store of some sort. I asked questions of various "ancients" in the neighbourhood, who, as well as knowing nothing, looked at me sideways, and I can't say as I blamed them. Even the postmaster's name does not provide a clue as to location, which it usually does. I gave up. Print this and I, no doubt, will have to dodge a barrage of answers.

For the record VIEW HILL was open from 1912 12 01 to 1921 06 30 and was located near Yale and Gilmour streets on the bluff just above the CPR tracks a couple of blocks to the east of Boundary Road in what is now North Burnaby.

CPR Ticket stamps from Alex.

ABBOTSFORD - OCT 3 1906  
 LARDO - NOV 12 1911  
 LARDEAU - MAY 27 1919  
 ROSEBERRY - APR 6 1923  
 PENTINGTON - APR 18 1896





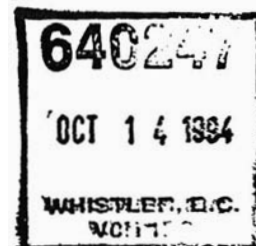
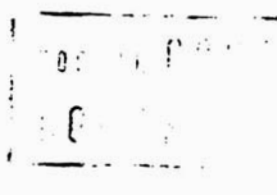
## FROM CANADA POST

Again thanks to the assistance of Pat Hue of Canada Post Corporation, I am able to continue updating postal changes in British Columbia. A minor change in the information now lists post offices that have moved to a new address. These can be identified as the RC number will be the same in both columns. An entry in the left hand column only means the office closed and an entry in the right hand column means it has opened.

CLOSING / TRANSFERRING				REPLACEMENT / OPENING			
<u>Province</u>	<u>Close Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>		<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	
				GH	Prince George GMO 17		169471 95-02-19
				RV	Barkerville		640468 95-05-01
94-08-31	GH	Clearbrook GMO 5	097365	GH	Clearbrook GMO 5		164607 94-10-03
94-09-30	FA	Lynnmour Postal Outlet	654825	FA	Lynnmour Postal Outlet		654825 94-10-01
94-10-07	CO	ALL ROUTES EXPRESS	097268				
94-10-15	FA	Oakridge Postal Outlet	028398	FA	Oakridge Postal Outlet		165972 94-10-17
94-10-15	FA	PACIFIC CENTRE POSTAL OUTLET	059811	FA	PACIFIC CENTRE POSTAL OUTLET		165980 94-10-17
94-10-16	FB	Mayne Island	063304	FB	Mayne Island		164585 94-10-17
94-10-31	GH	Nanaimo GMO Rutheford	088862				
94-11-06	FA	Impact Plaza Retail Outlet	655406	FA	Impact Plaza Retail Outlet		167193 94-11-07
95-01-01	FB	Ta Ta Creek	053759	FB	Ta Ta Creek		167746 95-01-02
95-01-08	FB	Coal Harbour	073547	FB	Coal Harbour		168580 95-01-09
95-01-09	FB	Huntingdon	028290	FB	Huntingdon		167738 95-01-10
95-01-13	GH	Revelstoke GMO #2	652105				
95-01-27	CS	Richmond CSC	104620	CS	Richmond CSC		104620 95-01-30
95-01-29	FA	Lansdowne Mall	069108	FA	Lansdowne Mall		168823 95-01-30
95-01-30	GH	KAMLOOPS GMO 14	067822				
95-01-31	SB	Prince George RPO 7	648299				
95-02-05	FB	Riske Creek RO	067490	FB	Riske Creek RO		168963 95-02-06
95-02-16	GH	Quesnel GMO #4	067210	GH	Quesnel GMO #4		170097 95-03-01
95-02-17	SB	Parksville RPO #1	652032	SB	Parksville RPO #1		652032 95-02-18
95-02-19	GH	Vancouver GMO 13	102156	FA	Southlands RO		169404 95-02-20

## WHISTLER MACHINE

On a recent visit to Whistler the topic of the poor quality of the Whistler machine cancellation was raised. The clerk incharge of the Whistler Post Office was most cooperative and after many tries produced the cancellation below. The problem is with the inking of the machine. If the instructions are followed the envelope is washed with ink and thus the solution is to under ink the machine.



**30mm+ CANCELLATIONS - an update**  
See Vol. 3 No. 1 page 70.

Bob Smith of Ottawa is now publishing, in the PHSC Journal, a listing of all the large circular daters of 30 to 31mm diameter hammers (Type "G"). The Maritime Province and Quebec have been published and he is slowly moving west with British Columbia, as usual being near the last to be reported. Bob has asked for assistance in reporting new finds as well as information on early and late dates. To date 51 hammers have been reported, seven of which are unreported used on cover. Many were issued to small towns and as a result are still in use while others are retained in the post office but are not used except on a special request basis.

At the same time the editor is working on the small diameter Type "C" hammers (25mm+) diameter hammers with the Postal Code at the bottom. 10 of these hammers were issued to Post Offices in British Columbia during the late 1970's and most have been withdrawn from service.

At the same time the Topping/Robinson classification used in the Checklist of British Columbia Post Offices has been expanded to identify the various configurations of Post Office, Province, and Postal Code. Also Type "F" has been changed to Type "C1c" to fit the new breakdown. The full expansion classification will be published in a later news letter.

At the right, the first letter indicates the basic hammer type. The number indicates the arrangement of the wording on the hammer and the small letter "c" indicates the Province or Canada is replaced by the Postal Code.

**TYPE C - SMALL DIAMETER HAMMERS - 25mm**

**TYPE C4c - - Small diameter 23.5mm**  
with postal code



**"G" TYPES - CDS 30 to 31mm diameter**

**TYPE G0 -**

- without Province



**TYPE G1 -**

- with B.C. at bottom



**TYPE G1c -**

- with Postal Code  
replacing B.C. at bottom



**TYPE G4c -**

- town followed by B.C.  
and postal code at bottom



**TYPE G5c -**

- town followed by BC/C-B  
and postal code at bottom





Please check your collection for copies of Type 'C1c' and Type 'G'

To assist Bob Smith of Ottawa and the Editor in researching Type "C1c" and Type "G" cancellations please check your collection for early dates, where no proof strike is known, and late dates where the use of the canceller appears to have ended.

Abbreviations used

P = Proof strike date	C = Closed
E = Earliest reported strike	W = Withdrawn
L = Latest reported strike	R = Replaced
F = Office changed or replaced by a Franchise cancelling equipment rarely retained	

TYPE "C" CANCELLATION WITH POSTAL CODE

	Early	Late	Notes
ALTONA B C / VOC 2T0	E-1991 09 23	In use	
BIG LAKE B C. / VOL 1G0	E-1978 07 07	L-1989 11 03	
CLEARWATER B C / VOE 1N0	E-1980 09 24	In use	
COURTENAY B C / V1N 1G0	E-1987 05 04		
DEROCHE B.C. / VOM 1G0	E-1984 06 12	In use	
KAMLOOPS B.C. MAIN STN. / V2C 2G0	E-1980 03 09	L-1985 07 31	
SKOOKUMCHUCK B C / VOB 2E0	E-1975 07 21	In use	
TOMS LAKE, B.C. / VOC 2L0	E-1983 09 11	In use ? worn 1991	
VALEMOUNT B C / VOE 2Z0	E-1977 05 27	In use	
WYCLIFFE B.C. / VOB 2M0	E-1979 08 21	C-1986 05 04	

See back of page for Type "G"

ANNUAL DUES OVERDUE - \$5.00 CAN/US

Don Abel, Tracy Cooper, Ron Leith, Dean Mario, Jim Miller, Dan Rosenblat, Mike Sagar, Al Skucas, William Young

Forms should be mailed to  
Bill Topping, Editor  
B.C. Postal History News Letter  
7430 Angus Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5K2

Name .....  
Address .....  
.....

## TYPE G - 30-31mm CANCELLATIONS

	Early	Late	Notes
ALDERGROVE B.C. / VOX 1A0	P-1987 07 31	-	Unreported
CANAL FLATS BC/C-B / VOB 1B0	E-1988 12 18	In use	
CANOE B.C. / VOE 1K0	E-1987 11 04	In use	
CHETWYND, BC / VOC 1J0	E-1987 10 10	R-1988	Replaced
CHETWYND B C / VOC 1J0	E-1988 04 13	In use	
CFB CHILLIWACK / MPO 612	E-1985 07 16	L-1989 08 16	
CFB/BPC CHILLIWACK / MPO/BPM 612	E-1991 11 20	In use	
COMOX, B.C. / V9N 3Z0	P-1985 01 25	F-1989 07 19	Now LCD
CULTUS LAKE / B.C.	E-1988 10 20	In use	
FOREST GROVE BC / VOK 1M0	E-1986 01 14	In use ?	
FRANCOIS LAKE, B.C. / VOJ 1R0	P-1985 08 20	In use ?	
FULFORD HARBOUR B.C. / VOS 1C0	E-1986 08 30	In use ?	
GANG RANCH / BC	E-1989 09 20	L-1992 05 08	
GRAND FORKS / B C	E-1990 01 17	-	Exixts ?
GROUND BIRCH BC / VOC 1T0	E-1987 02 18	In use	
HARROGATE, B.C. / VOA 1J0	P-1985 01 25	F-1990 08 20	
HUDSON HOPE / B.C.	E-1986 06 24	R-1989	Replaced
HUDSON HOPE B.C. / VOC 1V0	E-1988 10 02	R-1991 10 12	Replaced
HUDSON'S HOPE B.C. / VOC 1V0	E-1991 10 23	In use	
HUNTINGDON B.C./C-B / VOX 1M0	E-1991 03 28	C-1993 03 28	
INVERMERE, BC / VOA 1K0	P-1985 03 13	In use ?	
JAFFRAY B.C. / VOB 1T0	P-1987 07 07	In use	
KELOWNA, B.C. / V1Y 6N0	P-1985 03 25	F-1989 06 26	Unreported
KILDONNAN / B C	E-1991 10 19	In use	
LAX KW'ALAAMS, B.C. / VOV 1H0	P-1987 04 26	-	Exists ?
LUMBY, B.C. / VOE 2G0	P-1985 01 28	L-1987 01 27	Withdrawn
LYTTON B.C. / VOK 1Z0	E-1988 04 01	In use	
MATSQUI, B.C. / VOX 1S0	P-1985 06 26	In use	
MIDWAY B.C. / VOH 1M0	P-1987 06 29	In use	
MILNER, B.C. / VOX 1T0	E-1988 07 29	-	Exists
MOBERLY LAKE / B.C.	P-1985 01 25	F-1993 08 09	
MONTE LAKE, B.C. / VOE 2N0	P-1985 09 16	F-1988 04 08	
QUEENSBOROUGH / NEW WEST BC	P-1987 04 16	-	Exists
150 MILE HOUSE / B.C.	P-1987 06 29	F-1991 10 02	
OSOYOOS / BC	E-1990 04 13	-	Exists ?
PENTICTON / B.C.	P-1985 01 25	F-1992 01 31	
PITT MEADOWS B.C. / V3Y 1A0	P-1987 04 16	L-1990 19 20	Not used
PORT COQUITLAM, B.C. / V3B 5S0	P-1985 03 25	F-1990 09 25	
PRINCE GEORGE / V2N 2K0	P-1985 02 19	-	Unreported
PRINCE GEORGE 'B' / B.C.	P-1985 06 26	-	Unreported
ROBERTS CREEK B.C. / VON 2W0	E-1988 01 19	In use	
SHAWINIGAN LAKE / B.C.	P-1987 08 20	In use	
SPENCE'S BRIDGE / BC	E-1989 08 30	In use	
SURREY / B.C.	P-1987 08 20	-	Unreported
DEPOT 2 / SURREY, B.C. V3W 5V0	P-1985 10 02	-	Unreported
TATLA LAKE, B.C. / VOL 1V0	E-1992 11 01	C-1992 11 30	
VANCOUVER DISTRICT / EMERGENCY NO 1	P-1977 12 19	-	Unreported
VANCOUVER DISTRICT / EMERGENCY NO 2	P-1977 12 19	-	Unreported
VICTORIA / B.C.	E-1988 08 22	F-1991 17 29	
VICTORIA B C/C B / V8W 1L0	E-1991 11 11	-	Exists
YIOUBOU / B.C.	P-1985 06 17	F-1993 02 23	