

Postal Stationery Notes

Volume 26 No. 4

Feb 2015

REPORT FROM BNAPEX ~ Baltimore, Sept. 1, 2014

At the Postal Stationery Group meeting in Baltimore were: Earle Covert, Chairman, who called the meeting to order, Colin Banfield, Robert Lemire, Adri Veenstra, Bill Geijsbeek, Jerry Phillips, Arno Kolster, Bill Walton, Charles Livermore, Eldon Godfrey, & Jean Walton.



Earle Covert showed and explained some interesting Christmas (Santa) mail, Priority mail, and certified mail – which is similar to Priority mail but is NOT postal stationery.

Robert Lemire then handed out a 13-page document, illustrating differences in headings and text on postal stationery issues, some of which are noted in Webb, and others that are not. Among those not noted in Webb were post cards P6, P8, and p66t, 3¢ Cameo and Centennial envelopes, and certain Admiral and Arch wrappers. Anyone wanting a copy of these illustrated differences may request a copy of this document (pdf by email preferably) from Robert.

Bill Walton discussed the upcoming Webb's Eighth Edition, and explained the extensive catalogue renumbering.

We missed those not present, and hope to see you in September at BNAPEX in Niagara Falls.

SEARCH FOR NEW PS NOTES EDITOR: Your current layout editor is unable to continue, and a replacement is needed. Robert Lemire has agreed to take over temporarily, but we still need someone with some computer skills and an enthusiasm for the hobby to take over. Promises of help and material are forthcoming. If you feel you might be able to do this, please contact Jean or Earle at email addresses below, or Robert at rlemire000@sympatico.ca.

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PSNotes Contact information: Chairman: Earle L. Covert, ecovert6@gmail.com, Box 1190, Raymond, AB T0K 2S0, phone 403-752-4548. Secretary-Treasurer, Mike Sagar at gailandmike@shaw.ca, 3920 Royalmore Ave., Richmond, BC V7C 1P6. Articles for PSNotes should be sent to Earle Covert (see above) or Jean Walton (jwalton971@aol.com, 125 Turtleback Rd, Califon NJ 07830), layout/copy editor for Postal Stationery Notes, or Robert Lemire at rlemire000@sympatico.ca. For mailing, changes of address, and printing issues, contact Mike at email above.

Emailed copy of PSNotes: To receive PSNotes in colour in pdf format by email, send your email to Mike Sagar at gailandmike@shaw.ca. No extra charge. If you prefer this version to the mailed version and ONLY want the online version, let Mike know and we will remove you from the list of mailed copies, which helps keep our costs low and our dues at \$8.00. But you do not need to choose – you can continue to receive both.

What's New in Postal Stationery:

Since our last issue, not a great deal has appeared, but we now have these prepaid post cards:

- **Canadian Country Artists** – 5 cards issued July 31, 2014, additions to the continuing series (product #262415).
- **Zamboni Machines** – 7 post cards, 1 for each NHL team, issued October 3, 2014 (product #262423)
- **Wait for Me Daddy** – 2 post cards showing the iconic photo of a soldier departing for WWII, and the other showing the family on his return. Issued Oct 4, 2014.(product #s 262424 & 262425)
- **Year of the Ram**, The 2015 Chinese New Year cards 2 post cards, (#262427 – reproducing the souvenir sheet image of a green ram, and # 262426, showing the same image as the Chinese New Year stamp, 3 rams heads on a red background). Issued Jan. 8, 2015.
- **Canadian Flag Anniversary** (50 years), Flag on a bright blue sky background (# 262428), Feb. 15, 2015.
- **Pansies**, 2 additions to the flower cards, one in blue and one called yellow (although the image is more violet than yellow (#262429 & #262430), to be issued March 2, 2015.

Visit <http://home.comcast.net/~psnotes/pdf/NewissuesFeb15.pdf> for more information.

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FRENCH DOMINION EXPRESS FORM

By Pierre Gautier

En Voyageant - Utilisez les CHEQUES DE VOYAGE de la DOMINION EXPRESS COMPANY Acceptés dans tout le monde

En faisant des remises, envoyez un MANDAT D'ARGENT de la DOMINION EXPRESS CO. S'il est perdu ou volé, votre argent vous sera remboursé.

Taux pour Mandats d'Argent.

\$ 2.50 et au-dessous	5 cents
Plus de \$2.50 à \$5.00	7 "
" 5.00 - 10.00	0 "
" 10.00 - 30.00	12 "
" 30.00 - 50.00	15 "
" 50.00 - 60.00	18 "
" 60.00 - 80.00	20 "
" 80.00 - 100.00	24 "
" 100.00	aux mêmes taux

Forme Française 161 August, 1919 Manifest No.

DOMINION EXPRESS COMPANY192 ..

Nous avons reçu à votre adresse un envoi retenu ici à vos risques. Veuillez venir le chercher en présentant cet avis, ou remplir et signer l'ordre ci-dessous. Si non réclamées dans les 48 heures, les marchandises seront placées dans un entrepôt public aux frais et risques du destinataire.

Agent
NON EN DOUANE EN DOUANE

Frais			
C.O.D.			
Droits, Entree, Honoraires			
Total			

Remettez la propriété ci-dessus à

ou au porteur, qui paiera tous les frais et qui est autorisé à en donner un reçu.

.....Destinataire.
Les étrangers devront être identifiés.

Si le colis est en Douane, veuillez faire votre dépôt à l'agent de et fournir en double des factures certifiées pour nous permettre de faire l'entrée de Douane. Veuillez aussi prendre note de ce que le propriétaire ci dessus sera vendue à l'Encan Public, suivant les lois actuelles de la Douane, à moins qu'elle ne soit d'abord acquittée et que tous droits ne soient payés dans les trente jours qui suivront cet avis.

Les agents prendront en duplicata dans le "Postal Card Notice Book" une copie des deux côtés de cet avis.

Pierre sent along this nice ad for Dominion Express money orders.

This is one of their advertising cards that does not picture an actual money order facsimile, and is thus not listed in Webb – but it is obviously a highly collectible Express advertising card, and very nice to see in a Francophone version.

CANADIAN LETTER CARDS PRINTED BY THE AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY—Information from the Book of Orders and Deliveries

By Robert Lemire: rlemire000@sympatico.ca

In the 1980s, Bill Pawluk kindly passed on to me photocopies of parts of the Orders and Deliveries book maintained by the American Bank Note Company (ABNC) during the Queen Victoria period [1]. The photocopies all dealt with orders for postal stationery. Some of the information from that source was used in the preparation of two articles about the 1¢ advertising post card with the scarce 75 mm heading—a 1987 piece in PSN [2] and a note in *BNA Topics* by Pierre Gauthier and myself [3]. The present article is based on the information related to printing of letter cards by the ABNC.

The first Canadian ABNC letter cards

Howes [4] reported that Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* chronicled the 2¢ letter card in its issue of 31st January, 1898, and the 1¢ and 3¢ cards in the 28th February 1898 issue. Therefore, the cards probably were available over-the-counter in some post offices before those dates.

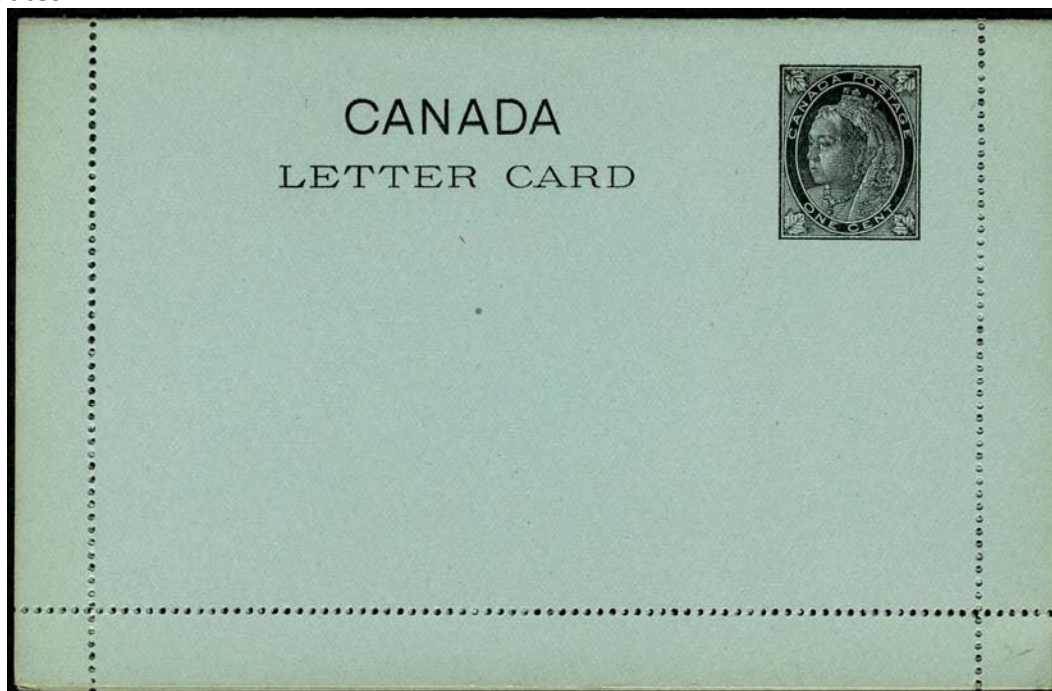


Fig. 1: Webb's [5] L-4, the 1¢ black ABN letter cards

The first order from the Post Office Department (POD) for printing of letter cards appears to have been POD order 20, sent to the ABNC on September 22, 1897. The quantities ordered were 50,000 each of the 1¢ and 2¢ cards and 60,000 of the 3¢ cards. Further shipments to the POD against this order number continued through May 1898, even though a further order (order 36) was placed on February 9, 1898.

According to the ABNC records, the first deliveries to the Post Office Department (Table 1) were in October 1897. The earliest postmarks reported to the Postal Stationery Study Group (ERPs) are also tabulated for comparison.

Table 1: Delivery dates to the Post Office Department of ABNC-Printed Letter Cards and Earliest Reported Postmarks

	First deliveries	Quantity	ERP
1¢ black	October 23, 1897	25,000	April 8, 1898 [6]
2¢ green	October 27, 1897	20,000	March 9, 1898 [7]
3¢ carmine	October 23, 1897	30,000	March 1, 1898 [7]

Although in late 1897 there undoubtedly were still reasonably large quantities of the previous British American Bank Note Company (BABNC) letter cards in some post offices, several banks requested and seemed to have received ABNC-printed cards (with ABNC-printed bank-form notices) in late 1897 [8] and early 1898. For example:

- 1500 1¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 22, delivered November 13, 1897, billed November 30, 1897)
- 500 3¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 22, delivered November 13, 1897, billed November 30, 1897)
- 1500 1¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 27, delivered December 15, 1897, billed December 31, 1897)
- 1000 3¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 27, delivered December 15, 1897, billed December 31, 1897)
- 1000 1¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 28, delivered December 27, 1897, billed December 31, 1897)
- 1000 3¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 28, delivered December 27, 1897, billed December 31, 1897)
- 5000 2¢ letter cards for the Halifax Banking Company (for POD order 28, delivered January 8, 1898, billed January 31, 1898)
- 10000 1¢ letter cards for the Imperial Bank of Canada (for POD order 29, delivered January 14, 1898, billed January 31, 1898)
- 5000 1¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 29, delivered January 28, 1898, billed January 31, 1898)
- 1000 3¢ letter cards for the Merchants Bank of Canada (for POD order 29, delivered January 28, 1898, billed January 31, 1898)

The cost of printing the cards (\$3.66 per thousand, as also mentioned by Boggs [9]) with extra printing for POD orders 22, 27, 28 and the part of order 29 for Imperial Bank of Canada (50¢ to \$1.00 per thousand based on the size of the order and whether printing was required on one side or both sides) was billed directly to the banks (*i.e.*, the cost of printing the cards plus the cost of the added printing). Later the cost of printing the cards (only) appears to have been billed to the POD as part of one of their standing orders [10].

Later orders for 1¢ black, 2¢ green and 3¢ carmine letter cards

POD order 36, February 9, 1898 [11]

delivered 20,000 3¢ letter cards December 2, 1898
59,500 3¢ letter cards March 13, 1899

POD order 45, April 21, 1898

delivered 50,000 1¢ letter cards May 30, 1898 through August 29, 1898
30,000 2¢ letter cards September 23, 1898
50,000 3¢ letter cards June 16, 1898 through September 23, 1898

POD order 71, October 17, 1898

delivered 30,000 1¢ letter cards November 9, 1898
30,000 2¢ letter cards November 9, 1898

POD order 85, February 10, 1899

delivered 30,000 1¢ letter cards February 20, 1899 through April 21, 1899
70,000 2¢ letter cards April 21, 1899 through September 7, 1899

POD order 88, March 18, 1899

delivered 30,000 1¢ letter cards May 15, 1899 through September 29, 1899



Fig. 2: Webb's [5] L-6 and L-8, the 2¢ green and 3¢ carmine letter cards

The ABNC cards in new colours

The first order from the POD for letter-cards in new colours (POD order 93), was sent to the ABNC on July 31, 1899. The 3¢ rate was eliminated by the January 1, 1899 rate reduction to 2¢ [4]. The quantities ordered were 30,000 of the 1¢ green cards and 100,000 of the 2¢ carmine cards and delivery began in September, 1899 (Table 2). Further shipments to the POD against this order number continued through October (1¢) and November, 1899 (2¢).

Table 2: Delivery dates to the Post Office Department of ABNC-Printed Letter Cards with Revised Colours and Earliest Reported Postmarks

	First deliveries	Quantity delivered	ERP
1¢ green	September 29, 1899	7,900	July 27, 1900 [6]
2¢ carmine	September 7, 1899	5,000	Feb 19, 1900 [6]

Howes [4] reported that “In its issue for 27th January, 1900, the *Weekly Philatelic Era* notes the receipt of the 1 cent and 2 cent letter cards of the maple leaf type in new colors....”

Later orders for 1¢ green, and 2¢ carmine letter cards

There were several later orders for these letter cards

POD order 96, October 11, 1899

delivered 50,000 1¢ letter cards November 15, 1899 through February 20, 1900
200,000 2¢ letter cards October 15, 1899 through August 16, 1900

POD order 102, February 13, 1900

delivered 100,000 1¢ letter cards February 20, 1900 through September 25, 1900

POD order 104, March 15, 1900

delivered 100,000 1¢ letter cards September 25, 1900 through April 15, 1901
200,000 2¢ letter cards August 16, 1900 through April 15, 1901

POD order 118, February 14, 1901

delivered 100,000 1¢ letter cards April 15, 1901 through September 10, 1901
200,000 2¢ letter cards April 15, 1901 through January 9, 1902

POD order 121, July 4, 1901

delivered 100,000 1¢ letter cards September 10, 1901 through March 6, 1902
+ 38,400 over order

POD order 125, October 3, 1901

delivered 200,000 2¢ letter cards January 9, 1902 through April 4, 1902
+ 1,300 over order

So, the last order for 1¢ letter cards was placed July 4, 1901, and all copies were delivered to the POD on or before March 6, 1902. The last order for 2¢ letter cards was placed October 3, 1901, and all copies were delivered to the POD on or before April 4, 1902. Last deliveries of both included cards “over order”. Howes [4] reported (with no source cited) that “the last issue of the 1 cent letter card is recorded as 4th April, 1902, and of the 2 cent letter card as the 28th June, 1902”. These dates might or might not have referred to shipment from the POD to post offices or bulk users, but do not correspond to the dates of the last deliveries from the ABNC to the POD.

Other information about the printings

The order books contain some further information about the printing and handling of the letter cards. All orders indicate that the cards were to be gummed, perforated and banded—initially in lots of 50 cards (through at least POD order 36), but later in packages of 500 (POD orders from 96 onwards).

Most (not all) unused copies of the ABNC letter cards in collectors' hands appear to have been folded; however, there is no mention of folding of letter cards in the ABNC order book. Many users (not just the few banks mentioned in the order book) had printed messages applied to the cards, and this would have been difficult using folded stock. On folded used copies the edge perforations usually do *not* match. On the earlier cards printed by the BABNC folded cards with matching misperforations are known. I have not seen similar examples on the ABNC cards. It seems likely that unfolded cards were supplied to the POD.

Starting with the first order, the POD orders specified the paper as:

blue paper 11 × 16 inches

This paper was last specified for the February 14, 1901 POD order 118. Use of this paper size would suggest the cards were printed either 3 cards on a sheet (each card 7 inches high (unfolded) and three cards $5\frac{5}{16}$ inches wide—overall 7 inches × 15.9 inches) or 4 cards on a sheet (two cards 7 inches high (unfolded) and two cards $5\frac{5}{16}$ inches wide—overall $10\frac{5}{8}$ inches × 14 inches).

However, for the last two POD orders, 121 (July 4, 1901) and 125 (October 3, 1901), the paper was specified as:

blue paper $14\frac{1}{4}$ × $16\frac{1}{4}$ inches

Use of this paper size would suggest that these cards were printed 6 cards on a sheet (two cards 7 inches high (unfolded) and three cards $5\frac{5}{16}$ inches wide—overall 14 inches × $15\frac{15}{16}$ inches).

However, almost all of the orders, along with the actual quantities of cards, specified the projected number of impressions. For example, for POD order 88 of March 18, 1899, the order reads “print 30,000 6/1¢ letter cards 5000 Imp”. In all cases (regardless of paper size), the noted number of impressions corresponds to the cards being printed 6-on. The number of impressions is noted even if it is fractional, *e.g.*, “print 100,000 6/2¢ letter cards 16,666 $\frac{2}{3}$ Imp”, and the notation 6/1¢, 6/2¢ and 6/3¢ is used throughout. This suggests that the printing press impressed more than one sheet of paper at a time in printing cards to fill all orders prior to order 121. It also is possible that the dimensions of the paper stock, as noted in the order book, were incorrect except for POD orders 121 and 125.

Although the Webb's Catalogue [5] indicates that at least two different papers were used by the ABNC for the printings of the 1¢ black, 2¢ green and 3¢ carmine letter cards, there is nothing relevant to this in the order book. However, I am inclined to speculate that the different size paper specified for the last orders of the 1¢ green and 2¢ carmine cards corresponds to the “thin glazed” paper varieties, Webb's L5a and L7a. There is no contradiction to this hypothesis, so far, if the ERPs for these cards are considered (Table 3). However, dated used copies of these “thin glazed paper” letter cards are actually quite scarce, and this scarcity is reinforced by the very late ERP for the 1¢ card.

Table 3: Earliest Reported Postmarks for the Letter Cards on Thin Glazed Paper

	ERP	first delivery of cards with card stock size specified as $14\frac{1}{2}$ × $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches
1¢ green	June 2, 1904	September 10, 1901 [6]
2¢ carmine	April 25, 1902	January 9, 1902 [6]

The order-book information sets a limit on the earliest dates for which used copies of the first issues of ABNC cards can be expected to be found (Table 1). Dates for the cards in their new colours are at least bracketed by pairs of order and delivery dates (between March 18, 1899 (order 88) and September 29, 1899 (order 96) for the 1¢, and between February 10, 1899 (order 85) and September 7, 1899 (order 96) for the 2¢). Also, it is likely that the 1¢ cards on “thin glazed paper” were first provided to the POD no later than September 10, 1901, and the 2¢ cards on “thin glazed paper” no later than January 9, 1902. In all cases it appears that a diligent search by collectors likely will unearth new ERP copies.

There does not seem to have been any decline in demand for the cards in the period 1899 to 1901, so the reason production of letter cards was discontinued in early 1902 is still unclear. The change of the paper size for the last printings might indicate that availability of suitable paper at an appropriate price could have been one of the issues. Perhaps someone with knowledge of printing of letter cards by the ABNC for other countries can provide related information on papers and printing methods. Maybe there simply was an unwelcome cost associated with the preparation of new (King Edward VII) printing plates.

References and Notes

- [1] Library and Archives Canada, American Bank Note Co. Order Book No.1, 1897-1902, (photocopy supplied in the 1980s by W. S Pawluk from the National Postal Archives, of Canada). Now probably linked to the Cdn Bank Note Co. Ltd. Fonds (R1425).
- [2] Lemire, R. J., Webb P18b - A Scarce Card (but order book figures provide little help), *Postal Stationery Notes*, **5**, 47-48 (1987).
- [3] Lemire, R. J., Gauthier, P., The P18b advertising card, *BNA Topics*, **65**, No. **3**, 60-63 (2007).
- [4] Howes, C. A., *Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery*, Quarterman Publications reprint, Lawrence, MA, 1974, Chapter XXIV, pp. 263-266.
- [5] Covert E. L., Walton, W. C., *Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland 2001*, 7th Edition, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, Saskatoon, SK, 2000.
- [6] Walton, W. C. (ed), *Earliest Reported Postmark (ERP) Listing for the Postal Stationery of Canada and Newfoundland*, BNAPS Postal Stationery Study Group, June 1994, p. 30.
- [7] Banfield, C. B., *Canadian Postal Stationery Letter Cards of the Victorian Period 1893-1899*, British North America Philatelic Society Ltd., 2014.
- [8] POD order 18 of September 8, 1897 was to “type 5000 2¢ letter cards, Form 1 on face, return clause on back” and “type 5000 2¢ letter cards, Form 2 on face, return clause on back” for “Bank of Montreal St. John NB”. For this purpose 10000 2¢ letter cards were “received from Dept.” on September 17, 1897. Therefore, it appears that these bank forms were printed by the ABNC on (BABNC) stock, prior to any letter cards being printed by the ABNC. Comparison of printing styles and fonts used on forms for cards from this bank might (or might not) allow cards from this September 1897 printing to be identified.
- [9] Boggs, W. S., *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland*, Quarterman Publications Inc., Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1975 reprint of the 1942 original edition, p. 558.
- [10] Some orders for separate printing of bank forms on cards continued to be noted in the order book (POD orders 30, 34, 35, 38, 39, 43, 44, 47, 49, 60, 62, 63, 64, 66, 67, 72, 75, 77, 80, 83, 86) and apparently continued to be filled until early 1899 (and form-printed 3¢ cards were delivered to the Merchants Bank of Canada as late as January 7, 1899 even though the primary postal need for the 3¢ cards had been eliminated by postal rate changes effective on January 1, 1899 [4]).
- [11] The original order was for 100,000 each of the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ letter cards “to be kept on hand” (R. M. Coulter) on February 8, 1898. This was countermanded by an instruction, “not necessary to keep 100,000 on hand” (E. P. Staunton) on March 21, 1899, and residual 3¢ cards were delivered earlier, probably in connection with the January 1, 1899 rate change [4].

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PCF Corner

By Robert Lemire: rlemire000@sympatico.ca

As of December 2, 2014, three new views have been reported (shown here), and five other cards (C 003, C 006, C 008, NB 075 (aka ATC 206), T 141) have been re-issued as borderless views. Several other borderless cards have been reprinted using die IIIc; two cards previously reported with die IIIc have been found reprinted with the revised PCF logo, one with a changed underlay, and there is one new report of a card (undoubtedly printed some time ago) with die IIIb. There seems to have been a new PCF reprinting and distribution of cards for sale in post offices, yet last spring personnel at some post offices reported that they were not being allowed to order the cards.

The Post Office price for the PCF cards now is \$2.50—the same price as an adhesive used to send a letter (or regular post card) to an overseas destination.

PCF-T3G (borderless, die IIIb)

SASK006V (no SKU#)

PCF-T2H (die IIIc, white border)

(reported by Earle Covert, Robert Lemire)

ATC201, apparently no underlay

VCT 074V PCF in logo (VCT074V with the old logo was reported previously)

WEM007

PCF-T3H (borderless, die IIIc, all with underlay U1, old logo unless noted otherwise)

(reported by Earle Covert, Raymond Gagné, Pierre Gauthier, André Bisailon, Dudley Nash and Robert Lemire)

ATC052 ATC 207V

C 003 PCF in logo, no SKU#

C 006 PCF in logo, no SKU#

C 008 PCF in logo, no SKU#

C120 PCF in logo (known previously with the old logo); this may become a problem card, as later orders from Canada Post and the PCF yielded only cards without the logo.

C176V C178V C179 C180 CY 105 HFX027V
 KI011 MAN012

MTL098 bar code bar is in the correct position (earlier issued with the barcode at the bottom left)

MTL 162

NB 075 Hopewell Cape (new borderless version of ATC206), SKU# 260058

NFLD002 NFLD072V NFLD075V ((and *not* NFLD 075V, and no SKU#)

NFLD 076 NFLD 078 NFLD 105 NS018 NS064V

NS068 (and *not* NS 068, and no SKU#) NS130

NS132 (and *not* NS 132, and no SKU#)

O 260V, stamp impression at the bottom (previously known with the stamp impression at the top)

O 270 PEI 065 PEI 072

T 141, bar code 64392 60032 bottom left, 73418 20857 top centre

VAN084

VCT077

VQ 3871, revised underlay, U1 (previously known with U2), PCF in logo

WHS040V, stamp impression at the bottom (previously known with the stamp impression at the top)

WPG069

WPG 072 (PCF in logo, no SKU#)

new views, die IIIc, all with PCF in logo (reported by Raymond Gagné, Robert Lemire)

TOR 4957, 64392 00409 bottom left, 73418 37066 top centre

VQ 515, 64392 00409 bottom left, 73418 35141 top centre

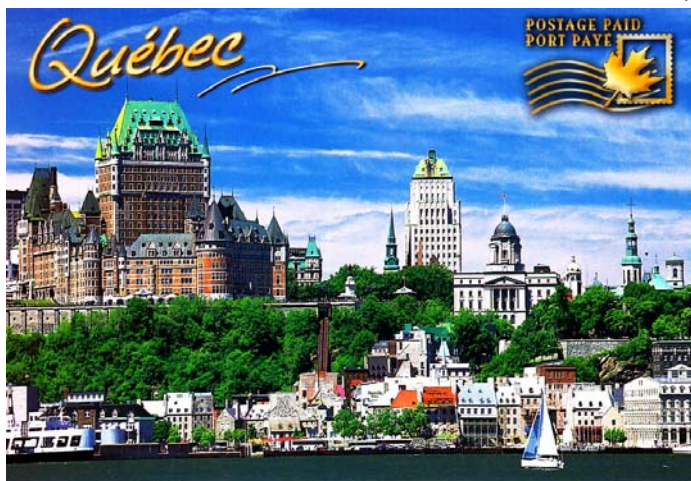
VQ 3821, 64392 00409 bottom left, 73418 35140 top centre



TOR 4975



VQ 3821



Q 515

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