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Recall! (yet again)

For at least the **fifth** time in just the last five years, Canada Post has issued a stamp product recall.

The Magi Christmas stamp issue of November 4 was recalled due to examples being found printed on the gummed side. That is, stamps removed from the affected booklets will not stick to envelopes.



Error booklets have sold on eBay for C\$41 (Nov 20), C\$61 (Nov 20) and C\$74 (Dec 2).

An announcement stated that new stock would be available the week of November 25; nothing seemed to be in post offices around Manitoba by the end of the week.

Thanks to Mirko Zatkan, we can show the packaging label from a bundle of 50 “reprinted” booklets. Notice that the manufacturing date is November 22.

It seems that not all post offices followed the recall notice. One outlet I went to in Winnipeg had a couple of (original) unopened bundles — they were not returning them because they did not have any problems; not sure how they would know that if they hadn’t opened the bundles yet.



Red River Resistance Stamp Launch
See page 34



Season's Greetings

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — The Society for Canadian Philately.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published 6 times a year.

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Canada Post News

Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

► 2019/4 Quarterly Pack

The last quarterly pack of 2019 appeared in the middle of November. It is advertised as having the stamps issued from October through December (there were no stamps issued in December!). The price tag is \$12.34 which includes one souvenir sheet and six die cut-to-shape self-adhesive singles.

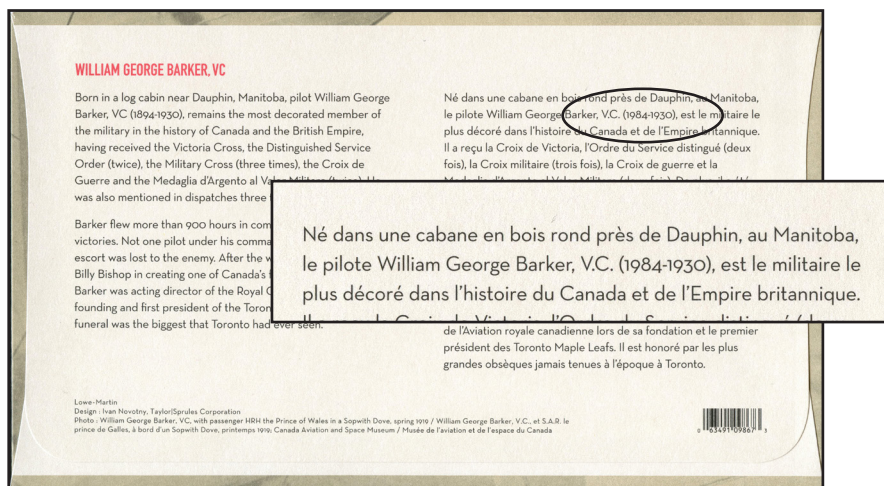
There are four stamp issues included:

- Christmas – The Magi
- Shiny and Bright (Christmas)
- Red River Resistance
- Hanukkah



► William Barker OFDC Error

In the last issue of *Corgi Times* we noted that the William Barker, VC, Official First Day Cover, issued March 27, 2019, has a typo in the French text. The error date of birth reads 1984–1930, when in fact it should be 1894–1930. We are now able to illustrate the reverse of the cover showing this error:



Corgi Times

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Study Group Business

❖ Welcome new members

(none)

Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

2020

BNAPLEX 2020: Halifax, NS, Sep 4-6

Unitrade 2020

Rumour has it that the 2020 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* began shipping around November 25. A few reports have been seen of members who have received their copies.

Retail price is \$53.95.



Beneficial Insects

by: Robin Harris

Our presentation of this chart in the July-August *Corgi Times* had some inconsistencies in the “souvenir sheet / blue-green gum” column. It also omitted the Lowe-Martin printing of the 10¢ value of 2016.



Beneficial Insects

Beneficial Insects		Perf 13.0x13.4							
		Coated Papers							
		CBN				LM	CBN		
		Sheet (panes of 50)					Souvenir Sheet		
Value	Scott#	Blue-green gum		Transparent (white gum)		Blue-green gum		Transparent (white gum)	Variety count
1¢ Convergent lady beetle	2234	Oct 12/07				Oct 12/07			1
2¢ Monarch caterpillar	2328		Apr 22/09	/19					2
3¢ Golden-eyed Lacewing †	2235	Oct 12/07	Dec /09 ‡	/14		Oct 12/07		Oct 16/12*	3
4¢ Paper wasp	2406			Oct 19/10			Oct 19/10	Oct 16/12*	3
5¢ Northern bumblebee †	2236	Oct 12/07		May /15		Oct 12/07			2
6¢ Assassin bug	2407			Oct 19/10			Oct 19/10		2
7¢ Large milkweed bug	2408			Oct 19/10			Oct 19/10		2
8¢ Margined leatherwing	2409			Oct 19/10			Oct 19/10	Oct 16/12*	3
9¢ Dogbane beetle	2410			Oct 19/10			Oct 19/10		1
10¢ Canada darter (dragonfly) †	2237	Oct 12/07		Jun /14	Dec /16§	Oct 12/07			2
22¢ Monarch butterfly	2708			Mar 31/14					1
25¢ Cecropia moth	2238	Oct 12/07		Dec /12		Oct 12/07			2

† Apparent reprints(?) have narrower black borders around individual stamps

‡ Corrected placement of text.

§ There is no discernable difference between single stamps of the CBN and LM printings; only the stamps with selvage attached, containing the name of the printer, positively identify the different printings.

* with hidden features

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Canada Post 2019 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 18	Year of the Pig <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢) pane of 25 Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet pane of 10 \$2.65, self-adhesive booklet pane of 6 \$2.65 souvenir sheet \$2.65 (Pig) and \$2.50 (Dog) “transitional” souvenir sheet \$31.80 uncut press sheet of 12 souvenir sheets \$2.65 postal cards (one of each design) 	3161 3163 3164 3162 3162a
Jan 25	Black History Month: Albert Jackson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	3165
Feb 14	Gardenia (2 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive roll of 50 \$1.80 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 	3169–70 3167–68 3166
Mar 27	Canadians in Flight (5 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 \$4.50 gummed special sheet of 5 	3172–76 3171
Apr 17	Sweet Canada (5 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 \$4.50 self-adhesive souvenir sheet of 5 	3177f 3177
Apr 25	Vancouver Asahi Baseball Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	3178
May 23	Endangered Turtles (2 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 \$1.80 self-adhesive souvenir sheet of 2 	3179c 3179
Jun 17	Historic Covered Bridges (5 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 \$4.50 gummed souvenir sheet of 5 \$2.65 postal cards (one of each design) 	3180 3181–85
Jun 27	Apollo 11 (2 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 \$5.40 gummed special sheet of 6 	3188–89 3186–87
Jul 24	Bears (4 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 8 \$3.60 gummed souvenir sheet of 8 \$21.60 uncut press sheet (6 stamps of each of 4 designs) 	3191–94 3190
Sep 21	Leonard Cohen (6 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 9 (3 designs) \$8.52 gummed souvenir sheet of 6 (3 x P, 1 x \$1.27, 1 x \$1.90, 1 x \$2.65) \$19.95 uncut press sheet (3 stamps of each of 4 denominations) 	3196–98 3195
Sep 23	Canada Post Community Foundation (2 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	B28–B29
Nov 4	The Magi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 12 	
Nov 4	Shiny and Bright (3 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 12 \$1.27, self-adhesive booklet pane of 6 \$2.65, self-adhesive booklet pane of 6 \$4.82 self-adhesive souvenir sheet of 3 	
Nov 6	Red River Resistance, 150th anniversary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	
Nov 14	Hanukkah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent™ (90¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	

Canada Post 2020 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 13	From Far and Wide definitives (9 designs)	
Jan 17	Lunar New Year: Year of the Rat (2 designs)	
Jan 24	Black History Month	
Mar 2	Flower: Dahlia (2 designs)	

Murdoch Mysteries

Interested in catching the world of stamp collecting in another medium, such as television, movie or in print?

Murdoch Mysteries is a popular TV drama show which airs on CBC. Now in its 13th season, episode 6, which aired November 4, is titled "The Philately Fatality". The subline is "When a stamp enthusiast is murdered, Murdoch wonders if it was for his collection of unique stamps or lovers." Stamp collecting in the early 1900's is one of the story lines in this particular episode.

From the CBC website, where you can stream this episode on-line:

Set in Toronto at the dawn of the 20th century, *Murdoch Mysteries* is a one-hour drama series that explores the intriguing world of William Murdoch (Yannick Bisson), a methodical and dashing detective who pioneers innovative forensic techniques to solve some of the city's most gruesome murders.

Murdoch's circle of associates includes Constable George Crabtree (Jonny Harris), Murdoch's eager and often naïve right-hand man; Inspector Brackenreid (Thomas Craig), Murdoch's skeptical yet reluctantly supportive boss; and the love of his life, pathologist-turned-psychiatrist Dr. Julia Ogden (Hélène Joy), a staunch ally who shares the detective's fascination with forensic science and innovative ideas. All are valuable allies who help Murdoch solve his varied cases and traverse the many stratum of Victorian-turned-Edwardian society.



Responses to "Any Frustration with Canada Post" (Sep-Oct *Corgi Times*)

My response to the "Any Frustration with Canada Post" question is "almost all of the above" except for "not enough stamp issues". This year was not too bad and, for a pleasant change, most of the issues were actually pertinent to Canada. (PS)

You are right about the Cohen issue. Too much fuss for a (relatively) minor historical figure. (SK)

You posted recently asking for what frustrates collectors about Canada Post. Here's my take on the topic:

There are lots of issues with Canada Post as of late. Certainly, stamps being released well before they appear in *Details* is an annoyance, but it usually doesn't have an impact on me personally, except when something sells out before I even get a copy of *Details* to find out about it! Now that is truly annoying.

We also find ourselves in a situation where some stamp topics are over issued, while others are ignored. Case in point, we didn't need nine stamps to honor Leonard Cohen (yes he was deserving of being honored on a stamp, but not any more than other recently honored Canadian musicians who were honored on a single stamp), while ignoring the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

While I like souvenir sheets, Canada Post issues all too many of them. I would prefer if we were limited to perhaps 2-to-4 sheets per year, issued in conjunction with major philatelic events where Canada Post actually has a presence. Then the sheets would actually be commemorating something other than another stamp issue.

A particular frustration of mine that wasn't on your list is the proliferation of so-called press sheets. Now, these are indeed "press sheets", untrimmed with the various cutting guides and "traffic light" markings. But they are not the press sheets that the production stamps or even the souvenir sheets come are cut from. In essence, they are merely an oversized souvenir sheet, with stamp configurations not obtainable from the regular issues. As such, I would prefer that souvenir sheets be limited to a size that actually fits on an album page or press sheets (for those that want to collect them) that are actually unsevered sheets of the production stamps. Certainly, the reply of some collectors will be "don't bother buying them if you don't want to collect them", but I hate to think I deliberately need to have an incomplete collection because of this.

The minimum \$25 order from Canada Post is also annoying, although I can usually get around it by saving up my orders (unless it was something likely to sell out quickly). The irony is that Canada Post often breaks up my order into 2 or 3 separate shipments anyway, so why not just allow smaller orders with free shipping? (BM)

Red River Resistance Stamp Launch

by: Robin Harris; November 6

Canada Post issued a stamp on November 6 that commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Red River Resistance of 1869–70, which asserted Métis rights during the turbulent events leading up to the creation of the province of Manitoba.

For some reason Canada Post felt it necessary to hide the stamp design from collectors and the public until the day of issue ... even in *Details*, which was not placed on-line until well after the stamp's release.

An **outdoor** stamp launch was held at the entrance to Upper Fort Garry in downtown Winnipeg. The crowd of over 125 people enjoyed the ceremonies which lasted about a half hour. The temperature was a balmy *minus* 9 Celcius (about 16 degrees Fahrenheit; with a windchill closer to -18). The ceremonies then moved indoors to The Fort Garry Hotel for a lunch and entertainment. Very well done.



Canada's 'Mega' Roll Stamps

Reprinted from November–December 2019 Canadian Philatelist

For those who collect *used* Canadian stamps ... what is the hardest kind of stamp to find in used condition in a mixture?

If you answered “any”, you are on the right track. It seems to get tougher and tougher every year to find any good, nicely cancelled Canadian stamps these days! If you answered “a commemorative”, you are still on the right track. People just don’t seem to be mailing as many cards and letters as they once did.

If you answered “a high-value definitive” you are getting closer. I would suspect that 99% of all parcels mailed today end up with a Canada Post-produced label of some kind affixed to the package ... no postage stamps required!

The answer I was hoping for, at least for this discussion, is “a stamp from the ‘mega’ rolls of 5,000”. These were produced and made available to large business mailers.

The first of these ‘mega’ rolls used the Arctic Hare definitive design of 2012. Seven different rolls (totalling 15 different stamp designs) have been issued over the last several years.

The average consumer would not purchase a roll of 5,000 stamps, ‘nor have the equipment that would be required to successfully affix the stamps in the manner intended for a mass mailing.

The stamps from these horizontal ‘mega’ rolls have a different die cut measurement than the same designed stamps issued in vertical rolls of 100 ... and Scott Publishing recognizes this by assigning a major catalogue number to these stamps.

For those that soak their own stamps (versus those who purchase used stamps from their favourite dealer), here is a tip...

- A wet self-adhesive stamp (i.e. one that is in, or has just been removed from water) *will curl*.
- The stamps from the ‘mega’ rolls will curl in a top-to-bottom manner while the same designed stamp from a roll of 100 will curl in a left-to-right manner.

This is very apparent as you remove the wet stamp from the water and place it on your paper to be dried.

So, when soaking stamps, watch for the direction of the curl in the paper. It will be a sure sign whether the stamp is from the elusive ‘mega’ rolls of 5,000.

During the soaking of stamps recently, and removing the stamps from their underlying paper, I came upon two examples of clipped paper that appear to have had a ‘barcode’ beneath the stamp (see image at right). In both cases the stamp that was removed was the Permanent™ Beaver coil from the ‘mega’ roll. My guess is that this mailing company used specially-prepared envelopes that contained these barcodes which enabled the affixing machine to locate and place the stamp.

These look like QR (Quick Response) codes.

Any other thoughts?



Top right: stamp from roll of 100 (curls left-to-right)

Bottom left: stamp from ‘mega’ roll of 5,000 (curls top-to-bottom)



Commemorative Repeating 'Canada' Underprint

by: Robin Harris

While sorting some recently soaked stamps, I came upon the self-adhesive \$1.20 *Climbing Mt. Habel* photography stamp of 2016 (Scott 2909). The stamp happened to be upside down in the mixture.

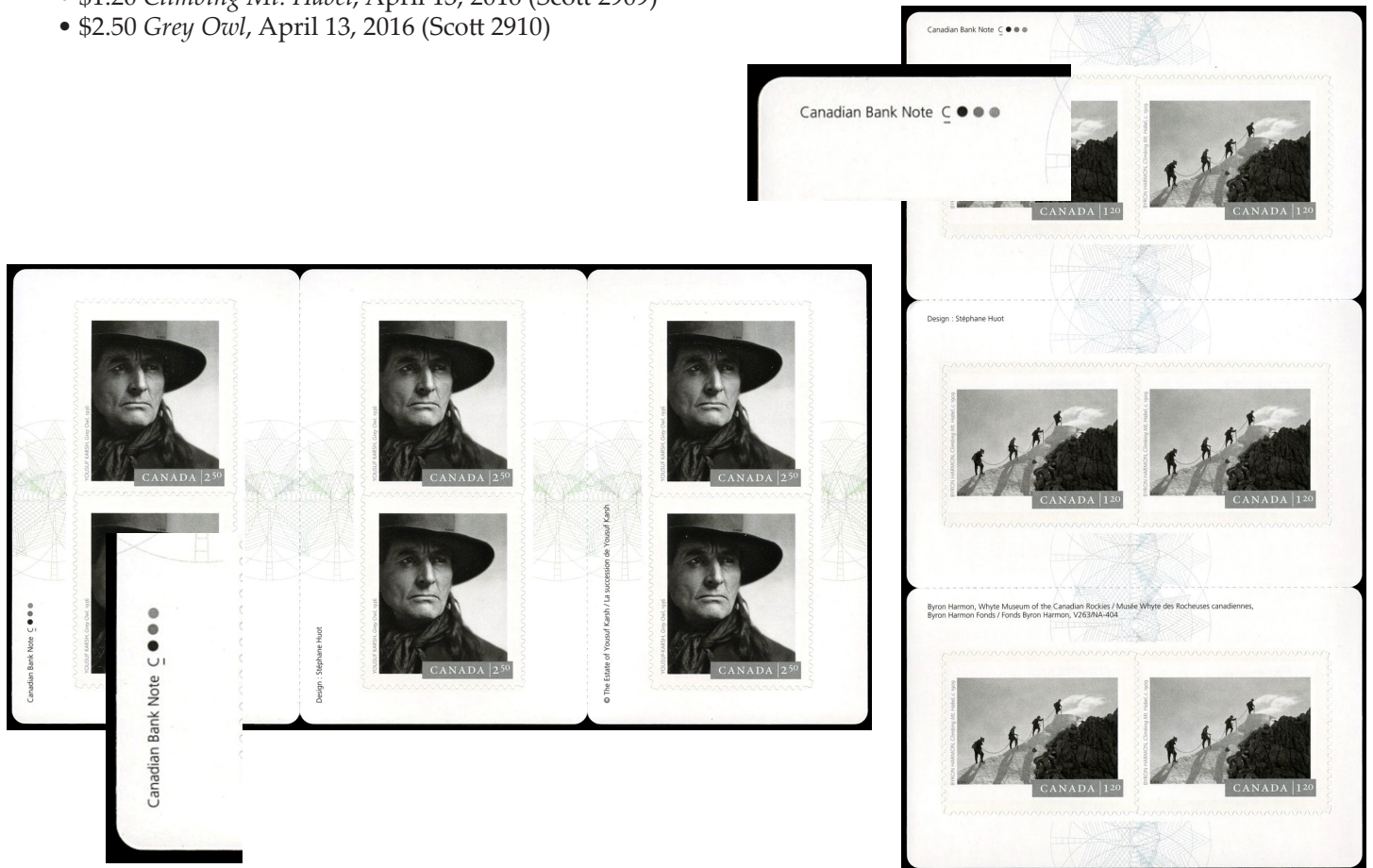
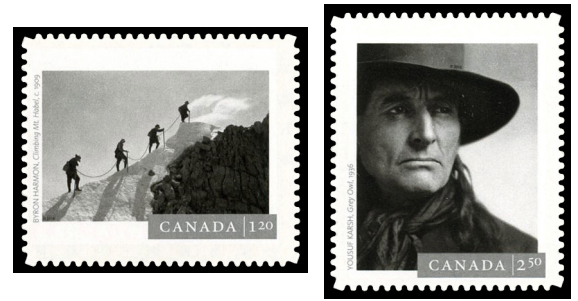
What is so odd about this scenario? Only that the stamp had the repeating 'Canada' underprint on the back!

The Unitrade catalogue typically notes stamps that have this new printing feature, first introduced in November 2012 on the Permanent™ Canadian Pride definitives (see *Corgi Times*, January–February 2013). However, there is no indication in the Unitrade catalogue that any of the Photography series of commemorative stamps incorporate this feature.

Finding this 'anomaly' did mean going back and checking all of the self-adhesive stamps issued since 2013 to see if there were any other commemoratives that exist with the repeating 'Canada' underprint that have, so far, not been 'reported' in the philatelic press...

It turns out there are only two such commemorative issues, not identified in the Unitrade catalogue (there are a few 'flower' coils, and a couple of other commemorative issues that are noted correctly), that were printed with the repeating 'Canada' underprint — both are from the 2016 4th issue of Canadian Photography stamps. So, why are these two stamp issues so special?

- \$1.20 *Climbing Mt. Habel*, April 13, 2016 (Scott 2909)
- \$2.50 *Grey Owl*, April 13, 2016 (Scott 2910)



Booklet panes showing the 'C' (with underline) that indicate that the paper stock used the repeating 'Canada' underprint.

2019 Christmas Seals

Thanks to Andrew Chung for passing along a scan of this year's pane of Christmas Seals.

This year's Christmas Seals consist of seven festive designs including penguins borrowed from the American Lung Association. The multi-coloured self-adhesive pane of 36 seals is distributed nationally except in Quebec. The Quebec Lung Association issues its own Christmas Seals annually since 2005.



Canada's 12 Best Christmas Designs

by: Robin Harris

Many references to the song, *The 12 Days of Christmas*, have appeared over the years. There are advent calendars, featuring 12 items "of something", typically chocolates. Companies will have "12 days of savings".

From the website vox.com:

The 12 days of Christmas is the period that in Christian theology marks the span between the birth of Christ and the coming of the Magi, the three wise men. It begins on December 25 (Christmas) and runs through January 6 (the Epiphany, sometimes also called Three Kings' Day). The four weeks preceding Christmas are collectively known as Advent, which begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on December 24.

Some families choose to mark the 12-day period by observing the feast days of various saints (including St. Stephen on December 26) and planning daily Christmas-related activities, but for many, after December 25 things go back to business as usual.

"The 12 Days of Christmas" is also a Christmas carol in which the singer brags about all the cool gifts they received from their "true love" during the 12 days of Christmas. Each verse builds on the previous one, serving as a really effective way to annoy family members on road trips.

With the above in mind, here are *my* 12 best Canadian Christmas stamp designs (clearly a subjective selection) ... shown in their date of release. Why these? The design and colour.



In 1977, Great Britain issued six stamps featuring the 12 Days of Christmas lyrics.

Twelve Lords a-leaping, Eleven Ladies dancing, Ten Pipers piping, Nine Drummers drumming, Eight Maids a-milking, Seven Swans a-swimming, Six Geese a laying, Five Gold Rings, Four Colly Birds, Three French Hens, Two Turtle Doves and a Partridge in a Pear Tree.

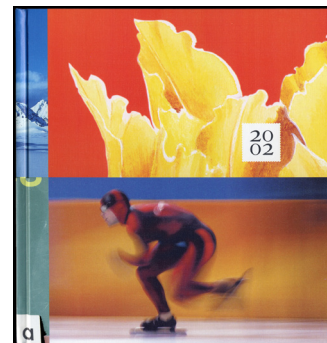
Canada Annual Collections: Stamp Face Values

by: Mirko Zatka

Have you ever put together a list of what face value annual collections contain, especially those in the transition years from fixed face value stamps to "P"?

I think this would be a good reference guide for collectors, especially for those dealing with postage lots.

There are a couple of 'blanks' in this listing ... can anyone help by filling in the gaps?



Canada Annual Collections			
Year	Original year set cost	Face value at Issue	Current face value (2019)
1980			same
1981	\$7.50	\$5.59	same
1982			same
1983		\$21.57	same
1984		\$15.23	same
1985	\$21.95	\$18.33	same
1986		\$19.38	same
1987	\$22.95	\$18.37	same
1988		\$17.76	same
1989	\$23.95	\$20.62	same
1990	\$26.95	\$24.62	same
1991	\$26.95	\$24.93	same
1992	\$31.95	\$31.68	same
1993	\$31.95	\$30.10	same
1994	\$36.95	\$32.92	same
1995	\$39.95	\$32.78	same
1996	\$39.95	\$34.21	same

Canada Annual Collections			
Year	Original year set cost	Face value at Issue	Current face value (2019)
1997	\$44.95	\$28.77	same
1998	\$46.95	\$39.07	same
1999	\$41.95	\$34.28	same
2000	\$41.95	\$29.33	same
2001	\$45.95	\$44.50	same
2002	\$49.95	\$39.61	same
2003	\$49.95	\$36.15	same
2004	\$54.95		same
2005	\$54.95		same
2006	\$56.95	\$41.56	same
2007	\$56.95	\$32.46	\$35.88
2008	\$59.95	\$35.41	\$39.59
2009	\$59.95	\$41.68	\$47.76
2010	\$62.95		
2011	\$64.95		
2012	\$66.95	\$54.92	\$73.19
2013	\$72.95	\$60.61	\$75.73

2019 Santa Claus Envelope

Thanks to Earle Covert for passing along an image of this year's size-10 Santa Claus envelope. This year's Picture Postage-like indicia has a smiling elf.



Actual size

Hand-Crafted Textiles Strip from Annual Collection

by: Peter Skwarczynski

The Unitrade catalogue includes a listing of the Hand-Crafted Textiles (Scott 1461–1465) as an *unfolded* strip from the 1993 Annual Collection. But the strip that I received in that Collection was folded.



It seems kind of strange that some of the Annual Collections would have an unfolded strip and others folded. Surely the people that put the collections together would use the same supply of stamps for all?

Is it possible that the Unitrade entry began with a “cut and paste” from another issue and then was modified with the correct catalogue number under the assumption that there was an unfolded strip? Or do you think that my example is the result of the assembly team running out of the unfolded strips and substituting a folded one?

ESG members: please check your 1993 Annual Collection and verify if this strip does indeed exist “without fold”. My (Editor) example is folded, as noted by Peter. This could very well be the ‘ol ‘cut and paste’ error!



An Insider's Guide to the Canadian Stamp Program

Elia Anoaia, Manager, Stamp Program Development, Canada Post, gave a very insightful talk at the Winnipeg Philatelic Society (Nov 7), a day after the Red River Resistance stamp launch (Nov 6). One of the most interesting parts of her talk was when she showed examples of the submitted stamp designs for two stamp issues of 2019: Bears and Sweet desserts (unfortunately, she specifically noted that I was not able to take pictures of these slides — darn!).

One interesting slide was an illustration of the process of how a stamp comes to fruition:

(12-24mth from 1st SAC to LAUNCH)

