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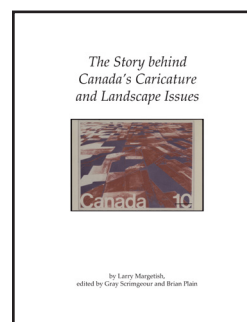
Future of *Corgi Times*

Publication of *Corgi Times* will be suspended as of July 2024, unless or until we have a volunteer to serve as Editor. It would be ideal to continue with six issues per year, but a less frequent schedule (four, two, or one issue per year) or occasional issues (when a sufficient number of articles have been submitted) are possibilities. Our current editor, Robin Harris, will be available to help his successor get started.

The previous issue of *Corgi Times* announced that the current editor is retiring from this role. Some have taken that to mean he is retiring. Period. That is not the case. Robin is **not** retiring from anything else: not his self-employment software development nor any of his other philatelic activities. Far from it. He is only giving up his editorship of the *Corgi Times* ... nothing else! To whoever is circulating false information, please stop.

The Story behind Canada's Caricature and Landscape Issues

ESG member Larry Margetish has published a book (via BNAPS) on the Caricature and Landscape series of stamps. The ESG is offering a special book promotion to ESG members ... see page 58 for full details on how you can add this book to your philatelic library.



ORAPEX 2024

The Elizabethan II Study Group is planning a session at this year's ORAPEX stamp show, being held May 4–5 in Ottawa. ESG member Leopold Beaudet will be giving a presentation on Elizabethan plate varieties.



Constant Plate Flaws on Elizabethan Stamps

The talk discusses the types of constant plate flaws found on the printing processes used to print Elizabethan stamps. It also discusses how flaws changed as the printing processes evolved.

This year's show theme is "Marcophily/Postmarks." A non-profit event run by three local stamp clubs, this will be the 61st Anniversary of ORAPEX. There will be more than 100 exhibits, 30 stamp dealers from across Canada and a Youth Booth where kids can get free stamps and supplies. ORAPEX is a great place for new collectors and specialists. There's no admission charge and there's lots of free parking. Find out more about the show and about the wide world of stamp collecting at <https://www.orapex.ca/>.



4¢ Centennial Coil
See page 51

BNAPLEX 2024

The Elizabethan II Study Group is planning a meeting at this year's BNAPLEX stamp show, being held August 23–25 in Kingston, Ontario. ESG member Luc Freve will be hosting a "show-and-tell". It is scheduled for Room B at 12:10 on Sunday, August 25.



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 six times a year.

We study all aspects of Canadian stamps during the Elizabethan-era — February 6, 1952 through September 8, 2022.

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Study Group Business

❖ *Welcome* new members

Mike Charette

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.

ORAPEX 2024: May 4–5, Ottawa, ON

2024 BNAPEX: August 23–25, Kingston, ON

50 Years Ago

Mar 22 • "Keep Fit" Summer Sports

March 1974



Apr 8 • Louis St. Laurent
Apr 17 • Olympic Symbols (semi-postal)

April 1974



Corgi Times

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ESG Financial Statements

Submitted by ESG Treasurer, Derek Fleming

ESG financials were last published in the Sep-Oct 2019 *Corgi Times*.

THE ELIZABETHAN II STUDY GROUP Financial Statements for the Periods July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
OPERATING FUND						
Income:	Membership Dues	1,060.66	1,050.00	120.00	100.00	30.00
	Interest Income	96.95	155.02	130.68	50.34	98.55
Total Income		<u>1,157.61</u>	<u>1,205.02</u>	<u>250.68</u>	<u>150.34</u>	<u>128.55</u>
Expense:	Printer, Toner, Paper, & Envelopes	751.40	0.00	0.00	465.91	0.00
	Postage Cost	109.71	40.31	78.94	46.44	35.27
	Bank & PayPal Charges	46.67	49.50	59.99	46.21	20.17
Total Expenses		<u>907.78</u>	<u>89.81</u>	<u>138.93</u>	<u>558.56</u>	<u>55.44</u>
Operating Income/(Loss)		<u>249.83</u>	<u>1,115.21</u>	<u>111.75</u>	<u>(408.22)</u>	<u>73.11</u>
RESEARCH RESERVE FUND						
Opening Balance, July 1		12,654.40	12,938.12	12,984.12	10,103.98	8,450.34
Additions (Donations)		153.72	148.25	59.70	13.88	35.00
Book Promotion Subsidies		0.00	(244.80)	(3,090.74)	(2,017.52)	(811.18)
Publishing & Distributing Postal Rate Book		130.00	142.55	150.90	350.00	0.00
Closing Balance, June 30		<u>12,938.12</u>	<u>12,984.12</u>	<u>10,103.98</u>	<u>8,450.34</u>	<u>7,674.16</u>
BALANCE SHEET						
Assets						
Cash in Bank - Operating Fund		14,680.52	15,603.24	11,780.08	7,619.88	9,524.16
Cash in Bank - Certificates of Deposit		5,636.92	5,791.94	5,922.62	5,972.96	6,071.51
Cash in Bank - PayPal Account		457.01	480.95	1,962.07	2,982.66	165.53
Advance to Editor		55.98	55.98	65.98	85.98	85.98
Total Assets		<u>20,830.43</u>	<u>21,932.11</u>	<u>19,730.75</u>	<u>16,661.48</u>	<u>15,847.18</u>
Liabilities						
Memberships paid in Advance		520.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Postage Account		206.33	0.00	43.48	89.92	125.19
Accounts Payable (<i>see note 1</i>)		0.00	646.80	1,190.35	136.50	0.00
		<u>726.33</u>	<u>666.80</u>	<u>1,233.83</u>	<u>226.42</u>	<u>125.19</u>
Study Group Equity						
Opening Balance, July 1		19,570.55	20,104.10	21,265.31	18,496.92	16,435.06
Current Period Operating Income/(Loss)		249.83	1,115.21	111.75	(408.22)	73.11
Change in Research Reserve Fund		283.72	46.00	(2,880.14)	(1,653.64)	(776.18)
Closing Balance, June 30		<u>20,104.10</u>	<u>21,265.31</u>	<u>18,496.92</u>	<u>16,435.06</u>	<u>15,731.99</u>
Total Liabilities and Study Group Equity		<u>20,830.43</u>	<u>21,932.11</u>	<u>19,730.75</u>	<u>16,661.48</u>	<u>15,857.18</u>

Note 1 - Payable to Longley Auctions re: BNAPS Book Promotions

A Numeric Overview of a Prolific Philatelic Era 1953–2023

by: Gilles Morel

A few months ago, I received my copy (maybe the last?) of the 2024 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*. This also coincided with the end of the most prolific period in Canadian philatelic history, with the death of Queen Elizabeth, in September 2022. The new monarch first stamp was issued on May 8, 2023, 70 years and 8 days after the May 1, 1953, issue of QEII, the “Karch issue”, Canada Scott 325. The last stamps issued, prior to the Charles III, were the April 18, 2023 Mothers and babies (Scott 3378, 3379 and 3380) and the May 1 Canada Post Community Foundation animal reading books (Scott B34).



Here is a numeric overview of the number of stamps issued during the QEII era:

- 3055 A very impressive total of 3055 whole numbers were issued during the QEII era. When one considers all the varieties, formats, paper and gum types, precancelled, FDC, that number grows well over 10,000, and filled 470 pages of the 2024 catalogue. That is enough to fill up many philatelists' careers, for generations.
- 34 In addition, the Era marks the introduction of semi-postals, first issued in support of the Montreal Olympics, in April 1974 (Scott B1, B2 and B3) and continues today (B34). Total of 34 stamps.
- 68 It also marks the introduction of computer vended postage stamps in December 2012 (CP1) and continuing today (CP68). Total of 68 stamps
- 21 Postage due stamps were also issued until 1978. There were three issues to supplement the fourth postage due issue, a 6¢ (Scott J19) in 1957 and a 3¢ value (J16B), issued in 1965. It was followed by the Centennial series, issued between 1967 (first issue J21 to J27) and three more issues concluding the 1978 issue (to J40). Total of 21 stamps.
- 16 Official overprint stamps were also issued during the QEII era, all bearing the G overprint, starting with #O33 in 1953 and ending with #O49, in 1963, for a total of 16 stamps (note: #O42 was not assigned).
- 12 In 2011, Canada Post started to issue Picture Postage™ stamps to collectors. This is an addition to personalized picture postage that have been available for individual stamps from 2000. The Unitrade catalogue currently lists 12, from #PP1 to PP12.
- 2 Two experimental Stick 'N Tic labels were issued in 1983 and 1984, (1-ST and 2-ST), to test new sorting equipment.
- 71 This era also marks the issuing, by Canada Post, of uncut press sheets to the general public. The first ones were issued in 1996, with the 45¢ Birds series and continues today. A total of 71 uncut press sheets have been offered to collectors during the QEII Era.
- 72 While many other collectibles were offered to the stamp collecting community in the last 70 years, the introduction of annual collections became a very popular event for collectors who wanted an easy source of all stamps issued in a year. Starting in 1959, with the annual card with stamps affixed, and later developing into beautiful albums including mounts for each stamp, supported by a stamp story for each one, and often displayed as a coffee table book. In total, 72 such collections have been issued.
- 212 Finally, thematic collections cover a wide range of topics, represented by Canadian stamps over the years. The first one was the popular Centennial stamp case, issued in 1967. These were available to the public-at-large and many of the issues were also popular with non-stamp collectors. To-date, 212 such collections have been issued, and the most frequent topic represented is, not surprising, hockey, with 30 different collections.

2015 – A \$pecial year

Below is a sample of my 2015 collection. To my surprise, this has been the most difficult year to complete from the QEII era. In here, I refer only to regular stamps and associated Canada Post products offered for sale to the public. I do not include the varieties such as re-entries, EFO, paper and tagging varieties, imperf, gum, and other misprints and colour errors that are occasionally reported by the philatelic community.

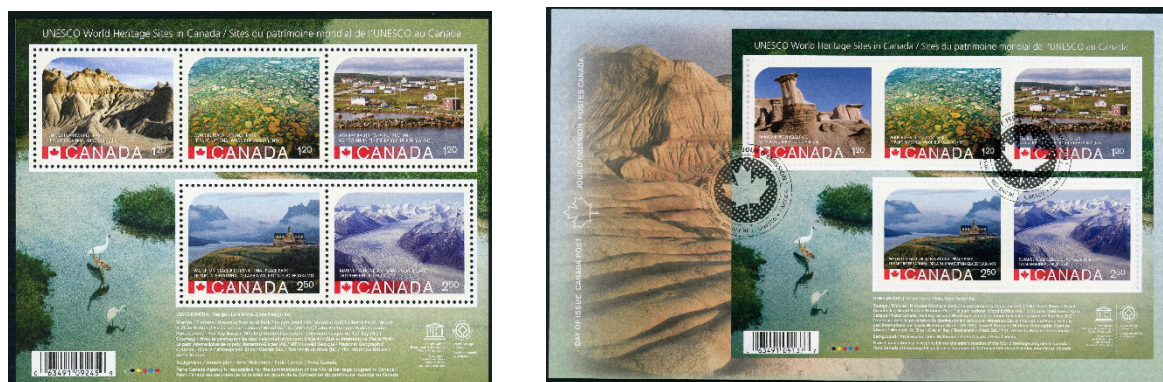
In addition to the annual collection (\$166) and the four quarterly packs (\$137), Canada Post issued a special uncut press sheet of the \$5 flag stamp on February 15 that contained three special fabric with an orientation only available from the press sheet (\$115).

On July 3 2015, Canada Post issued a new series of UNESCO sites, but on July 7, all UNESCO products issued were recalled. This recall affected the booklet (BK623), the souvenir sheet (Scott 2844), the official first day cover (2844) and the postal card (Webbs UX427). As a result, only a small quantity of stamps were sold to collectors in the short period of availability (two business days)

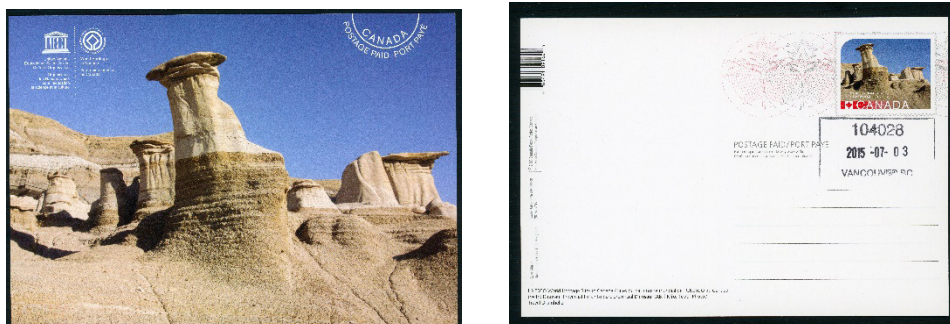
Booklet of 6 – # 2847a (\$100)



Souvenir sheet of 5 – # 2844 (\$275) and OFDC (\$650)



Official Post Card - # UX427 (less than 25 believed sold) (\$800)



On October 2, the continuation of the hockey series introduced the great goaltenders. The series include 100,000 packs of six souvenir sheets of which only 2,500 are autographed. They are Phil Esposito (qty: 400), Johnny Bower and Bernie Parent (qty: 1000 each) and Martin Brodeur (qty: 100). Given the low quantity of the Brodeur card, and its attractiveness to other hobbies (hockey collecting), only a handful of those have been seen on regular auction sites, and when offered, command prices well over \$1,000. Below is a rare complete set from my collection.

The Canada Post Autographed Souvenir sheets

The Great Goaltenders (2015)



Quantity Issued:
400



1000



1000



100

When all is said and done, a complete collection that includes one of each issued stamp of 2015, would cost north of \$3,500.

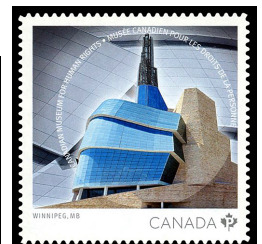
My 'Home Town'

by: Robin Harris

Have you thought of preparing an exhibit based on your province or home town? Having lived in (or near) Winnipeg for the majority of my life, I did a search of the Unitrade catalogue for Elizabethan-era stamps that have a direct relation to 'Winnipeg'. These are what I found. I suspect there could be others, perhaps with people who were born in, or lived in, Winnipeg (that kind of research would require a bit more research).

[Winnipeg tagged stamps are not included here; that could be an easy addition to a potential exhibit of 'Winnipeg'!]

Images are shown at 75%.



An Unusual Printing Variety on the 4¢ Oyster Farming Definitive

by: *Dudley Nash*

Quite a number of years ago, I needed ten 4¢ stamps to make up some 57¢ stamps to the 61¢ rate. Although the low-value beneficial insects definitives had been released some years before, the postal counter I visited was still using up their supply of the traditional trades low-value definitives. The postal clerk was about to remove the ten stamps I required from a new full sheet of one hundred when I noticed there was something about the sheet that looked strange. Since I had neither my reading glasses nor a magnifier with me at the time, I was not sure what was different about the sheet but decided to risk four dollars and buy the whole sheet.



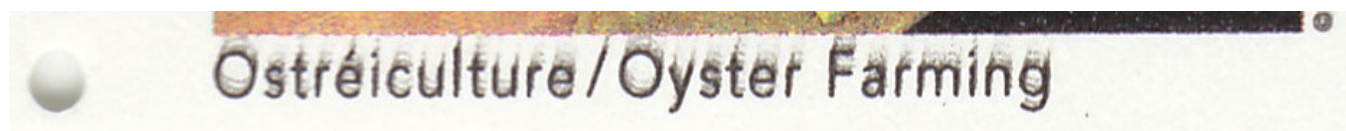
After returning home, closer examination of the stamp in position one on the sheet revealed that the caption, “Ostréiculture / Oyster Farming”, was triple printed. However, as seen in the illustrations below, as one progressed from left to right and top to bottom of the sheet, the text varies from appearing triple printed at position one of the sheet to single printed at position 100.



Position 1 – text is triple-printed.



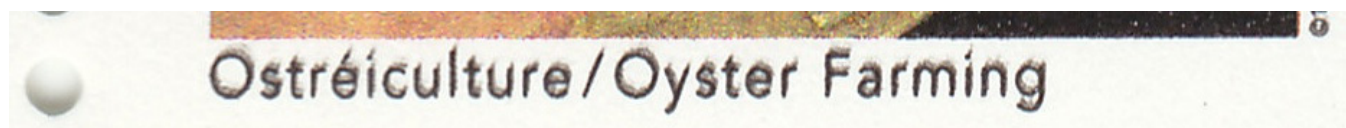
Position 10 – text is still triple-printed but the spacing between the second and third print is reduced.



Position 50 – text is now almost double-printed.



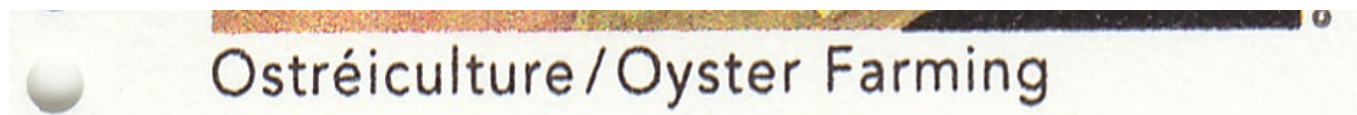
Position 65 – text is now clearly double printed.



Position 70 – text is still double printed but spacing between prints is reduced.



Position 81 – the spacing between the prints is greater at position 81 than at position 70 because the progression from triple-printed to single printed is greater from left to right on the sheet than it is from top to bottom.



Position 100 – text is now a normal single print.

How did this printing anomaly occur? Since there are no dust flaws on the sheet and no evidence of any grit or wood particles embedded in the paper, it is unlikely that foreign objects were responsible. Perhaps a reader who is familiar with printing presses and processes could offer suggestions as to the possible causes of this variety.

Latest Known Date for Canadian 10 Centime Minimum Postage Due Charge

by: Robert J. Elias

In March 1963, the Canadian Post Office Department announced a reduction in the minimum postage due charged for unpaid or shortpaid letters and postcards to countries other than the United States, from 10 centimes to 5 centimes [1]. The latest known date for the 10 centime minimum charge was previously reported as 8 December 1962, so it was uncertain when the reduction actually occurred [2]. The latest known date can now be extended to 22 February 1963 [Figure 1]. The earliest subsequent date reported for a charge of less than 10 centimes is just three days later, 25 February 1963 [3]. Therefore, the reduction in the minimum postage due charge apparently came into effect in late February 1963.

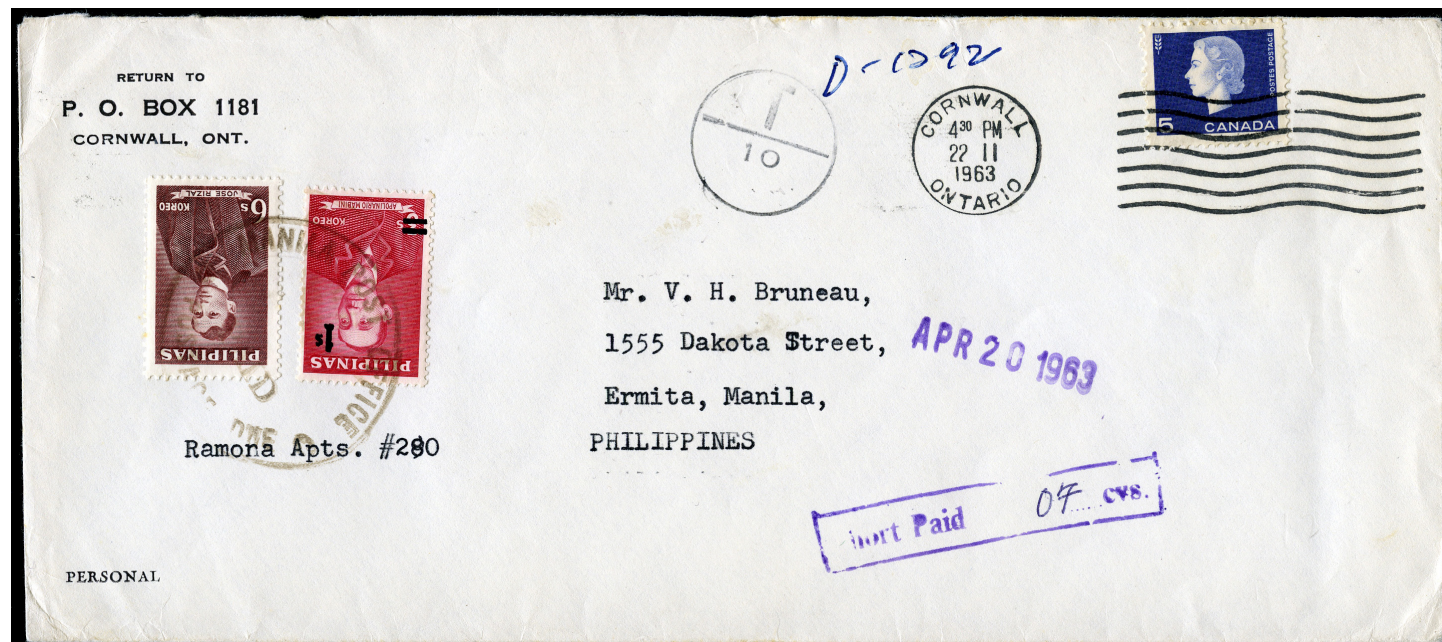


Figure 1: Shortpaid letter sent 22 February 1963 from Canada to Philippines.

The cover reported here was sent on 22 February 1963 from Canada to the Philippines by surface mail. It required prepayment at the UPU letter rate of 6¢ for the first ounce, but was franked with a 5¢ Cameo. The resulting postage due was calculated in Canada as double the 1¢ deficiency = 2¢, which was converted to 6 centimes at the rate of 3 centimes = 1¢. However, the cover was marked "T 10" because of the 10 centime minimum charge. In the Philippines, a conversion rate of 31 centimes = 20 centavos was applied (i.e., 1 centime = 0.65 centavos) [4]. Therefore, 10 centimes due = 6.5 centavos, which was rounded up to 7. That amount was written in the rectangular "Short Paid" postal marking on the cover and was paid with Philippine definitive stamps.

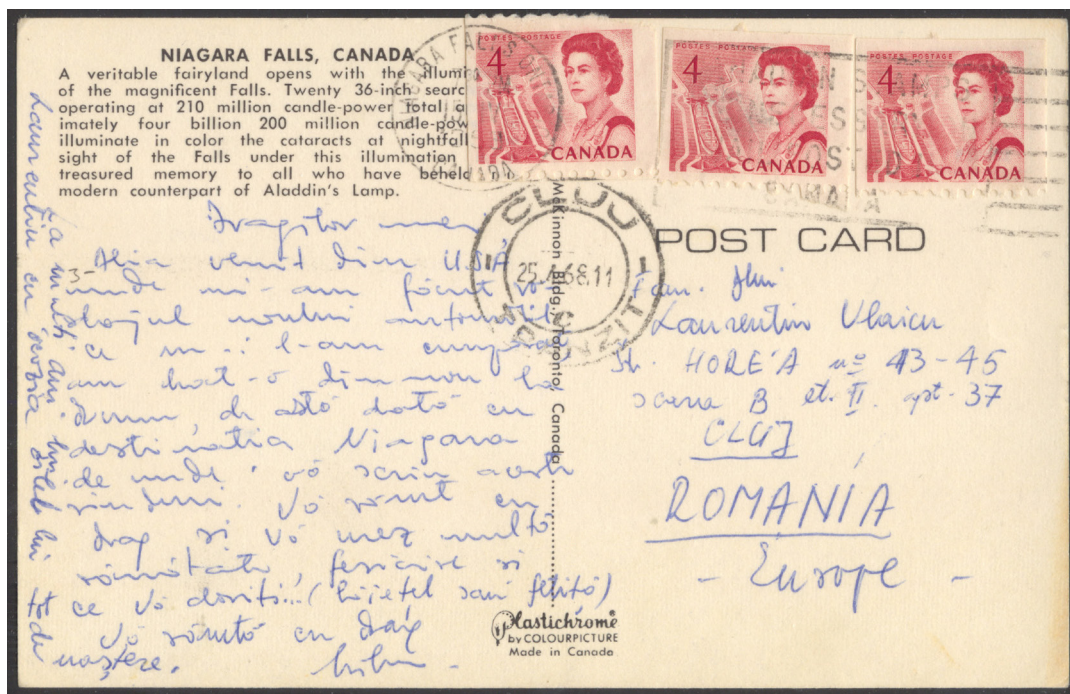
References

- [1] Chung, A., Machum, H.W.E., and Narbonne, R.F. 2006. *Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era from Canada 1952–2005*.
- [2] Aitken, J. 2009. A New Late Date for the 10 Centime Minimum Due Charge. *Corgi Times*, September–October 2009, p. 25.
- [3] Liptak, A.J. 2010. Cameo Period International Rates and Fees. postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com/2010/07/cameo-period-international-rates-and.html
- [4] Aitken, J. 2009. The Calculation of Postage Due on Mail From Canada 1953–1965. *Corgi Times*, November–December 2009, p. 40–44.

4¢ Centennial Coil

by: Adri Veenstra

Last year I acquired a postcard to Romania from Gary Steele on eBay (thanks to a tip from Victor Willson). It was advertised as Centennial post card booklet and coil stamps 1968. When I checked the item I discovered that all the stamps were coil stamps: perf. 9.5 horiz. However, two of the stamps are imperforate on three sides. I have attached a picture of the postcard and a detail of the imperforate stamps. It looks like they are cut off by a device. I have never seen this before and Gary probably overlooked it.



I have discussed this item with Leopold Beaudet and he gave me the following explanation:

“As you suggested, the top of the two coils on the right and the bottom of the coil on the left were cut by some device. The two coils on the right have a stub over the T in POSTAGE that shows the cutting device wasn’t perfect. I assume the top of the stub is at the border of a perforation hole. The presence of the stub seems to rule out a pair of scissors as the cutting device. This explanation sounds simple, but it raises questions:

1. The other side of all three coils appears to be separated normally at the perforations. Why doesn’t the other side show similar cutting rather than normal separation?
2. The postcard appears to have been mailed by an “ordinary individual” (a tourist?). Why was a cutting device used to separate the coils, and by whom was it used? By the individual who mailed the postcard? Very unlikely. By the post office clerk where the stamps were bought?
3. What was this mysterious cutting device?
4. Are there other examples of early Centennial coils cut this way?
5. Why were coils used to frank this postcard? The 4¢ coil was issued in rolls of 500. The rolls were not sold to the general public.”

It would be great to hear some answers from the readers of *Corgi Times*.



Recent Asian Counterfeits of Canadian Stamps

By: M. Zatka

Over the past 20+ years there have been multiple counterfeit Canadian stamps created to defraud the Post Office. Most of these came in the form of stamp booklets. Some were produced in old 'iron curtain' countries, and others came from Asia. In 2021, counterfeit 'P' and \$1.30 coil stamp rolls (Scott 3212-16, 3217) turned up on eBay, produced in Asia, and quite distinct from genuine stamps. The stamps had no phosphor tagging, the diecuts were identical from row to row and had no nibs that hold the stamps together, the gutter height was much larger, and the stamps stuck poorly to the backing paper. In addition, the printed image quality was quite coarse due to the size of the screen used.

Now, new counterfeits have turned up on the market, this time including a number of different issues.

Let's start with the definitive values in coil rolls. While the 'P' and \$1.30 values were already available as forgeries, they, and the \$1.94 and the \$2.71 values, now exist as new counterfeits. The production of these has significantly improved in that the stamps are now phosphor tagged (tagging is very similar to genuine stamps but the bars are slightly narrower), the images are much finer in detail (if not better) and the type used in the gutter text is identical to the genuine stamps. The diecuts are very regular, but measure 10.75 perforation units vs. 8.1 – 8.5 units on genuine stamps. Each roll comes with a wrapper sticker that has the value of the roll and the item barcode and appears to be identical to those used on genuine rolls, except for the \$1.30 coil. On this value the barcode and the item number is slightly different. The rolls also come individually shrink-wrapped, which is not the case with genuine Canada Post rolls.

Face Value (\$)	Scott Number	Format
'P', 1.30, 1.94, 2.71	3212-16 3217-19	roll of 100 rolls of 50



Figure 1: Counterfeit Permanent stamps (genuine is the left strip)

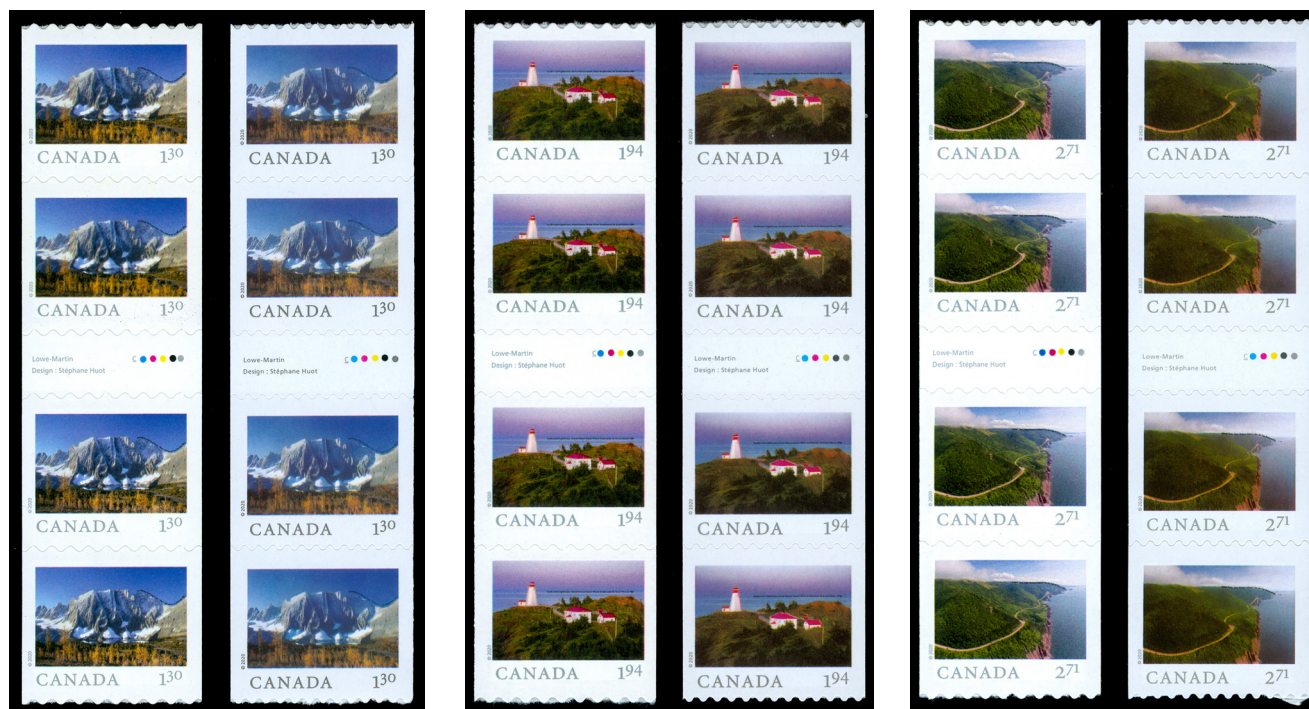


Figure 2: Counterfeit definitive stamps (genuine is the left strip in each image)

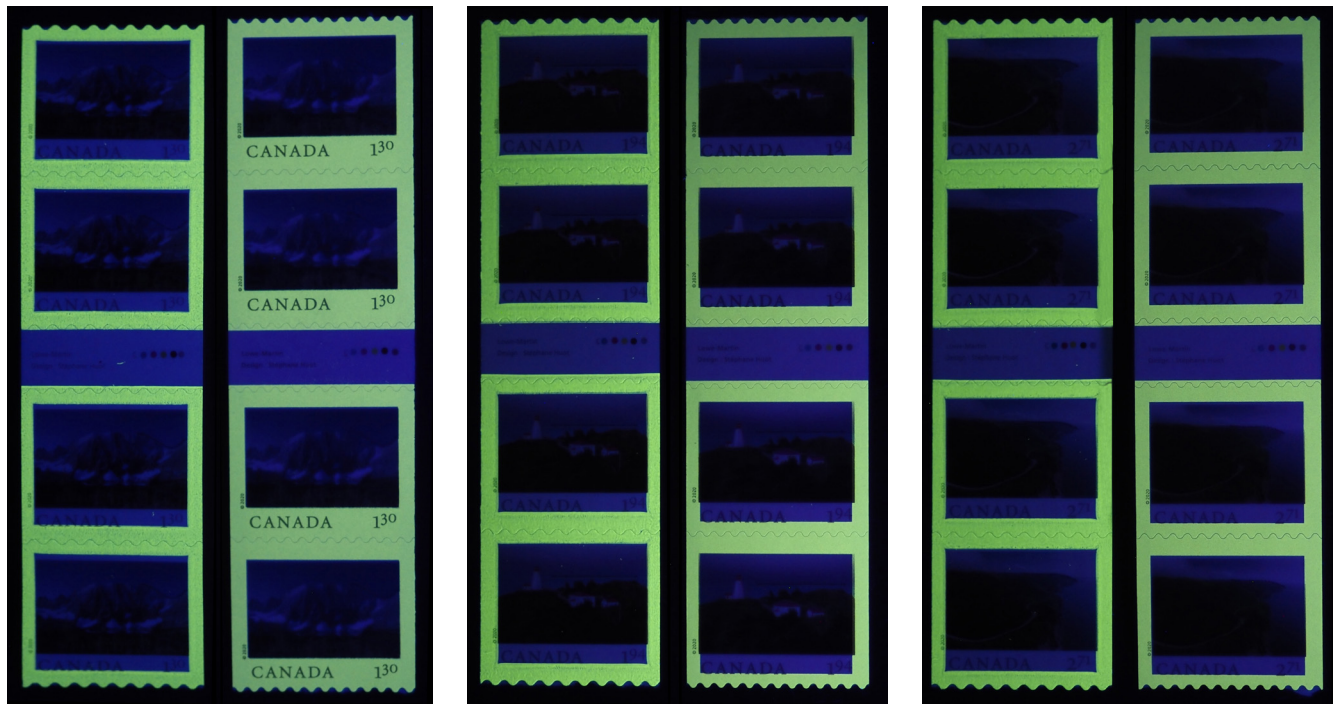


Figure 3: Tagging on counterfeit definitive stamps (genuine is the left strip in each image)

A comparison of the genuine stamps to the counterfeits is as follows:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	Yes	On the counterfeits the tagging intensity and colour very similar to genuines. \$1.30 has AOP, rest of values 4-sided bars. Original 2021 counterfeits were 'P' and \$1.30 values only (untagged).
Diecut measurements	8.15 - 8.5	10.75	Diecuts on the counterfeit stamps are very even and identical in each row.
Nibs on diecuts	Yes	No	Counterfeit stamps are less adhesive to backing paper.
Cardboard core	Yes	Yes	
Stamps attached to core?	Yes	Yes	On the counterfeits, the piece of 2-sided tape that holds to coil roll in place is easier to remove than on genuine stamps.
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On the counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps.
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.
Roll barcode sticker	Yes	Yes	Except for the \$1.30 value, identical to genuine stamp rolls, including text font / size. Bar code and item number do not match on the \$1.30 value.
Shrink-wrapping of rolls	No	Yes	Likely done on the counterfeits due to stamps easily falling off backing paper (no nibs to hold them together).
Stamp paper	TRC (finely textured front / back)	Very smooth front	TRC paper has a very fine 'wormy' coating appearance on front. The counterfeit stamps have an extremely smooth surface.
Security 'CANADA' print	Yes	Yes	On the counterfeits, the backprint is weaker than on genuines.
Counting numbers on back	Yes	Yes	Counterfeits have identical numbering and font type on back.
Start / end of roll	Wavy hand-cut	Straight scissor cut	
Gutter height	8.0mm	8.4mm	

It has also been reported that the \$1.94 coil value exists with the design inverted relative to normal, but I have not seen these to confirm.



Figure 4. Counterfeit coil wrappers

2023 'P' Ranunculus (Scott 3373–74, roll of 50)

For the first time a commemorative coil roll has been counterfeited — the Ranunculus issue of 2023 (#3373-74). The stamps and the rolls have properties that are identical to the definitive stamps – in tagging, diecuts, printing quality, etc. The coil stamps even have the security CANADA grey print on reverse!



Figure 5: Ranunculus issue (front and back); counterfeit on top

A comparison of the genuine stamps to the counterfeits is as follows:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	Yes	On counterfeits, tagging cuts around design extensions in margin.
Diecut measurements	8.15 - 8.5	10.75	Diecuts on the counterfeit stamps are very even and identical in rows.
Nibs on diecuts	Yes	No	Counterfeit stamps less adhesive to backing paper.
Cardboard core	Yes	Yes	
Stamps attached to core?	Yes	Yes	On counterfeits, the glue that holds to stamp roll in place is easier to remove.
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps.
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.
Roll bar code sticker	Yes	Yes	On counterfeits, identical to genuine stamp rolls, including text font.
Shrink-wrapping of rolls	No	Yes	Likely done on the counterfeits due to stamps easily falling off backing paper.
Stamp paper	TRC (finely textured front / back)	Very smooth front	TRC paper has a a very fine 'wormy' coating appearance on front.
Security 'CANADA' print	Yes	Yes	On the counterfeits, the backprint is weaker than on genuines.
Counting numbers on back	Yes	Yes	Counterfeits have identical numbering and font type on back.
Start / end of roll	Wavy hand-cut	Straight scissor cut	

2021 Christmas (Scott 3308, souvenir sheet)

This not being enough, several souvenir sheets have also been produced as counterfeits:



Figure 6: Counterfeit 2021 Christmas souvenir sheet (#3308) at right

A comparison of properties is as follows:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	Yes	Tagging appears identical on both (colour, width).
Paper	Coated (TRC)	Glossy and smooth	The counterfeits are on very smooth paper, like photo paper (both sides). Paper feels stiffer.
Perforations	13.8 x 13.4	13.8 x 13.4	Perforations are identical.
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.

2022 Whales (Scott 3327, souvenir sheet)

The 2022 Endangered Whales II sheetlet (#3327):



Figure 7: Counterfeit souvenir sheet at bottom (note finer horizontal perforations on it)

A comparison of the properties is as shown:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	Yes	Tagging appears identical on both (colour, width).
Paper	Coated (TRC)	Glossy and smooth	The counterfeits are on glossy and very smooth paper (both sides). Paper feels stiffer.
Perforations	13.7 x 14.0	15.3 x 14.0	Horizontal perforations on counterfeits are much finer.
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps.
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.

2022 Christmas (Scott 3363, souvenir sheet)

And the 2022 Christmas souvenir sheet (#3363):



Figure 8: Counterfeit souvenir sheet shown at right

A comparison of this counterfeit souvenir sheet to the genuine one is as follows:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	Yes	Tagging appears identical on both (colour, width).
Paper	Coated (TRC)	Glossy and smooth	The counterfeits are on glossier and very smooth paper (both sides). Paper feels stiffer.
Perforations	13.6 x 13.3	13.6 x 13.3	Perforations are identical.
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps.
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.

The paper used for the souvenir sheets is much smoother than the Coated Paper product used for the production of genuine souvenir sheets, as shown. The perforations also appear to have been laser-cut as they show a slight conical shape from front to back (or reverse, depending on the souvenir sheet), with brownish coloration of each hole side.



Figure 9: Appearance of gummed side of genuine paper (left) vs. counterfeit (right)

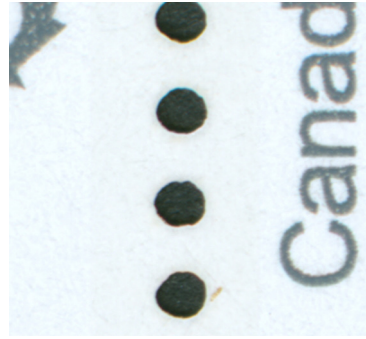


Figure 10: Appearance of perforation holes (front and back) on souvenir sheets

What doesn't make sense to me is why souvenir sheets were counterfeited. These are purely philatelic products with minimal quantities issued (and sold), with essentially no post offices offering them for sale to the public. So, if the company responsible for the counterfeits is expecting 'volume' sales from these, they must have different data. In addition, two of the three souvenir sheets have stamps of different face values, so their use for postage is even more limited. Is this an attempt to sell quantities to collectors? Is this a new trend in counterfeiting?

2021 Christmas (Scott 3312, booklet)

Lastly, the 2021 international-rate Christmas booklet was also produced as a counterfeit (#3312). Its appearance differs from the others, and may have been produced earlier than the other ones.

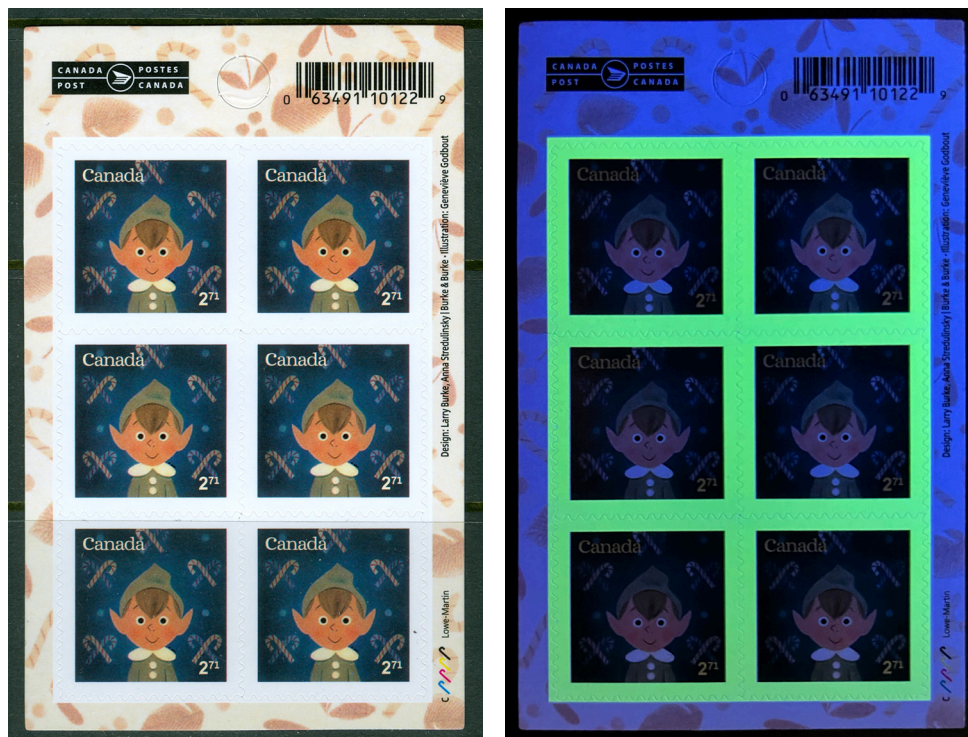


Figure 11. Counterfeit booklet under white and short-wave UV light.

The booklet does have phosphor tagging, but it reacts only to short-wave UV light similar to United States stamps. A comparison to the genuine article is as follows:

Character	Genuine	Counterfeit	Comment
Tagging	Yes	No	Counterfeits are tagged with USA-type of material (glows under short wave UV light only).
Diecut measurements	13.0 x 12.9	13.1 x 13.0	
Image print type	Microscreen litho	Microscreen litho	On counterfeits, the image screen is as fine, or better, than on genuine stamps.
Text print type	---	---	Counterfeit text and fonts are identical to genuine stamps.
Paper	Coated (TRC)	Glossy and smooth	The counterfeits are on glossier and very smooth paper (both sides). Paper feels stiffer.

My view of these is that they are dangerous forgeries of genuine stamps that Canada Post will have a hard time finding on mail and removing for postage due or returning to original sender. Technology has certainly enabled us to create better and more versatile products, but in this case it causes direct harm to the post office if the stamps are used for actual postage to defraud the post office.

I also have to admit that I have seen very few of the original (~2021) From Far and Wide counterfeit coils on commercial mail (I only have one used copy on a cutting, spray-cancelled), so perhaps this is not such a significant issue for Canada Post. Let's see how this all turns out...

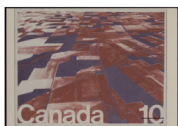
I would be interested in any other information you may have on these to obtain an even more comprehensive analysis of these.

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*The Story behind
Canada's Caricature
and Landscape Issues*



by Larry Margetish,
edited by Gray Scrimgeour and Brian Plain

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