

We are pleased to share contributions from **Ferd Belanger, Jack Brandt, Ross Gray, Colin Lewis, Rick Parama, Wayne Schnarr** and **Brian Stalker** in this issue.

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A New Late Date for RY-58



Ross Gray collection



This registered cover originated in Montreal on March 7, 1876 and travelled by rail in closed bag mail to Toronto, arriving the following day. It was sorted into closed bag mail for Georgetown, travelled by rail and arrived on March 8. It was then taken about 13 miles north west by road to Erin and arrived there on March 9. On March 20, having not been picked up by the addressee, the Erin postmaster added the notation, "Try Acton" and returned the letter to Georgetown where it arrived on March 21. It was transferred to the R.P.O. on the next westbound train where the mail clerk postmarked it with, **RY-58**, REGISTERED / _ G. T. R. W _ , MR 21, 76 , a new **late date** for this rare hammer. Arrival in Acton was the same day.

It is also notable that the postmark was **struck through cloth**.

Struck Through Cloth

Occasionally postmarks are found with a fuzzy outline and evidence of a woven fabric pattern in the impression. I believe that these examples were the result of the cancelling device being installed in a device similar to the one illustrated below. The illustration shows a ticket stamping machine which was used in a railway station on Prince Edward Island. All railway stations were equipped with these devices to validate railway tickets when they were sold. (Some station agents also used them to stamp both incoming and outgoing mail and other railway forms to indicate the receipt or dispatch location and date. Most of these markings are not postally significant.)

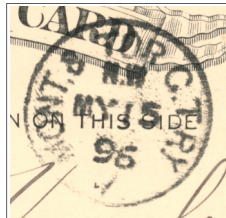


A typical railway ticket stamp impression

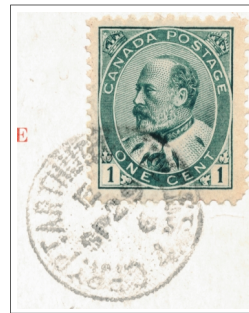
The c.d.s would be fastened in the base with the spring loaded hard rubber faced hammer above it. A wide inked cloth tape, much like a typewriter ribbon, ran between the c.d.s and the hammer and was automatically advanced with each strike.



RY-58 enlarged 2.5X



QC-294.07



ON-461.04



ON-709.01

RY-76 Hammer Study

G. W. R / EXPRESS

RY-76.01



RY-76.02



Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a
RY-76.01	1879/04/06	unreported	unreported		5
RY-76.02	unknown	1879/05/05	1888/06/23	EAST, WEST	4
Listing		1879/05/05	1888/06/23	EAST, WEST	

QC-9 Hammer Study

BEAUCE JCT. & STE. SABINE · R.P.O. /

Hammer	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d
QC-9.01	1915/10/14 ¹	1943/10/27 ¹	N ² ,30 ¹ ,32,33,34,35 ¹ ,37	10	5 -	3 ½	6 ½
QC-9.02	1915/09/06 ¹	1926/07/28	S ¹ ,W ¹ ,30,33,34 ¹ ,35 ¹	8 ¼	5 ¾	4	7 ¼
Listing	1915/04/07	1943/12/31	N,S,W,30,32,33,34,35,37,38	Brandt ¹ , O'Connor ²			

QC-9.01 proof



QC-9.02 proof



QC-21 Hammer Study

GASPE & CAMP' TON / R.P.O.

Hammer	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d	e
QC-21.01	1931/12/28*	1966/07/12*	35,36,101,201*,202,245*,blank	11	6 ¼	12 ¼	7 ½	12¾
QC-21.02	1931/11/14*	1952/10/20*	35,36	12	5 ¾	13	6 ½	13
QC-21.03	1931/12/19*	1966/10/19*	35,36,101,102,201,202,245*	11 ½	5 ¾	12 ¾	7 ¼	13 ½
QC-21.04	1953/01/21*	1966/05/??*	35,36,101,102*,201*,202*	11 ½	6 +	12	7	12
Listing	1931/10/26	1966/10/19*	35,36,101,102,201,202,245,246,blank	Brandt *				

The proof strike for QC-21.02 is undated. The proof for QC-21.04 is dated December 13, 1952.



QC-21.01



QC-21.02



QC-21.03



QC-21.04 proof

QC-22 is hammer QC-21.01 with the clerk name, 'G. DOYLE', attached to the rim.

QC-23 Hammer Study

GASPE & CAMP / R.P.O.

Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a
QC-23.01	1955/07/09	1955/09/22	1966/12/20	35,36,101,102,201,202,245	6
QC-23.02	1963/05/29	unreported	unreported		~ 7+
Listing		1955/09/22	1966/12/20	35,36,101,102,201,202,245	

QC-23.01



QC-23.02 proof

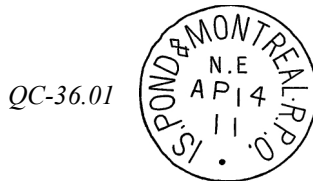


QC-36 Hammer Study

IS. POND & MONTREAL · R.P.O. / .

Hammer		ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c
QC-36.01		1910/12/03	1914/03/17*	DW,NE,W,5	4 ½	6 ½ -	3 -
QC-36.02	1st Period	1928/06/22*	1931/09/03	12,15	6 ¼	8	4
	2nd Period	1947/09/04		17			
Listing		1910/12/03	1947/09/04	DE,DW,NE,NW,W,5,11,12,15,16,17		Brandt *	

QC-36.01 proof date - 1910/11/26 QC-36.02 proof date - 1928/05/21



QC-48 Hammer Study

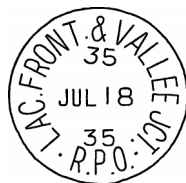
LAC FRONT & VALLEE JCT. / R.P.O.

Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a
QC-48.01	1934/12/29	1935/01/12	1955/12/16*	3,31,33,34,35,37	
QC-48.02	1944/06/04	1950/12/22*	1957/02/11*	3*,34,35	4 +
QC-48.03	unknown	1945/08/18*	1956/08/02*	3,4,35	5 -
Listing		1935/01/12	1957/08/10	3,4,31,32,33,34,35,37	Brandt*

QC-48.01 is distinguished by side dots before and after 'R.P.O.'.

QC-48.02 and QC-48.03 are very similar except for the presence or absence of a mid position dot and the spacing, chord 'a', between the 'E' and the 'J'. QC-48.02 has noticeable rim damage in the lower right quadrant late in its use.

(The catalogue erroneously shows a proof date of 1944/10/26.)



New Reports

Wayne Schnarr reports a new **late date** for hammer **MT-103.02**, TRAIN NO / HX. & CAMP · R.P.O. , 199, MR 10, 19.



Colin Lewis reports a new **early date** for **ON-741.01**, TOR. & NORTH BAY · R.P.O. / · NO 1 · , 44, AP 28, 28.



QC-50 Hammer Study

a ——— b ——— d ———
LA M. & Q. / R.P.O.
a ——— c ———

Hammer	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d
QC-50.01	1947/05/03 [#]	1958/09/14*	173,175,176	11 ½	12 ¼	14 ¼	9 ½
QC-50.02	1958/11/30*	1969/09/21*	173,175,178*,179	11	12 ¾	13 ½ -	10 +
Listing	1947/01/20	1969/09/21*	312,171,173,175,176,178,179	<i>Stalker #, Brandt *</i>			

QC-50.01 proof



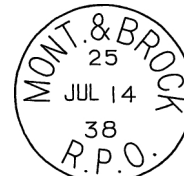
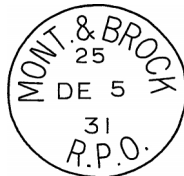
QC-50.02 proof

QC-136 Hammer Study

a ——— c ——— d ——— b ———
MONT. & BROCK / R.P.O.
a ——— b ———

Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d
QC-136.01	1931/12/05	1931/12/24	1948/12/10*	25,26	10 ½	15 ½	10	11 ¾
QC-136.02	1938/07/14	1938/10/10*	1947/10/10	25,26	9 ½	15 +	11	13
Listing		1931/12/24	1948/12/27	25,26	<i>Brandt *</i>			

QC-136.01



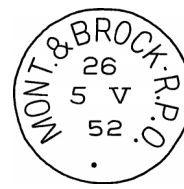
QC-136.02

QC-137 Hammer Study

a ——— b ——— c ———
MONT. & BROCK · R.P.O. / .
a ——— c ———

Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c
QC-137.01	1949/02/01	1949/04/14 ³	1958/08/09*	25,26	6 ¼	12 ¾	12
QC-137.02	unknown	1949/05/19*	1958/05/22*	25,26	7 ¼	11 ¾	13 ¼
Listing		1949/04/14 ³	1958/08/09*	25,26	<i>Brandt *, Hautala ³</i>		

QC-137.01 proof



QC-137.02

QC-301 Hammer Study



Hammer	ERD	LRD	Indicia	a	b	c	d	e
QC-301.01	1918/02/18	1928/10/08*	6,9,10 [#] ,18,19	13 ¾	15 ¼	14	11 ½	18 ¼
QC-301.02	1920/02/12	1970/01/03	NE,NW,5*,9,10,14,28,50,210	13 ¾	14 ¼	14 -	11 ¼	18 ¾
QC-301.03	1926/05/06*	1971/02/17	16*,18,19,59	12 ¾	16	14 ¾	10 ¾	19
QC-301.04	1946/07/16	1971/04/23	16,17*,18,19,58,59,159	11 ¾	14 ¼	15 ¾	13 +	15 ¾
QC-301.05	1942/12/22*	1971/01/08	16,17*,18,19,58,59	12 ½	13 ¾	16 ½	13 ¾	16 ¾
Listing	1918/02/18	1971/04/23	NE,W,NW,5,6,9,10,14,15,16,17,18,19,28,50,58,159,210					

Brandt *, Stalker #



QC-301.01 proof



QC-301.02 proof



QC-301.03 proof



QC-301.04 proof

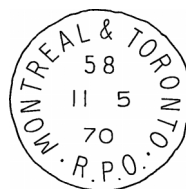


QC-301.05
Proof - 1942/10/28

QC-311 Hammer Study



QC-311.01 proof



QC-311.02

The editor has not seen an example of hammer **QC-311.01** used. The only recorded date is the earliest date for the listing, 1951/11/18 which is derived from the Ludlow-Robinson written records with no source noted.

Hammer **QC-311.02**, proof struck on October 30, 1967, has only been seen by the editor on favour covers or facing slips dated between 1967/12/15 and 1971/04/24.

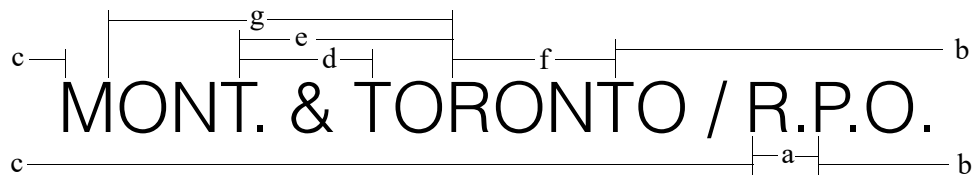
G.T.P. West of Wainwright R.P.O. Service from Rick Parama

Although the RPO was probably intended to begin operation in August of 1909 (when the first date stamps were proofed); the RPO did not begin operations until very late in 1909. A newspaper account of the start of open (RPO) mail operations was published in the **December 3rd, 1909**, edition of the Edmonton Daily Bulletin. (The brackets are my notes; for clarity and there was a typo in the original newspaper article).

MAIL SERVICE ON G.T.P.

The first mail service over the G.T.P. east of Edmonton went into effect yesterday morning from Edmonton. There was attached to the regular [*regular = regular passenger train*] a mil [*sic mail*] car and this will be kept in operation along the line. The service will be an open one between Edmonton and Wainwright. The post office officials report that already there is a great deal of mail accumulating for points along the new line.

QC-310 Hammer Study



Hammer	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
QC-310.01	3 ¾	17	10	7 ½ -	12 -	8 ½	17 ½
QC-310.02	4 ¼	17	9 ½	7 ¾	12	9 +	18
QC-310.03	4 -	16	10 ¾	7 ¼ +	11 ½	8 ¾ -	17 ¼
QC-310.04	4 ¾	15 ¾	10 ¾	7	11 ¼	8 ¾	17
QC-310.05	4 ½ -	15 ¾	9	7 ½	12 +	9 ½	18
QC-310.06	4 ¼	15	7 ¾	8	12	9 ¼	17 ¼



*QC-310.01
proof*



*QC-310.02
proof*



*QC-310.03
proof*



*QC-310.04
proof*



*QC-310.05
proof*



*QC-310.06
proof*

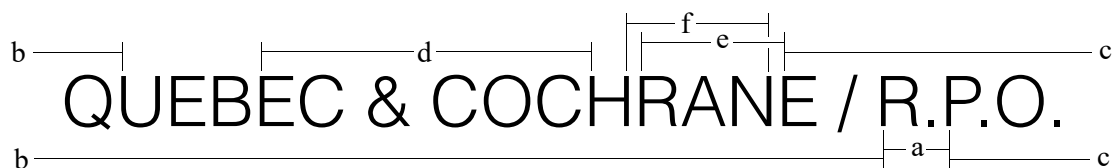
Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia
QC-310.01	1930/02/12	1933/02/08	1966/11/28	5,9#,14,19,27,209,210
QC-310.02	1930/02/12	1932/02/22	1968/04/22#	5,9#,10*,14,25#,27*,51,209
QC-310.03	1930/02/12	1930/10/05*	1949/05/10*	9,18,19,21
QC-310.04	1930/02/12	1930/12/22*	1967/03/04*	10*,16,17,18,19,20,58
QC-310.05	1950/01/11	1952/02/07#	1962/11/30*	17,18,19
QC-310.06	1954/05/01	1954/05/24*	1968/03/26#	16,17,18,19,58,59
Listing		1930/10/05*	1970/05/06	5,8,9,10,14,16,17,18,19,20,21,25, 27,51,58,59,159,209,210

*Stalker #, Brandt **



Rick Parama reports this wonderful mourning cover with the second reported example of **SN-44.6**, PARIS - D.P.O / _ C. W _ , JY 26, 61 , used as an **originating postmark** instead of the usual transit backstamp use.

QC-399 Hammer Study



Hammer	a	b	c	d	e	f
QC-399.01	3 ½ +	9 ½	13 ¼	16 ½	7 ½	7 ½
QC-399.02	3 ¾	9 ½	13 ¼	15 ½	8	8
QC-399.03	4	10 ¼	12 ¾	15 ¼ +	8 ½ -	8 ½
QC-399.04	4	9	13	16	8 ½ -	8 ¾
QC-399.05	4 ½ -	10	12 ¾	15 ¾	7 ½ +	8 -
QC-399.06	4 ¼	9	12 ¾	16 -	8	8
QC-399.07	4 ¼	9 ½	12 ½	16 ½	8 +	8



QC-399.01
proof



QC-399.02



QC-399.03



QC-399.04



QC-399.05



QC-399.06



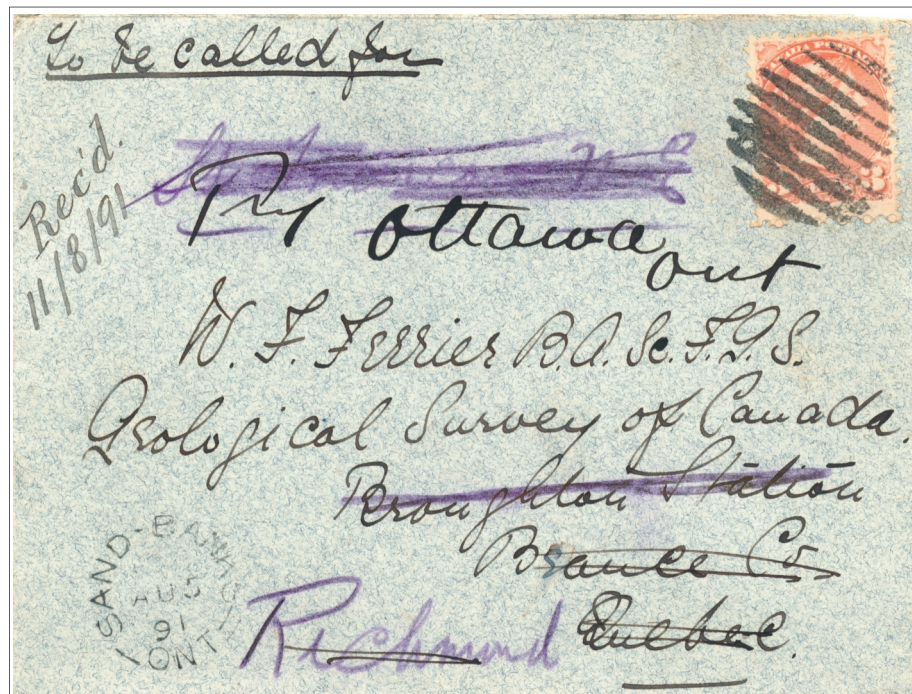
QC-399.07
proof

Hammer	Proof	ERD	LRD	Indicia
QC-399.01	1927/12/27	1928/01/08 [#]	1947/12/04 [*]	11,12,112 [*] ,197 [*] ,198
QC-399.02	unknown	1928/04/28 [*]	1947/09/29 [#]	11,12,197 [*] ,198 [*]
QC-399.03	unknown	1928/06/19 [*]	1945/11/06 [*]	11,12,198
QC-399.04	unknown	1928/06/07 [*]	1948/01/19 [*]	11 [#] ,12,112 [*] ,197 [*] ,198
QC-399.05	unknown	1928/01/08	1947/10/29 [*]	11,12,197 [*] ,198
QC-399.06	unknown	1928/07/04 [*]	1945/12/17 [*]	12,198 [*]
QC-399.07	1928/03/29	1930/12/10 [*]	1937/07/03 [*]	12 [#]
Listing		1928/01/08	1948/01/19 [*]	11,12,112,197,198

Stalker [#], Brandt ^{*}



A New Quebec Clerk Handstamp



Ross Gray collection



This registered letter addressed to W. F. Ferrier at Broughton Station, Quebec, originated at Sand Banks, Ontario on August 5, 1891. After travelling by road, it arrived in Picton the same day, where it was probably sorted into closed bag registered mail and travelled north on the next Central Ontario Railway train for transfer to the next eastbound G.T.R train for Montreal at Trenton Junction.

Arrival in Sherbrooke was on August 6 and it was transferred to the next northbound Central Quebec Railway mail car for Broughton Station (*north of Thetford Mines on the Sherbrooke-Levis Quebec Central Railway line*). On August 7, the railway mail clerk, who may have recently seen other mail addressed to Ferrier redirected, applied his clerk handstamp. He first wrote an undecipherable redirection location in indelible pencil, crossed it out and redirected it to Richmond, where it arrived on August 8. In Richmond it was again redirected, this time to Ottawa, where it arrived on August 11.

This previously unreported R.M.C. postmark will now be listed as,
RY-162.55 , J. M - - - LL, / QUEBEC CENTRAL RY. / Railway Mail Clerk. , AUG 7 North, 1891. ,
 (Type OV1R, R.F. - G)

Ferd Belanger provided a Montreal District post office clerk roster list showing that there was a clerk named **John Miller Hall**, born August 29, 1855. He became a Post Office employee on September 1, 1886 and was appointed as a second class railway mail clerk on November 4, 1890. He is also listed under **QC-557** and **QC-564** .

New Reports from Jack Brandt



MT-50.02, CH'TOWN & SACKVILLE · R.P.O. / . , 39, AU 4, 58 , is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.



QC-209.05, MONT. & NORTH BAY · R.P.O. / . , 7, JUL 14, 36 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



QC-253.07, MONTREAL & ST JOHN / M.C. , W, JU 24, 12 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



QC-451.05, QUE. ROB. & CHIC. R.P.O. / . , S, SP 25, 14 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



QC-451.06, QUE. ROB. & CHIC.- R.P.O. / . , 6, MR 8, 14 , is a new **early date** and first report of **train 6** for the hammer.

QC-451.06, QUE. ROB. & CHIC.- R.P.O. / . , 2, SP 26, 14 , is the first report of **train 2** for the hammer.



QC-451.07, QUE. ROB. & CHIC. R.P.O. / . , S, JAN 9, 14 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.

QC-452.03, QUEBEC ROBERVAL & CHICOUTIMI · R.P.O. / . , 24, MR 28, 20 , is a new **early date** and the first report of **train 24** for the hammer.



ON-154.011, G'LPH. & G'RCH. R.P.O. / N^o 1 , 91, JUL 21, 08 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing.

ON-259.01, LONDON & SARNIA R.P.O. / . , E, JAN 11, 04 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-64.024, CALGARY & EDMONTON / · N^o 2 · , 26, OC 17, 49 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.

WT-390.01, M. J. & CAL. R.P.O. / No. 1 , 8, SP 4, 62 , is a new **late date** and the first report of **train 8** for the hammer.



WT-548.01, O. L. & S. R.P.O. / B.C. , N, OC 29, 01 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-677.02, RIV. & WAIN. R.P.O. / N^o 2 , 2, NO 30, 1(6) , is the first report of **train 2** and the LRD for the hammer.



New Reports from Jack Brandt

WT-854.01, WPG. & BRED. R.P.O. / No. 1, 52, OC 21, 44, is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-883.02, WINNIPEG & HUMBOLDT · R.P.O. / No 2, W, JUL 27, 10, is the first report of a 'W' **direction** for the hammer.



SN-23.05, MONCTON STATION / N.B., 20, 12 V, 70, is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.



New Reports from Ross Gray



Found on a favour cover to Holland, **MT-104.03**, HX. & CAMP. · R.P.O. / ., 18, JUL 21, 66. Train 18 is a **new train** for both the hammer and the listing. Train 18 operated daily except Sunday between Montreal & Moncton, leaving Montreal at 12:59 PM, arriving at Levis at 5:10 PM, arriving in Campbellton at 3:40 AM and terminating at Moncton at 2:40 PM. This is another example of a hammer being used for only a portion of its intended run, i.e. Campbellton-Moncton instead of Campbellton-Halifax



Found on a favour cover to Holland, **MT-334.05**, SYDNEY & TRURO / R.P.O., 7, AP 23, 66, is a new **late date** for the hammer.

QC-229.03, MONTREAL & OTTAWA · R.P.O. / ., 504, AP 6, 46, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



New Reports from Ross Gray



MT-7.21, CAMP & LEVIS EXPRESS · R.P.O. / . ,
33, OC 26, 15 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



MT-185.05, HALIFAX & SYDNEY R.P.O. / . ,
W, JAN 1, 17 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



ON-106.05, FORT WILLIAM & WINNIPEG R.P.O. / N^o 5 ,
blank, AU 7, 07 , is a new **early date** and first report of a **blank**
indicium for the hammer.



ON-286.02, LONDON & WINGHAM / M.C. ,
T.2.N, JA 8, 14 , is the first report of train
number/direction indicium **T2N** for the hammer



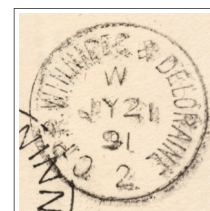
ON-634.031, TOR. & LON. M.C. / N^o 3 , 6, AU 6, 10 ,
is the first report of **train 6** for this hammer.



ON-827.02, TOR. STRAT. & GODERICH · R.P.O. / . ,
31, OC 12, 27 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-435.01, M. JAW & EMP. R.P.O. / N^o 1 ,
E, AU 22, 18 , is a new **early date** for both the
hammer and listing.



WT-869.02, C.P.R. WINNIPEG & DELORAINÉ / 2 ,
W, JY 21, 91 , is the first report of a 'W' direction
indicium for the hammer.

BNAPEX 2017

Congratulations to **Sean Weatherup** for receiving a **BNAPEX Gold** and the **William G. Robinson Award** for his exhibit, "The Railway Post Office Operating between Halifax and Sydney" and to **Peter McCarthy** for receiving a **BNAPEX Gold** and the **Herb McNaught Memorial Award** for his single frame entry, "Canadian Railway Post Office Markings"

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