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May/June 2021 mai/juin- VOL. 72 ◆ NO. 3

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5c rose, imperforate, grid '35' cancel
February 2019; Lot 9
Realized $26,070



2p rose, rouletted
February 2019; Lot 86
Realized $34,365



1sh dull violet, unused
June 2019; Lot 39
Realized $53,325



2c laid paper, used CDS, the finest of three known.
October 2014; Lot 1193
Realized $247,250



2p scarlet vermilion, used
February 2019; Lot 108
Realized $17,775



½c Leaf progressive die
October 2020; Lot 666
Realized $27,255



12p black, a superlative mint example, widely regarded as the finest in existence

ex. Duveen, Dale-Lichtenstein
February 2013; Lot 353
Realized $224,250



3p laid paper red cancel
November 2017; Lot 429
Realized $4,025



Hawker Flight, mint NH
February 2019; Lot 208
Realized $44,435



1875 registered cover to Norway with three examples of the 10c pale milky rose lilac shade
November 2018; Lot 887 – Realized $33,180



50c lathework single
February 2018; Lot 226
Realized $9,775

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

Canada

The Canadian Philatelist (ISSN 00-45-5253) published bimonthly by Philaprint Inc. 10 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto, Ont., M4T 1A8. Printed and produced in Canada by Trajan Publishing Corporation.

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Subscription price for members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada $30.00 per year. This amount is included in membership fees and the members automatically receive the journal. Non-members $30.00 per year. Changes of address, undeliverable copies and orders for subscriptions should be sent to P.O. Box 69080, St. Clair Post Office, Toronto, ON M4T 3A1. Return postage guaranteed. Publications Mail Registration No. 09828.

Le Philatéliste canadien (ISSN 00-45-5253), bimensuel publié par Philaprint Inc., 10 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto, Ont., M4T 1A8. Fait et imprimé au Canada par Trajan Publishing Corporation.

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST
May/June 2021 mai/juin - VOL. 72 ◆ NO. 3 (Number/Numéro 424)
LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN
Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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FEATURES

Ice Hockey: A Multifaceted Collectible.....112
by Charles J.G. Verge, RDP, FRPSC, FRPSL
There have been several stand-alone Hockey thematic exhibits and Hockey chapters in Olympic or Sports thematics. As far as I know, there has not been a Display/Open class exhibit on the subject.

Flames Over Cowtown 123
by Dale Speirs
Calgary has had three professional hockey teams in its history. The current team is the Calgary Flames, which began life as the Atlanta Flames in 1972 and relocated to Calgary in 1980.

Creating Limited Edition NHL Covers 126
By Hugh Rathbun
It may be that no official first day cover (FDC) was made for a particular issue, as was the case with Canada Post's release of the large format, high value hockey issues of 2014-2017.

Philately of Ice Hockey at Saint-Pierre et Miquelon....130
by James Taylor, FRPSC
The winter sport of ice-hockey, strongly influenced by the proximity of Saint-Pierre to hockey-crazed Canada, is extremely popular in SPM, with local teams often competing in New-foundland-based leagues.

Kelowna Commemorates Hockey World Championships with Picture Postage Stamps.....76
by K. Peter Lepold
The Kelowna and District Stamp Club executive supports hockey by having Canada Post print various Picture Postage™ stamps commemorating world championships.

Twelve articles were submitted for the first-ever, joint hockey-themed publication by *The American Philatelist* (APS) and *The Canadian Philatelist* (RPSC). Both journals are being made available to the respective memberships as PDF downloads. Here is the full list of articles:

- Ice Hockey: A Multifaceted Collectible (published in both *AP* and *TCP*)
- Judaism on the Ice: a Philatelic Perspective (*AP*)
- Ice Hockey Officials on Stamps (*APS website*)
- The Kitchener-Waterloo Dutchmen Hockey Club (*AP*)
- Innovations in Goalie Gear: A Philatelic Journey (*AP*)
- Creating Limited Edition NHL Covers (*TCP*)
- Flames over Cowtown (*TCP*)
- Hockey, A Family Affair (*TCP*, youth)
- Kelowna Commemorates Hockey Word Championships with Picture Postage Stamps (*TCP*)
- Philately of Ice Hockey at Saint-Pierre et Miquelon (*TCP*)
- How did this stamp get in here? (APS website)
- Stanley Cup Dreams (APS website)



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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by/par Ed Kroft, FRPSC | Scott D. English

LA PAGE DU PRÉSIDENT



A JOINT ISSUE, A PARTNERSHIP, AND A GREAT SHOW

There's great power in shared experiences. In the fast-moving, on-demand digital world, shared experiences have changed dramatically. Our hobby offers us many ways to continue this tradition. That's the goal of this historic joint issue of *The American Philatelist* and *The Canadian Philatelist*.

It all started with a conversation about CAPEX 22 to be held in Toronto, Canada, from June 9-12, 2022. The show will be the first of its kind international one-frame exhibition sponsored by The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

When the pandemic hit and stamp shows closed down for more than a year, the conversation turned to action. We hope and believe that the pandemic will subside, and the show must go on. These journals are more than just joint issues, but a partnership forged a few years back with that conversation. Though the pandemic has slowed our progress, it will not stop it.

So, how did we choose a joint issue on ice hockey and philately? It goes back to the shared experiences. Both ice hockey and philately reach across our respective borders, giving us common ground. Though the National Hockey League originated in Canada, the Original Six combined teams from the U.S. and Canada. Today, the NHL is truly international, bringing players worldwide to play in all corners of North America.

Even outside the NHL arena, ice hockey has highlighted critical moments for our respective nations. In 1972, at the height of the Cold War, Canada challenged the Soviet Union to an eight-game series known as the Summit Series. The first four games, held in Canada, resulted in the Soviets playing unexpectedly well, taking two games and a tie. After losing Game 5 in the Soviet Union, Team Canada won games six and seven, making a decisive game eight. With just a minute left in a tie game, Team Canada took the puck to the goal, and Paul Henderson made an amazing game-winning shot.



In the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, New York, Team USA, mostly amateur players, faced the four-time defending gold medalist Soviet Union in the medal round. Down 3-2 at the start of the third period, Team USA scored two unanswered goals and held on to win 4-3, going on to win the gold that year. Dubbed the "Miracle on Ice," Sports

UN NUMÉRO CONJOINT, UN PARTENARIAT ET UN FORMIDABLE SALON DE LA PHILATÉLIE

Les expériences communes s'avèrent très puissantes. Dans le monde du numérique sur demande, qui évolue à grande vitesse, les expériences communes se sont transformées du tout au tout. Notre loisir nous offre bien des moyens de maintenir la tradition. Tel est le but du numéro conjoint inédit de *The American Philatelist* et du *Philatéliste canadien*.

Tout a commencé lors d'une conversation sur CAPEX 22 qui aura lieu à Toronto, Canada, du 9 au 12 juin 2022. Ce salon sera le premier en son genre, une exposition internationale de collections d'un cadre sous les auspices de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada.

Lorsque la pandémie a frappé et que les expositions philatéliques ont été interrompues pendant plus d'un an, la réflexion a pris le virage de l'action. Nous espérons et nous croyons que la pandémie va ralentir; la partie n'est pas terminée. Ces revues ne sont pas uniquement des numéros conjoints, mais bien un partenariat forgé il y a quelques années à l'issue de la conversation mentionnée plus haut. Si la pandémie a ralenti nos progrès, elle n'y mettra pas fin.

Alors, comment avons-nous opté pour l'édition d'un numéro conjoint sur le hockey et la philatélie? L'idée vient de nos expériences communes. Le hockey sur glace tout comme la philatélie traversent nos frontières respectives. Nous avons donc des points communs. Bien que la Ligue nationale de hockey soit d'origine canadienne, les six équipes originales provenaient des États-Unis et du Canada. De nos jours, la LNH est vraiment internationale. Ses hockeyeurs viennent de partout dans le monde et jouent d'un bout à l'autre de l'Amérique du Nord.

Même hors de la LNH, le hockey sur glace a marqué des moments importants pour nos deux nations. En 1972, au sommet de la Guerre froide, le Canada a défié l'Union soviétique dans une série de huit parties baptisées la Série du siècle. Lors des quatre premières parties, jouées au Canada, les Russes ont, contre toute attente, joué exceptionnellement bien, remportant deux parties et créant une fois l'égalité. Après avoir perdu la cinquième partie en Union soviétique, Équipe Canada a gagné les parties six et sept faisant de la partie huit, une partie décisive. À la dernière minute d'une partie jusque-là à égalité, Équipe Canada a dirigé la rondelle vers le filet et Paul Henderson a effectué un tir gagnant stupéfiant.

Aux Olympiques de 1980, à Lake Placid, New York, l'équipe des États-Unis, Team USA, composée principalement de joueurs amateurs, affrontait l'équipe de l'Union soviétique qui revendiquait la médaille d'or pour une quatrième fois. Au début de la troisième période, Team USA, qui traînait de l'arrière par un compte de 2-3, a marqué deux buts sans riposte pour finalement remporter la partie et la mé-

Illustrated declared it the greatest sports moment of the 20th Century.



Our respective nations have issued stamps to honour ice hockey discussed in our respective journals. In 2017, Canada Post and the U.S. Postal Service jointly issued stamps honouring *The History of Hockey*. As Canada Post President and CEO Deepak Chopra said at the time, "These stamps celebrate the shared love of hockey, a game now firmly rooted in the lore of both nations."



We agree, and we're pleased to offer that same spirit of unity here in the pages of our journals. We hope you enjoy the shared experiences of hockey and philately. In the meantime, get ready to join us for another unique shared experience at CAPEX 22. Please visit the website capex22.org for news and information about the show.

We look forward to welcoming you in June 2022! ✉

Scott D. English is the Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society and Ed Kroft, QC, FRPSC is President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

daille d'or pour cette année-là, grâce à un compte de 4-3. *Sports Illustrated*, qui a qualifié l'évènement de « Miracle sur glace », a déclaré qu'il s'agissait du plus grand moment sportif du 20e siècle.

Chacune de nos nations a émis des timbres mettant le hockey à l'honneur, ce dont nous avons parlé dans nos revues. En 2017, Postes Canada et *l'US Postal Service* ont émis conjointement des timbres faisant l'allégorie de l'histoire du hockey. Comme l'a dit le président et chef de la direction de Postes Canada à l'époque, Deepak Chopra, « Ces timbres célèbrent notre amour commun du hockey, un jeu maintenant solidement enraciné dans la tradition de nos deux nations ».



Nous sommes d'accord avec lui et heureux d'afficher ce même esprit d'unité dans les pages de nos revues. Nous espérons que nos expériences communes de hockey et de philatélie vous ont plu. En attendant, préparez-vous à vous joindre à nous pour une autre expérience commune unique, CAPEX 22. Veuillez visiter le site Web capex22.org pour obtenir des nouvelles et de l'information sur le salon.

Nous sommes impatients de vous accueillir en juin 2022. ✉

Scott D. English est le directeur administratif de l'American Philatelic Society et Ed Kroft, Québec, FRPSC est le président de la Société royale de philatélie du Canada.



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EDITOR'S NOTES

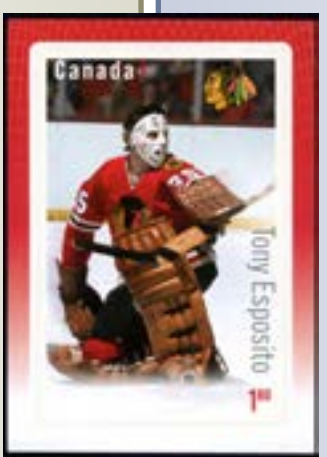
by/par Gary Wayne Loew | Editor, *The American Philatelist*

NOTES DU RÉDACTEUR

EDITING PHILATELY

The excitement in hockey comes from both its blistering speed and its dramatic reversals. The only thing more exciting than a hockey game is a Stanley Cup playoff. Then, add in an overtime, or two, or three. I was there, in 1971, at the semifinals. My New York Rangers were down three games to two against the Chicago Blackhawks. Madison Square Garden is a spectacular hockey venue, and it was *packed* for game six. Packed and boisterous. Absolutely vibrating with energy.

These teams were so closely matched. The Hawks' Won-Lost was .686; the Rangers', .699. Goals: 277 vs 259. Goals against: 184 (second of 14 teams). The Rangers topped the league with 177. The teams had played each other six times and split the regular season three-three.



Game six and the Rangers had to win. At the end of regulation time, it was a two-two tie. Tony Esposito was in the net for the Hawks and Gilles Villemure for the Rangers. In the first overtime, the puck changed possession frequently and violently, but shots on goal were few and wide. Neither goalie let anything through. From my vantage point in the neutral zone some 15 rows up, my neck was sore from repeatedly following the puck left-right-left-right.

The second OT saw a similar number of turnovers but the shots on goal were more frequent and closer to target. Both goalies were forced to really work. And both were successful. We were headed for a third OT. My voice? What voice? When the Rangers drove in that winning goal, the home town crowd was thrilled, excited, exhausted, and hoarse.

I have been to hockey games since then of course. But they just do not compare. What possibly could?

* * *

When I learned that The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the American Philatelic Society were teaming up to produce these Joint Hockey issues, I was excited. In the philatelic sports milieu, hockey stamps are among the most colorful and exciting. Hockey heroes are always dramatic heroes and their portrayal on postage stamps makes them highly collectable. As you will see from the articles contained in both *The Canadian Philatelist* and *The American Philatelist*, regardless of what you collect, there is something for everyone. Enjoy! ✉

RÉDACTION PHILATÉLIQUE

La frénésie au hockey vient autant de sa vitesse vertigineuse que de ses revirements spectaculaires. La seule chose plus passionnante qu'une partie de hockey est une ronde des séries éliminatoires de la Coupe Stanley. Puis, ajoutez-y une prolongation ou deux ou trois. J'étais là en 1971, aux demi-finales. Mes Rangers de New York tiraient de l'arrière avec deux parties contre trois pour les Blackhawks de Chicago. Le Madison Square Garden est un lieu remarquable pour le hockey et il était *bondé* pour la sixième partie. Bondé et turbulent. Absolument vibrant d'énergie.

Les deux équipes se suivaient de près. Les gains-pertes des Hawks s'élevaient à 686; ceux des Rangers à 699. Buts : 277 contre 259. Buts accordés : 184 (deuxième de 14 équipes). Les Rangers se sont trouvés au sommet de la ligue avec 177. Les équipes avaient joué six fois toutes les deux et s'étaient partagé la saison trois-trois.

C'était la sixième partie et les Rangers devaient la gagner. À la fin de la période réglementaire, l'égalité s'était créée au compte de deux à deux. Tony Esposito gardait le filet des Hawks et Gilles Villemure, celui des Ranger's. À la première prolongation, la rondelle changeait de camp souvent et violemment, mais les tirs au but se faisaient rares et étaient hors cible. Aucun gardien n'en laissait passer. De mon poste d'observation, dans la zone neutre, approximativement dans la quinzième rangée, j'avais mal au cou à force de suivre la rondelle de gauche à droite et de droite à gauche.

La deuxième prolongation a connu autant de revirements, mais les tirs au but étaient plus fréquents et plus près du but. Les deux gardiens travaillaient vraiment dur. Et tous les deux avec succès. Nous nous dirigions vers une troisième prolongation. Ma voix? Quelle voix? Quand les Rangers ont marqué le but gagnant, la foule locale était transportée, électrisée, épuisée et enrouée.

J'ai bien sûr assisté à d'autres parties de hockey depuis. Mais, elles ne soutiennent simplement pas la comparaison. Qu'est-ce qui le pourrait?

* * *

Quand j'ai appris que La Société royale de philatélie du Canada et *l'American Philatelic Society* s'unissaient pour produire ces numéros conjoints sur le hockey, j'étais emballé. En philatélie, dans le domaine du sport, les timbres sur le hockey sont parmi les plus colorés et les plus remarquables. Les héros du hockey sont toujours spectaculaires et les timbres-poste qui les dépeignent deviennent des objets de collection fort intéressants. En lisant les articles du *Philatéliste canadien* et de *The American Philatelist*, sans égard à ce que vous collectionnez, vous constaterez que chacun y trouve son lot. Bonne lecture! ✉

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

I wish to inform members that there will be no election at the June 14th AGM, to be held by Zoom. There are six positions to be filled on the board and six candidates. Therefore the candidates will be acclaimed to office. Some of their photos and bios follow.

On behalf of the membership, I thank the candidates for agreeing to join the board of directors of the society, and for providing their skills and expertise to advance philately across the country.

- Robert Lunn
Chair, Nominating Committee

ÉLECTION DU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Je désire aviser les membres qu'il n'y aura pas d'élection à l'assemblée générale annuelle de juin, à St Catharines. Sept postes doivent être pourvus et sept candidats ont été proposés. Par conséquent, ils seront élus par acclamation. Vous trouverez quelques photos et biographies ci-dessous.

Au nom des membres, je remercie les candidats d'avoir accepté de se joindre au conseil d'administration de la société et de mettre leurs compétences et leur expertise au service de l'avancement de la philatélie au pays.

Le président du comité des candidatures,
Robert Lunn



SAM CHIU, FRPSC

Sam Chiu started collecting stamps in childhood. His interests are China and Hong Kong postal history plus various themes. An avid exhibitor, Sam's many exhibits have received 31 Large Golds and 45 Gold medals in national or international exhibitions. He has achieved multiple national-level gold medals in seven different sub-classes. He is the only Canadian to win the AAPE Sapphire Award and one of two Canadians to win the AAPE Diamond Award. He is an accredited judge with The RPSC and a Jury Fellow at FIP. He was jury chair for The Royal/Royale shows in 2008, 2012 and 2016. Sam served on Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee from 2006 to 2012. Sam has a PhD in International Management from the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland. He was elected a Fellow of The RPSC in 2010 and has been Vice President since September 2017. He is also a Fellow of RPS London. Currently he is the editor of Journal of Chinese Philately for the China Philatelic Society of London.



JOHN A. HALL

John is a past president of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club and has served on the club's executive for 30 years. He has been Exhibition Chairman for many NOVAPEX shows and was Exhibition Chairman for the Royal Philatelic Society Convention in Halifax in 2014. He is a member of the 2023 BNAPS Halifax Convention organizing committee.

John has been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the British North American Philatelic Society, and the American Philatelic Society since 1987, and is currently the Canadian delegate on the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) Revenue Commission. John is also an RPSC apprentice National Level Philatelic Judge.

He has exhibited at regional and national shows on many philatelic subjects. His revenue exhibit on the Canadian Fiscal War Tax Stamps has been accepted at London 2022 and will be published as a book by BNAPS.



DAVID MCLAUGHLIN

David McLaughlin retired in 2016 after a 45-year career in management of industrial control companies and at consulting engineering firms. He is a graduate of the Haileybury School of Mines and the Ivey School of Business MBA program. He has been a frequent exhibitor in Canada and internationally with his Queen Victoria Maple Leaf issue. David is an RPSC National Level Philatelic Judge and a member of several philatelic organizations including RPSC, BNAPS, PHSC, RPSL, APS, CPS of GB, and PSSC. David is the International Liaison Officer for The RPSC. He publishes the International Exhibitor newsletter providing news on international exhibitions and information on international exhibiting



ROBERT PINET

Robert Pinet has been an accredited National-level judge since 2018.

His exhibit, *Victorian Montreal: Hub of the Dominion (Illustrated Mail, 1844-1903)*, won Gold at BNAPS 2011, BNAPS 2013 and at ORAPEX 2013, and was published as BNAPS Exhibit Series No. 79 in November 2014.

His current philatelic interests include the Hradcany issue of Czechoslovakia, 1906 Austrian postal cards celebrating the 60th anniversary of the ascension of Emperor Franz Joseph, 1896 Hungarian Millenium postal cards, and the "cinderellas" of TransCamster Bog.

His articles, on refugee camp mail and Montreal illustrated mail have appeared in the GTAPA *PhilaJournal*, BNAPS *Illustrated Mail Newsletter*, PHSC *Journal*, and *Bulletin d'histoire postale et de marcophilie* of the Société d'Histoire Postale du Québec.

Dr. Pinet is now serving his third term as a Director of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

JOHN A. SHARP B. COMM, CA



John first started collecting stamps in Grade 4, encouraged by his teacher. He had a world album and later was given a Jarrett Canada album, which he still has today. He continued until University when other interests took over. About 10 years ago, he started up his philatelic interest again to have something to do in retirement, joining the North Toronto Stamp Club in 2015 and is currently the chair of their Circuit Books.

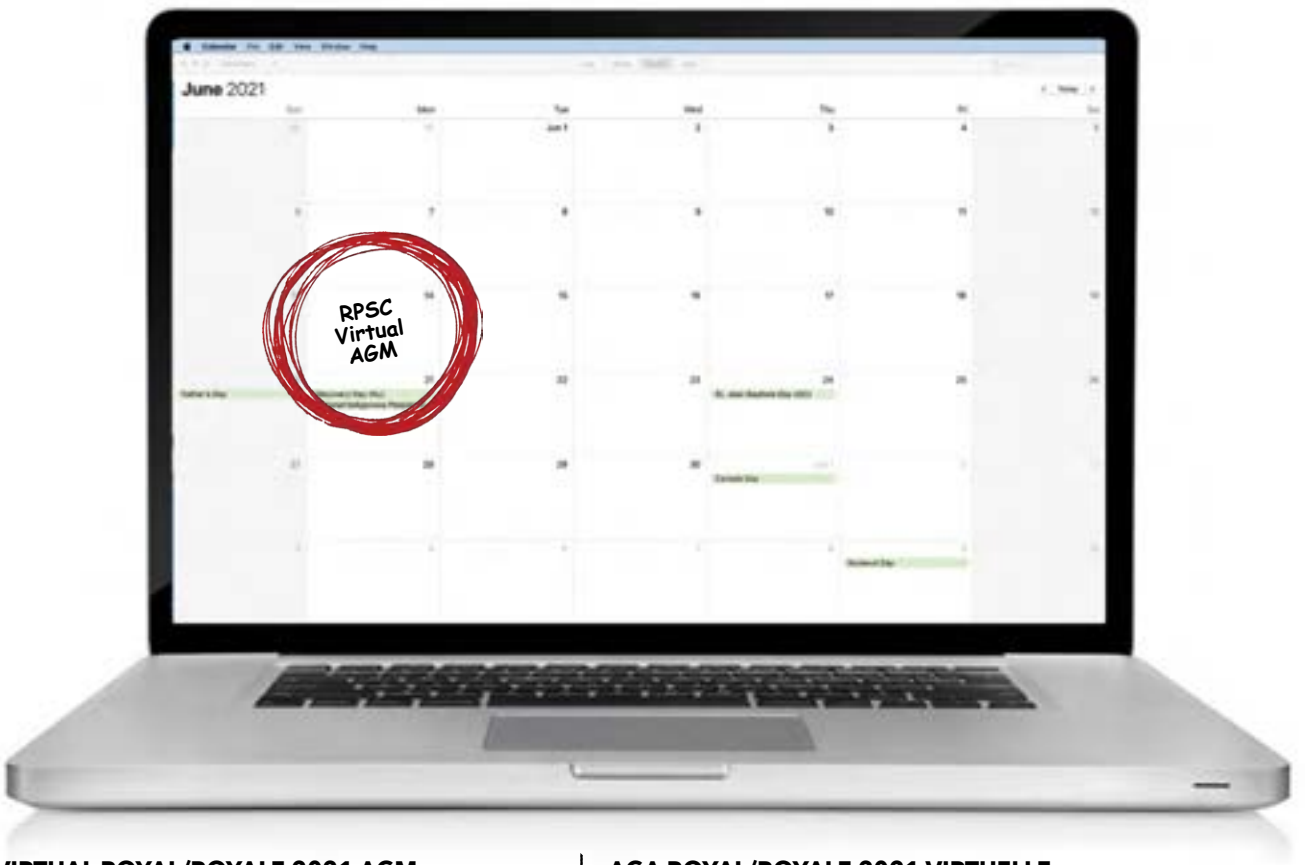
Prior to retirement, in his professional capacity as a chartered accountant, his practice served privately-owned businesses with financial and tax planning services for corporations and individuals. He also worked with a number of not-for-profit organizations and other individuals.

He was appointed as The RPSC's new Treasurer In January, 2021.

MICHAEL WALSH



Mike Walsh is seeking re-election to the volunteer Board of Directors. He is also serving as Editor of The RPSC's monthly e-newsletter. Mike is the co-owner and Editor of Canadian Stamp News.



VIRTUAL ROYAL/ROYALE 2021 AGM

Mark your calendars! The RPSC will hold a virtual AGM on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 5PM EST using the Zoom platform.

This will be followed by two Zoom Stamp Talks:

· John Sharp - A Stamp Collector visits Antarctica
· Jane Sodero – Not Quite 50

Further information about participating in this meeting can be found on the home page of www.rpsc.org

AGA ROYAL/ROYALE 2021 VIRTUELLE

À inscrire à votre calendrier! La SRPC tiendra une AGA virtuelle, le lundi 14 juin 2021 à 17 heures, heure de l'Est, sur la plateforme Zoom.

Elle sera suivie de deux conférences philatéliques :

· John Sharp – A Stamp Collector visits Antarctica (Un collectionneur de timbres visite l'Antatartique)
· Jane Sodero – Not Quite 50 (Pas tout à fait 50)

Vous trouverez de plus amples informations sur la participation à cette réunion sur la page d'accueil de www.rpsc.org

Ice Hockey: A MULTIFACETED COLLECTIBLE

BY CHARLES J. G. VERGE, RDP, FRPSC, FRPSL

Author's note: *The purpose of this article is to show the many aspects of collecting Ice Hockey material. The sport, in opposition to Field Hockey, suffers from the same semantic problem as Football. For most of the world, Football is Soccer; for North Americans it is another sport altogether. For this article, I'll refer to Ice Hockey as simply Hockey. Otherwise noted, all references to Scott numbers are for Canada. Scott numbers with additional Roman numerals such as "ii" or "vi" are sub-numbers found in* The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps.

INTRODUCTION

There have been several stand-alone Hockey thematic exhibits and Hockey chapters in Olympic or Sports thematics. As far as I know, there has not been a Display/Open class exhibit on the subject. It would be hard to put three-dimensional skates, sticks, pucks and masks on pages, although miniature hockey sticks are readily available. There are several ways of enhancing your Hockey-themed exhibit or creating an exhibit on the subject in another class or just collecting for the pleasure of collecting and delving into the history of the sport. Below are different types of material or approaches you could use to do so. Remember that whatever you collect or exhibit, it has to have a focus and a scope; otherwise you will be overwhelmed by material and the vastness of your subject. To achieve your collecting objectives, you can mix and match different elements shown below. You just need to respect the rules of the class you exhibit in. However, if exhibiting is not your bag, collect as you please and enjoy the hobby and your chosen topic/subject.

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SPORT

The start of Hockey, as we know it today, is generally accepted to have begun on March 3, 1875 at Montreal's Victoria Skating Rink, according to an advertisement submitted by James Creighton in the *Montreal Gazette* of that day.[1] The post card in Figure 1 is frequently purported to be an image of the 1875 game. It was published around 1893-95 in sepia and continued being published well into the first decades of the 20th Century, sometimes colourized.[2] Other areas of the country, including Windsor (1844) and Halifax, NS, and Kingston, ON, claim to have been the original site of the first game.



Figure 1.

However, it seems that the first recorded game of hockey on ice was played on Great Bear Lake in October 1825 by Sir John Franklin (1776-1847) and his crew members.[3] Sir John was on his second overland expedition to the Arctic Ocean (1825-1827) and was wintering at Fort Franklin (currently Déline, Northwest Territories). Sir John's men skated and played hockey on the frozen lake. Their games were interrupted on October 20, 1825 by the first major snowstorm of the season. A couple of days later Sir John mentions the sports and the storm in his journal. On November 6, 1825, in writing to his friend, geologist Sir Roderick Murchison (1792-1871), Sir John says, "[w]e endeavour to keep ourselves in good humour, health, and spirits by an agreeable variety of useful occupation and amusement. Till the snow fell the game of hockey played on the ice was the morning's sport."[4]



Figure 2.

According to historian Walter "Bill" Fitsell (1923-2020), the equipment used is presumed to have been field hockey sticks or sticks fashioned from branches and the puck could have been a stopper from a barrel or a keg.[5] However, many experts including Fitsell, say Déline's "birthplace" claim is a clear overstatement. In 1989, a stamp (Sc. 1234) was issued in the Exploration of Canada series to commemorate Sir John. Three more were issued in 2015 (Sc. 2851-2, 2856) to commemorate the discovery of the wreck of his ship, *HMS Erebus* in Arctic waters. All are shown in Figure 2. The full story of Sir John and his explorations is well documented and beyond the scope of this article.



Figure 3.

COLLECTING HOCKEY

The game of Hockey has a storied past and a complicated set of statistics as well as heroes and enforcers. It has equipment that has become more and more specialized, such as the revolutionary use of face masks introduced to professional Hockey on November 1, 1959 by goalie Jacques Plante (1929-1986) (Figure 3, Sc. 1445). It can be collected many ways.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

STAMPS

You can collect topically or thematically[6] stamps that show Hockey, its rules, its players and its equipment. The six stamps in Figure 4 are from countries which are power houses in international Hockey: Canada (Sc. 1401), Finland (Sc. Finland 544), Russia (Sc. Russia 4108), Sweden (Sc. Sweden 445), Switzerland (Sc. Switzerland B172) and the USA (Sc. USA 1798A). The Swiss stamp is the first in the world to represent the game. It was issued for the 1948 Winter Olympic Games. You can branch out and include stamps not showing Hockey directly. The five stamps in Figure 5 show contributing sports in early Hockey development such as bandy (Sc. Russia 2998), field hockey (Sc. Pakistan 164), hurling (Sc. Ireland 90), lacrosse (Sc. 483), and rugby football (Sc. Great Britain 456). You can narrow your scope and eliminate stamps, for example in Figure 6, from countries who issue stamps on Hockey but whose citizens do not play the game: Guinea (Sc. Guinea 333), Maldives (Sc. Maldives 440) and Mali (Sc. Mali C141).



Figure 6.

SLOGAN POSTMARKS AND METER SLOGANS

Figure 7 shows a couple of machine slogan postmarks from Canada and



Figure 7.

Switzerland and a couple of postal meters from the USA. These would enhance any thematic or display/open collection. The fun part of collecting these is researching their origin and time frames of use. Were they issued for a special event or were they in constant use? Did more than one city or company use the postal marking/meter? How long was it used for: days, weeks, months, years? What is the earliest known date of use? What is the latest? Were different coloured inks used for the same marking? Who were the manufacturers of the postal slogans and the postal meters? And on and on it goes.

CACHETS AND POSTAL STATIONERY

Cachets–the left-hand drawings on an envelope–as illustrated in Figures 8 through 10, are interesting collectible items in



Figure 8.



Figure 9.



Figure 10.

themselves. Although all of these can be used in a display/open class exhibit they are not permitted in some of the other classes. The First Day Cover (FDC) cachet prepared by "C. G. Junior III" in Figure 8 would only be acceptable in a FDC exhibit. Figure 9, a Russian postal stationery card, would display well in both a postal stationery and thematic exhibit. The First Flight cover in Figure 10, although very acceptable in an aerophilately exhibit or in a specialized study of the stamp on the envelope, is a dicier item for a thematic exhibit. Its cachet was officially prepared by the Post Office[8] but many purist thematicists consider it as borderline and would prefer not seeing it in an exhibit in their class.

SPECIALIZED STUDY OF A STAMP

There are two ways to study a specific stamp or a series of stamps. The first is in the traditional way where the exhibitor would concentrate on the stamp, its production, and its postal history/usages. The other approach is one where the student would look at the stamp from a FDC perspective which would include some of the same



Figure 11.

Figure 12.



elements as a traditional study but would add the study of the FDCs of the issue or series. The FDC type exhibit is more lenient on some of the material that can be used in the exhibit versus the traditional approach. Figures 11 through 18, and Figure 8 above, are all items that can be used for



Figure 13.



Figure 14.





Figures 15 & 16.



Figure 17.

a specialized study of a stamp. In addition to the plate block of the stamp in Figure 11 (Sc. 359), the press release photo in Figure 12 and the Post Office advertising poster in Figure 13,[9] are the only items illustrated here that can be used in a traditional approach.[10] All these items, and Figure 8, are acceptable in a FDC approach. Figure 14, the *Popular Stamps* periodical of December 1955 (whole Number 181) and Figures 15 and 16, the Canadian Bank Note Company FDC[11] and its letter insert, fit well in a FDC exhibit.[12] Figures 17





Figure 18.

and 18 are more controversial as they are scans of the preliminary unaccepted and final designs of the stamp and its final design (Figure 17)[13] accompanied by a scanned photograph of the designer, James H. Simpkins (1910-2004)[14] and his famous cartoon bear, Jasper (Figure 18). They likely would barely past muster in a traditional exhibit and not fare much better in a FDC approach. The saving grace for Figure 17 in both cases is the fact that the unaccepted design does not exist in private hands. If it did, this scan would be totally inappropriate.

THEMATIC STUDIES

There are many varied sub-subjects that can be collected in the Hockey area. Some have a limited scope and others can be housed in dozens of albums. A few examples are shown below.

I. Politicians

Although examples are shown from Canada, there are likely many other domestic and foreign hockey players or officials who have morphed into politicians once their hockey careers were over. The first mentioned here is Lionel Conacher (1901-1954), a member of the Ontario Provincial Parliament (1937-1943) and of the Canadian House of Commons (1945-1954). He was voted Canada's top athlete of the first half of the 20th Century and won championships in many sports including football, baseball, hockey, wrestling, boxing, and lacrosse. For years he urged postal authorities to issue a stamp for Hockey. He advised Simpkins in the design of the stamp in Figure 11, issued in 1956. Figure 19 was issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the awarding of



Figure 19.





Figure 20.

the Memorial Cup (Sc. 3101, 3101a). Conacher was on the winning Memorial Cup team in 1920.

Ken Dryden (b. 1947) was a goaltender for the Montreal Canadiens (1970-79). He served as a member of the House of Commons (2004-2011) and as a Minister of the Crown (Social Development, 2004-06). Figure 20 shows Dryden in the Canadiens white away (Sc. 2866a) and red home uniforms (Sc. 2873).



Figure 21.

Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson (1897-1972), a Nobel Peace prize winner, was Canada's 14th Prime Minister (1963-68) and member of the House of Commons (1948-1968). His political and diplomatic careers are well documented. He was a noted athlete particularly in rugby union, baseball, lacrosse, and basketball. He played for the Oxford University ice hockey club while studying in England. He was asked, but turned down the offer, of playing for Great Britain in the 1924 Winter Olympics. Figure 21 (Sc. 591), a 6¢ definitive in the 1973-76 Prime Ministers series shows you how specialized you can become. Illustrated are regular and precancel blocks, regular and precanceled perforation shift varieties and a first day of issue cancel (17 October 1973) from the House of Commons Post Office.

Governor-General Roland Michener (1900-1991) was elected to the Ontario Provincial Parliament in 1945 and was defeated in 1948. In 1953 he was elected a member of the House of Commons and was its Speaker from 1957 until his



Figure 22.



Figure 23.

defeat in the 1962 election. Queen Elizabeth II[15] appointed Michener as Canada's 20th Governor General (1967-1974). A Rhodes scholar, Michener met Pearson while both were playing for the Oxford University ice hockey team. Although of opposite political parties they became lifelong friends. As Governor General, Michener is portrayed on Sc. 1447 shortly after his death and his name can be found on Sc. 1940, a stamp celebrating the 50th anniversary of Canadian citizens becoming Governors General (Figure 22). Michener supported a hockey club in his riding, St. Paul's, and used a photograph of himself and the team printed on an ink blotter to promote his political career (Figure 23). Another useful element for a Hockey display exhibit.

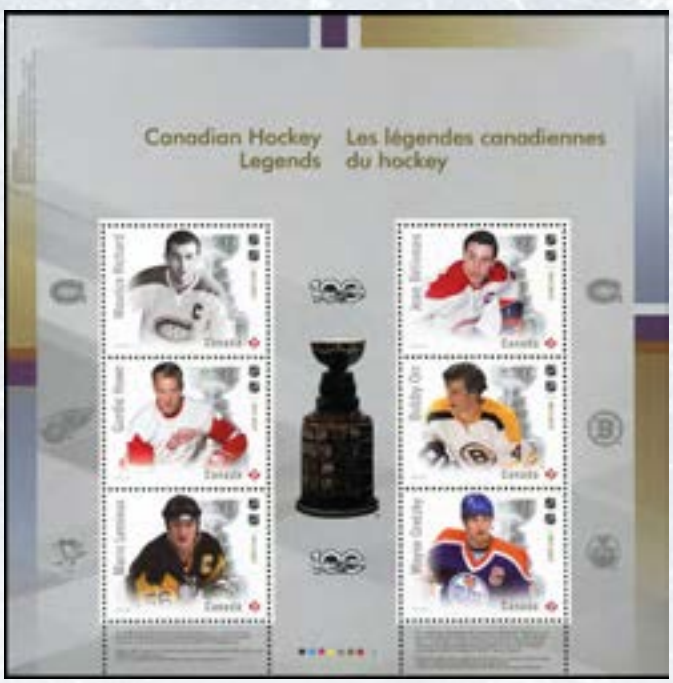


Figure 24.

II. The Stanley Cup/Isobel Cup

The most famous award in all of Hockey is the Stanley Cup (Fig. 24, Sc. 3026[16] and Fig. 25, Lord Stanley, and the modern cup[17]). Named after, and donated by, Lord Stanley of Preston (1841-1908), later 16th Earl of Derby, 6th Governor General of Canada (1888-1893) (Figure 26),[18] it was originally named the Dominion Hockey Challenge Cup (Figure 27-Original Stanley Cup). There are many other elements that would fit in a Hockey collection; for example, postcards for the 1905-06 Stanley Cup championship.[19] Figures 28 and 29 show respectively the Ottawa Hockey Club,[20] the eventual winner, and the Queen's University Hockey Team,[21] two of the five teams that played for the Cup in the challenge round. The others were the Dawson City Nuggets, the Rat Portage Thistles, and the Smiths Falls Hockey Club. A slogan postmark (Figure 30) was issued in May 1983 to be used on Ottawa processed mail concurrently with the ORAPEX National stamp show (May 7-8, 1983).

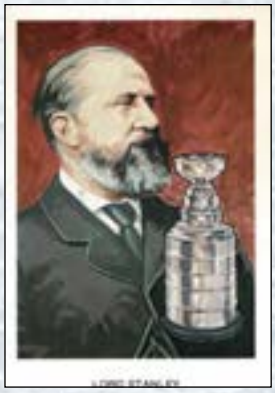


Figure 25.



Figure 26.



Figure 27.



Figure 28.

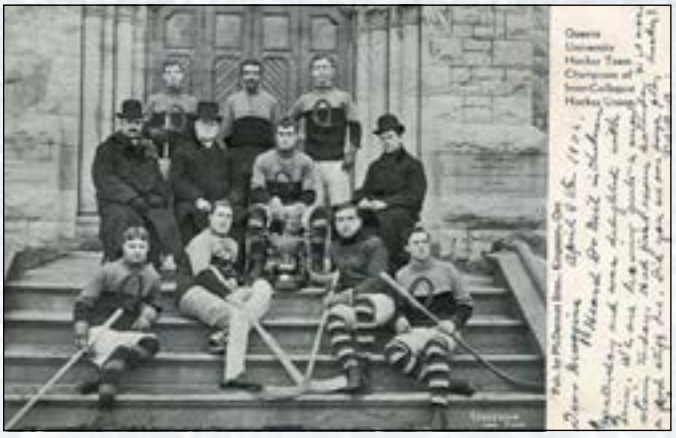


Figure 29.

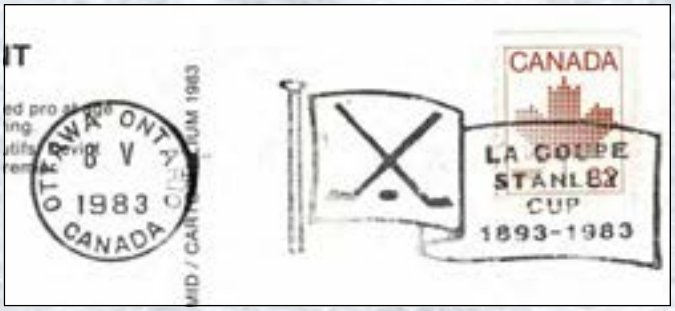


Figure 30.



Figure 31.

In 2016, for the first time, the National Women's Hockey League (founded 2015) awarded the Isobel Cup to its championship team (Figure 31). It was named after Lady Isobel Gathorne-Hardy (1875-1963), one of two daughters of Lord and Lady Stanley. She shared her family's love of ice hockey and was instrumental in getting her father to donate the Stanley Cup.[22] She is also one of the first recorded women to play ice hockey in 1889 at the Rideau Skating Rink which opened that year.

III. An individual Hockey Team: The Senators

A collector can easily put together a one-frame exhibit or a larger collection concentrating on material related to one specific hockey team. For this article, the Ottawa Senators will be used, but many other teams can provide enough philatelic or collateral material for a collection. The Ottawa Hockey Club team mentioned above, and in Endnote 20, had a storied amateur and professional life until it was disbanded in 1954. In 1990, Ottawa was awarded an expansion franchise in the National Hockey League, becoming the second franchise in the NHL to use the name Ottawa Senators. They started playing in the 1992-93 season. The stamp in Figure 32, issued September 3, 2013, shows the logo of the second iteration of the Ottawa Senators overlaid on a puck. Same design but different formats: a water-activated stamp from a souvenir sheet (Sc. 2661g) and a self-adhesive coil stamp (Sc. 2668). Twenty-seven days[23] later a second hockey teams' series was issued. The two similar stamps showed a Sena-

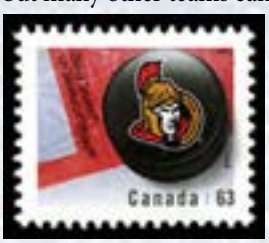


Figure 32.



Figure 33.

tors player and a fan wearing the home and away jerseys (Fig. 33). One was from a water-activated souvenir sheet (Sc. 2669d) and the other from a self-adhesive booklet (Sc. 2673).

To illustrate the older version of the Senators Hockey Club one can use the postcard in Figure 28, but also collectible chewing gum and cigarette cards. Alexander (Alec) "The Ottawa Fireman" Connell (1900-1958) played for the Senators from 1924 to 1933 with a one-year hiatus (1931-32 season). He is shown on a card issued for the 1933-34 hockey season by the Canadian Chewing Gum Sales Ltd. (Figure 34). Also, for the 1933-34 season the O-Pee-Chee Company, Ltd.[24] issued a series of cards of National Hockey League Stars. Figure 35 shows Sydney Harris "Syd" Howe (1911-1976) on what is considered to be his "rookie" card. It exists in at least two colours: red and orange. He started his NHL career with the Ottawa Senators in 1929.



Figure 34.



Figure 35.

Imperial Tobacco issued three sets of cigarette cards from 1910 to 1912. The 1910-11 set is considered to be the first true set of hockey cards. In the series of 36 cards, six showed Senators players.[26] Figure 36[27] shows a portrait of Martin "Marty" Walsh (1884-1915), a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame who played on three Senators Stanley Cup winning teams: 1910-12. He was also on the Queen's University team that challenged for the 1906 Stanley Cup. He is seen sitting at the extreme lower right in Figure 29. Figure 37 from the 45-card series[28] of 1911-12 represents Alexander "Alex" Currie (1891-1951). He played for the Senators for one year (1910-1911) and was their coach for the 1925-26 NHL season. A proof exists for this card which has a sharper print and is slightly more orange tint. The proof has several differences from the issued card. The most striking is the lack of a period after the word "Alex", both on the front and back of the card.



Figure 36.



Figure 37.





Figure 38.

IV. Leagues and International Competitions

The following is just a small flavour of what can be had, to put together a collection showing the history of hockey leagues and of international hockey. Figure 38 shows two stamps celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Hockey League founded in 1917, which is still going strong. The league logo is on one of the stamps while the crests of the six teams that formed the league between 1942 and 1967, and the NHL logo, are shown on the second. In 1895, a Colored Hockey League (CHL) was created in Halifax, Nova Scotia featuring only black players. The CHL was established by a Baptist pastor and three of his parishioners as a way to recruit blacks to the church. Over 400 players participated in as many as 12 teams during the CHL's existence (1895-1930).[29] The stamp in Figure 39, issued in 2020, celebrates the Halifax Eurekas winning of the 1906 CHL championship.



Figure 39.



Figure 40.

Women's hockey (Figure 40) starts back in 1891 when it was played at the University level in Ottawa. The first unofficial Women's World Championship was held in Toronto in 1987. The tournament was sanctioned by the International Ice Hockey Federation in 1990 and women's hockey was included in the Olympics in 1998 for the first time. Men's Hockey was first introduced in the Olympics in 1920 during the Summer Games in Antwerp, Belgium and were transferred to the first Winter Olympics held in Chamonix, France in 1924. Canada has participated in all 24 Olympic Tournaments winning nine of them. Canada has also won four of the six women's titles. Figure 41



Figure 41.

Figure 42.



illustrates three Hockey items issued by Canada Post for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics (Sc. 2299, 2299e and 2299f).

Between 1969 and 1972, negotiations were underway to put together a hockey series or "summit" pitting the Canadian NHL professional players and the Russians/Soviets, who dominated international hockey at the time. It was assumed by Canadians that the series, held in 1972, would tun into a rout in favour of Canada. An eight-game exhibition series was held (four in each country) and it was not until the last few seconds of the eighth and last game (34 seconds left) that Paul Henderson scored the series winning goal for Canada. No stamps were issued for the 1972 series at the time but 25 years later Canada Post issued a pair of se-tenant stamps



Figure 43.

(Figure 42) showing Henderson celebrating his goal (Sc. 1659) and the Canadian team celebrating the series win (Sc. 1660). In addition to the stamps, Canada Post produced a Collectors Gift Set box which included a commemorative puck, a t-shirt, a poster, and an unfolded booklet pane of ten stamps (five pairs of se-tenants in a checkerboard pattern). The box was sold for CAD $39.95 making that the original value of the unfolded pane.[30] Canada Post pre-cancelled the stamp pane as shown in Figure 43 with what it considered a First Day cancel.[31]

V. Family History and Genealogy

The author passionately believes that non-collectors can be brought into philately and its various collateral hobbies such as numismatics, deltiology, phaleristics and other ephemera collectibles by having them build an interest in illustrated family history. Virtually all the material philatelists use for display/open class, the family historian can use. A subset of this is illustrating your family genealogy. For some, this is easier said than done. Having famous people in your family helps. If you have French Canadian blood, as more than half



Figure 44.

of my ancestors did, you are incredibly lucky as virtually all baptismal, marriage and burial registers since the French Regime (mid-1660s) are still extant for Quebec and Acadia. In addition, they all have an enormous amount of detail including the maiden name of the wife or mother, making researching female family lines much easier. How does this relate to Hockey?

I am sure that many of you, with a little bit of research, would find some famous (or infamous) person–and they need all be players–related to the sport in your family. I will use my own family genealogy to illustrate this. My parents were married in the church in Montebello, Quebec (Figure 44).[32] My mother's maiden name was Lafleur (born in Fassett, Quebec), her mother's maiden name was Richer. This made her a cousin to two famous Montreal Canadien hockey players: Stéphane Richer (b. 1966, Ripon, Quebec) and Guy Lafleur (b. 1947 in Thurso, Quebec).[33] Unfortunately, Richer



Figure 45.

has not been honoured on Canadian stamps but I am sure there are ample other collectibles to portray him in a family study.

Lafleur, on the other hand, has been portrayed on Canadian stamps many times since he first appeared on the selvedge of a 1992 booklet pane celebrating the 75th anniversary of the NHL (Figure 45, Sc. 1445a). Ten years later, in 2002, he was one of a series of six players shown on a sheetlet produced for that year's NHL All-Star game (Figure 46, Sc. 1445a). Canada Post commemorated



Figure 46.



Figure 47.



Figure 48.

the 100th anniversary of the Montreal Canadiens in 2009. It issued four stamps for the occasion including three CAD $3 stamps in its first lenticular souvenir sheet. The three stamps portrayed a replay of the 500th goals of three Canadiens hockey players: Maurice Richard, Jean Béliveau and Guy Lafleur. Lafleur is on the lower stamp of the souvenir sheet (Figure 47, Sc. 2340) and that stamp is on a



Figure 49.



Figure 50.



Figure 51.

home made First Day cover (Figure 48, Sc. 2340c). His next and so far, last appearance on a Canadian stamp, was in a series celebrating Great Canadian Forwards issued in 2016. One is a Permanent/forever stamp (face value of CAD 85¢ at time of issue). It comes in both a water-activated souvenir sheet and a self-adhesive booklet (Figure 49, Sc. 2941c and 2944).[34] On the same day, six souvenir sheets on card were issued for the same six forwards. They were made to look like hockey cards and had a face value of CAD $1.80 each (Figure 50, Sc 2950). Additionally, the players autographed some of the souvenir sheets (Figure 51, Sc. 2950i).[35] These latter souvenir sheets could only be purchased in packages of six.

CONCLUSION

Hopefully, this article has given some of you an appetite for collecting Hockey. However, my ideas above can be used to collect a myriad of different subjects, topics, or themes not just Hockey. I am grateful to Gary Loew and D. Robin Harris, respectively the Editors of *The American Philatelist* and *The Canadian Philatelist* for giving me the opportunity to write this article. One that I have been pondering for years and their idea for a jointly themed issue of their magazines spurred me on. I leave you with two illustrations of souvenir sheets that exemplifies well the theme they chose and were issued in 2017 jointly by Canada and the United States (Figure 52, Sc. 3039 and Sc. US 5253c). ✉

ENDNOTES

1 "A game of hockey will be played in the Victoria Skating Rink this evening between two nines chosen from among the members."

2 The photograph is a montage of William Notman (1826-1891) studio-posed photos of individual players, with a painted-in background by G. Horne Russell, RCA (1861-1933).

3 Boswell, Randy, Why an Arctic hero may make us rewrite hockey history?, *Ottawa Citizen*, Ottawa, May 3, 2003, pp. 1-2.

4 See Endnote 3 for source.

5 See Endnote 3 for source.

6 A topical collection is one that encompasses stamps showing a topic and ordered by country or by subject. A thematic collection shows the collector's wider knowledge of his collecting subject by including other philatelic material that tells the story of the sport or the chosen subject.

7 Dickinson, Gary, *Collecting First Day Covers of Canada,* British North America Philatelic Society, 2020, p. 64. As per Dickinson, "Charles W. George (1920-1978) was a well-known maker of FDCs for U. S. stamp issues and he also produced them for Canadian stamps between 1948 and 1969. They were signed in several different ways including C. W. George, C. George, C. G. Junior III and Bobby G." He obtained this information from an article by David L. Smetzer and Joe Vogel entitled Charles W. George Cachets on Canadian First Day Covers published in *First Days*, Vol. 33, No. 5, pp. 626-635.

8 Prepared and applied, in one form or another and using different deigns, by the Post Office for official first flights between 1929 and 1950.

9 Post Office posters were produced to be displayed in Post Offices to announce new stamps. They were printed in both English and French. Both can be shown in an exhibit or the exhibitor can indicate that the other exists. This provides additional research points in a competitive exhibit.

10 An argument can be made that the items in Figure 15 and 16 could be used in a traditional exhibit by virtue of their producer. See Endnote 12.

11 A technical note for those who wish to exhibit competitively. Condition is a pointed criterion. A relatively common cover like this one would lose a portion of your points because it is foxed and stained. Best to find a pristine example rather than exhibit this one.

12 Primarily because it is a FDC and its contents but more importantly because the Canadian Bank Note Company produced, engraved, and printed the stamp.

13 Bentham, Lorne W. Canadian News and Comments: Cartoonist Drew Hockey 5¢ Design, *Scott's Monthly Journal*, February 1956, pp. 234-5. The finished artwork on the right includes several minor changes: the players' uniforms have the word "Canada" added; the main player's head and shoulders have been slightly turned; a puck has been added; and the lettering of "Canada" at the bottom has been strengthened.

14 Simpkins was a staff artist in the film strip unit at the National Film Board of Canada when he designed the stamp. He is most famous for his cartoon: Jasper the Bear. Although the author is not aware of the existence of a cartoon strip showing Jasper playing hockey, an original drawing of such a cartoon might be considered as collateral material in a Hockey collection.

15 Queen Elizabeth II can legitimately be included in a Hockey collection. While still a princess she attended a hockey game in 1951 between the Montreal Canadiens and the New York Rangers. In 2002 she dropped a ceremonial puck at the start of a game between the Vancouver Canucks and the San Jose Sharks. Six years later she dropped a puck to start a game in Slovakia between the Aqua City Propads and the Guildford Flames.

16 Originally a challenge cup between several teams, the rules of its award changed over the years. In 1926 it *de facto* became the championship trophy of the National Hockey League and *de jure* in 1947. It has been referred to as The Cup, Lord Stanley's Cup, The Holy Grail, and more facetiously as Lord Stanley's Mug.

17 Hockey Hall of Fame Postcard A14, copyright 1983.

18 Photograph, possibly by William Notman of Montreal, on card taken in the Summer of 1888. It was used in the Fall of the same year as a Carte de Visite by the tailoring and clothing firm of Hollis Shorey & Co. of Montreal. A companion 1889 Carte de Visite, from the same firm, bears a portrait of Lady Stanley.

19 Because of the challenge format and the distances to travel, the 1905-06 Stanley Cup season lasted from January 13, 1905 to March 8, 1906.

20 The Ottawa Hockey Club (1883-1954) was known by several nicknames including the Generals in the 1890s, the Silver Seven from 1903 to 1907 and the Senators dating from 1908. It was a founding member of the National Hockey League (NHL) and played in the league from 1917 to 1934. It held the Stanley Cup championship from 1903 to 1906 during the challenge years and in 1920, 1921, 1923 and 1927 during the NHL years.

21 The Queen's University team first played organized hockey in the Winter of 1883-1884 making it the second oldest university team in the world. It challenged for the Stanley Cup in 1895, 1899 and 1905-06. In 1898, the University donated the Queen's Cup, shown on the obverse of the postcard, for the annual competition in the Ontario Hockey Association.

22 She had eight brothers who all played hockey.

23 Originally scheduled for a September 3, 2013 issue date, this series of stamps was delayed until September 30 due to printing difficulties.

24 Confectionary company founded in 1911 in London, Ontario. It started producing trading card sets in the 1930s and issued five hockey sets between 1934 and 1938. Since 1997 the O-Pee-Chee brand has been revived under licensors.

25 It was given C56 as a series number by Jefferson Burdick's *American Card Catalog* many years after it was issued. There is conjecture that the series may have been issued for the 1909-1910 season, but most authorities agree on 1910-11.

26 They were Fred Lake, Percy Le Sueur, Bruce Ridpath, Gordon Roberts, Bruce Stuart, and Martin "Marty" Walsh.

27 According to Stephen Laroche, a prominent sports card historian, this card does not exist. He bemoans its absence in the series, "Strangely, scoring star Marty Walsh was overlooked by the creator of this set as he scored a team-leading 19 goals for the Senators." https://www.sportscollectorsdaily.com/1910-11-c56-the-dawn-of-hockey-card-collecting/.

28 *American Card Catalog* series number C55. There are ten cards showing Senator players (numbered 8 through 17). Five of the players in the first series (see Endnote 26) returned in this series with Gordon Roberts not included. In addition to Currie four new players were added: John "Jack" Darragh (1890-1924), Albert "Dubbie" Kerr (1889-1941), John "Jack" Macdonald (1887-1958) and Hamilton "Hamby" Shore (1886-1918).

29 At its zenith eight teams participated. They were the Jubilees, Stanleys, Eurekas, Sea-Sides, Victorias, Royals and Moss Backs, all from Nova Scotia and the Rangers from Prince Edward Island.

30 2021 value of the pane is CAD $100 and the box with contents CAD $125.

31 Collectors' views vary on this. Is it a precancel, a FD cover cancel or an overprint? However, all agree that it was a printed cancel and not hammer stamped.

32 A real-photo postcard that can be used in a family history.

33 Fassett, Ripon and Thurso are in close geographical proximity in Quebec on the north side of the Ottawa River in an area where the Lafleurs and Richers have lived since early in the 19th Century.

34 The perforations differentiate the two stamps. The stamp from the souvenir sheet is 12.5 x 13.2 while the booklet stamp has a serpentine perforation of 13.3 x 13.5.

35 A circular hologram Canada Post sticker in the upper left of the souvenir sheets provides authenticity for the autograph.



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FLAMES over COWTOWN

BY DALE SPEIRS

Calgary has had three professional hockey teams in its history. The Calgary Tigers played from 1921 to 1927, and once made the Stanley Cup final when it was still a challenge cup. The Calgary Cowboys played in the World Hockey Association from 1975 to 1977 before the league failed. The current team is the Calgary Flames, which began life as the Atlanta Flames in 1972 and relocated to Calgary in 1980.

ARENAS

When the Flames arrived in Calgary, they played their first three seasons in the Stampede Corral arena until their new home the Saddledome was completed. Ironically, both arenas are now scheduled for demolition, to be replaced by a new facility. All three arenas, the two outgoing ones and the incoming new one, are located on the grounds of the Stampede rodeo. During the rodeo, both of the existing arenas were used for rodeo events, as no doubt the new one will be.

Figure 1 is an undated mint postcard showing a view of the Stampede Corral. Judging from the cars parked next to the arena, the photo was taken sometime in the middle 1950s.



Figure 1. Postcard, Calgary Stampede Corral arena, 195x, view side.

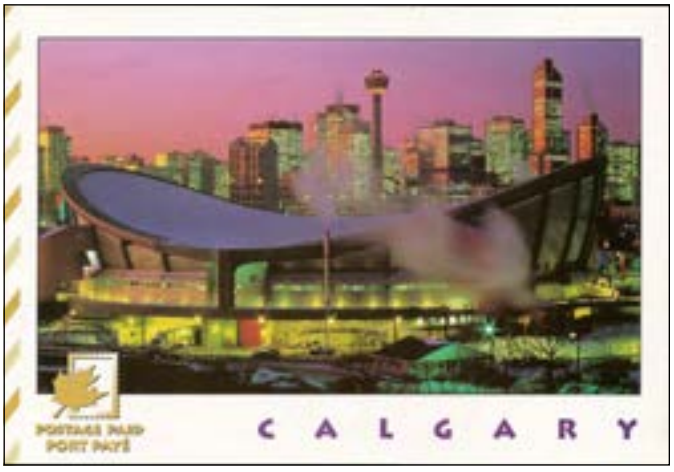


Figure 2. Postal card, Calgary Saddledome arena, 199x, view side.

Calgarians refer to the second arena as simply the Saddledome. The arena had a variety of sponsors, and sportcasters always had to be careful to refer to the full name lest they incur the wrath of the sponsors who paid the bills. Initially the arena was known as the Olympic Saddledome since it was intended as a legacy facility of the 1988 Calgary Olympic Winter Games. In 1995, the name changed to Canadian Airlines Saddledome, then Pengrowth Saddledome in 2000, and finally Scotiabank Saddledome in 2010.

Figure 2 is a postal card depicting the Saddledome circa the 1990s. The preprinted stamp on the other side is an undenominated Maple Leaf Flag definitive, which paid postage anywhere in the world. This card was widely sold in Calgary souvenir shops and on the Stampede grounds during the annual rodeo. The Stampede rodeo grounds and Saddledome are just southwest of the downtown core, which can be seen looming behind it on the postal card.

STAMPS AND POSTAL CARDS

During the middle 2000s, Canada Post signed an agreement with the National Hockey League for an extended series of stamps and postal cards, which milked all the variations of team jerseys, pucks and equipment, and star players for all the Canadian teams. As an expansion team of younger age than the Original Six, the Flames weren't in all of the stamp series, but did have a number of representations.



Figure 3. Calgary Flames, Canada Post OFDC.

The 2013 series depicted team uniforms. The Flames version of the stamp is shown in Figure 3 as a first-day cover, and the same image on a postal card as seen in Figures 4 and 5. The view side was not just an enlargement of the stamp image, as many



Figure 4. 2013 postal card, address side.



Figure 5. 2013 postal card, view side.

Figure 6. Calgary Flames jersey, souvenir sheet single.



other postal cards were, but showed a different view of the jersey. Figure 6 is the single from the souvenir sheet of all the teams. The booklet of stamps was what the general public mostly saw, as shown in Figures 7 and 8. That year also saw the issuance of vertical coils with the team logos shown on a hockey puck, shown in Figure 9.

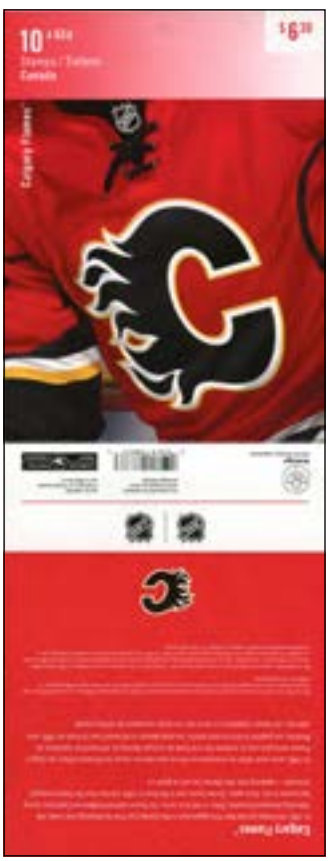


Figure 7. Calgary Flames jersey booklet cover.



Figure 8. Calgary Flames jersey booklet interior pane.



Figure 9. Hockey puck, coil.

For 2014, the Zamboni was the star of the series, appearing on postal cards and as vertical coils (Figures 10 to 12).

COMMERCIAL USE

I always try to get non-philatelic uses of topical covers, although in this Internet era it becomes exceedingly difficult to get items that went through the Papernet. Figure 13 shows a 1992 business cover, which



Figure 10. 2014 Zamboni postal card, address side.



Figure 11. 2014 Zamboni postal card, view side



Figure 12. Zamboni, coil.

probably contained a billing for tickets. One of the few remaining sources of genuine commercial usage is junk mail, of which I have a 2016 example for a hospital lottery, as shown in Figure 14. It shows a Flames goalie. Since the view is down the long axis of the ice, the goaltender is apparently sideways to the net and far out of position. A cynical fan might be tempted to add "as usual".



Figure 13. Calgary Flames Hockey Club, commercial cover, 1992.



Figure 14. Foothills Hospital Home Lottery, 2016, Flames goalie.



Figure 15. Stanley Cup.

ANCILLARY ITEMS

The Flames have only won the Stanley Cup once, for the 1988-89 season (Figure 15), although they have made it to the playoffs many times since. There is a joke in Calgary that if the Flames ever win another Stanley Cup then it will be a sign of the impending apocalypse. ✉

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Creating *Limited Edition* NHL COVERS

BY: HUGH RATHBUN

Collecting covers on any topic can create frustration when there are gaps in what is available. It may be that no official first day cover (FDC) was made for a particular issue, as was the case with Canada Post's release of the large format, high value hockey issues of 2014-2017. At other times, there are events that do not receive philatelic attention. On these occasions, collectors can create their own material.

In 1998, sports card producer Donruss worked with the postal administration of Guyana to produce stamp sheets with images of thirty-six NHL players. The stamps, which came with white, bronze, silver, and gold borders, were distributed primarily in hockey cards as part of the 1998-1999 Donruss Priority set. Nevertheless, these valid Guyana postage stamps (Scott # 3091a-z, aa-aj) were also available from the Guyana post office. In a letter, the Postmaster General of Guyana indicated that although no FDCs were made, he could create some for me, with eight stamps per cover.

I chose a different option. From the NHL teams that had at least one of their players included in the Guyana set, I obtained one copy of their current corner card. To each of these envelopes, I attached one to four gold-border Guyana stamps, depending on the number of players from each team included on the stamps. The covers were then mailed to Guyana for cancellations. The Guyana postal authorities in Georgetown chose a duplex marking, although it was struck to make the CDS portion more prominent than the obliterator. Although not FDCs, this single set of twenty-one covers is likely unique. Figure 1 shows the New York Rangers cover with Wayne Gretzky and Brian Leetch stamps.

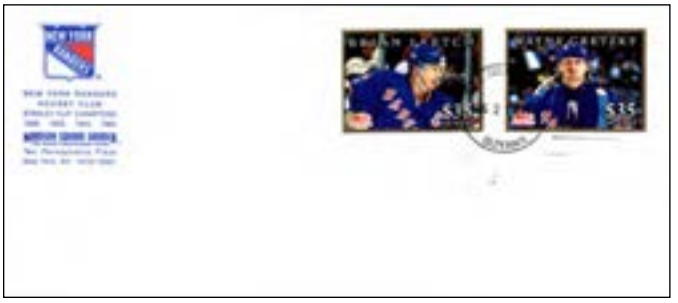


Figure 1.

In 2000, to mark the 50th NHL All-Star game, Canada Post issued a set of stamps honouring six NHL greats: Wayne Gretzky, Gordie Howe, Maurice Richard, Bobby Orr, Doug Harvey and Jacques Plante. I obtained a current team corner card from each of the twenty-eight NHL teams and from the two upcoming expansion teams, Columbus Blue Jackets and Minnesota Wild. As only one envelope was requested from each team, most teams complied immediately. A few teams were reluctant to send an unused envelope and required further explanation about my reasons for wanting it. Eventually, all thirty envelopes were in hand.



Figure 2.

The Wayne Gretzky stamp was put on the envelopes of the four teams he played for: Edmonton Oilers, Los Angeles Kings, St Louis Blues, and New York Rangers. The Bobby Orr stamp appeared on the Boston Bruins and Chicago Blackhawks envelopes. The other four stamps were placed on the envelope of the primary team with which each player excelled. Thus, the Richard, Harvey, and Plante stamps graced the Montreal Canadiens envelope. On the remaining corner cards, one of the six stamps was placed on each. In every case, the label showing a closeup of the player was left attached to the stamp. The Canada Post first day cancel was added to each envelope. Figure 2 illustrates the Gordie Howe cover.

Each year from 2001 to 2005, Canada Post issued a new set of NHL All-Stars stamps. In total, thirty-six different NHL players appeared on these stamps. For each year, I made a first day cover for each stamp, using the NHL team's corner card.

I changed the format from the 2000 set. For 2001–2005, I made NHL team corner card FDCs for only the teams for which each player had played. This was both easier and harder than what was done for the 2000 set. It was easier because envelopes were needed for only specific teams, not for all. But it was harder because in some years several envelopes from one team were needed. For example, in 2002, three of the six players had played for the Chicago Blackhawks. Also, extra envelopes were required for some players, such as Terry Sawchuk (2002), who played for five teams, Grant Fuhr (2005), who played for six teams, and Allan Stanley (2005), who played for five teams. With persistence, I obtained all desired envelopes.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

In 2001, the Chicago Blackhawks celebrated their 75th anniversary in the NHL with a beautiful corner card. Figure 3 shows the envelope with the Bobby Hull stamp. The 2002 Blackhawks corner card was changed, as seen in Figure 4 with the Glenn Hall stamp. Again in 2003, the Blackhawks corner card was changed. The many design changes on the NHL corner cards provided an extra element of interest in these FDCs for the 2000–2005 stamps. For many teams, however, the corner card remained unchanged from year to year.

During the years 2001, 2003, and 2004, the team hosting the NHL All-Star game printed a special corner card for the event. In addition to making FDCs on NHL corner cards for each player's teams, I also made FDCs on the All-Star game corner cards. For each of those years, two stamps were placed on each of three All-Star game envelopes. The 2001 Colorado Avalanche All-Star game envelope is shown in Figure 5.

When the Florida Panthers hosted the All-Star game in 2003, the team was also celebrating its 10th year in the NHL. Two new corner cards were printed: one specifically for the All-Star game and one marking "10 YEARS / ALL-STAR SEASON" (see Figure 6).

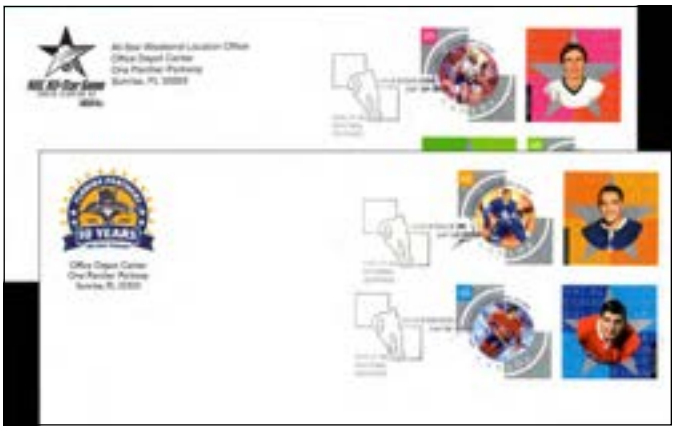


Figure 6.

The NHL All-Stars stamps issued from 2000–2002 came in only one format, with water-activated gum. The 2003–2005 sets retained that format but added a self-adhesive, die cut version of the stamps. In retrospect, I should have used the self-adhesive stamps on the 2003 All-Star envelopes. (I did, however, make FDC sets on plain envelopes with no cachet, as Canada Post did not issue FDCs for the self-adhesive stamps (see Figure 7). For the 2004 All-Star game in Saint Paul, Minnesota, I used the self-adhesive stamps on the corner card (Figure 8).

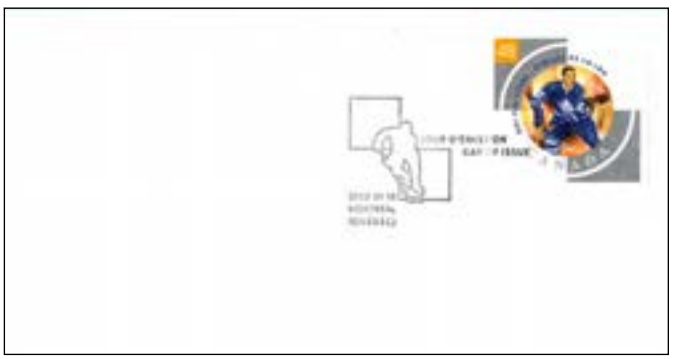


Figure 7.

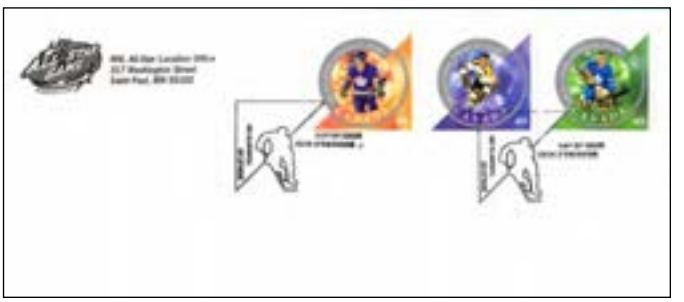


Figure 8.



Figure 9.

The NHL stamp series wrapped up in 2005, with Grant Fuhr (Figure 9) being one of the final six players presented. No All-Star game envelope was available in 2005.

Port Hood, Nova Scotia is the hometown of NHL star Al MacInnis. In 2003, the Port Hood post office initiated use of a pictorial postmark promoting the celebrity's connection to the town. When MacInnis retired in September 2005, I made a cachet showing Al MacInnis announcing his retirement and had the cover postmarked with the MacInnis pictorial postmark (Figure 10). The marking was used in Port Hood until 2014.



Figure 10.

Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia native and Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby made his NHL debut on October 5, 2005. Figure 11 shows a cachet image of Crosby playing in his first game. My cover, an edition of three, bears a Cole Harbour postmark dated October 5, 2005.

When Canada Post issued two stamps in 2016 with Sidney Crosby's image, I photographed the Cole Harbour, NS sign promoting the town as the "Home of Sidney Crosby." The photo was used on a cachet with the Canada Post Cole Harbour FDC cancellation added (Figure 12). Six covers were made.

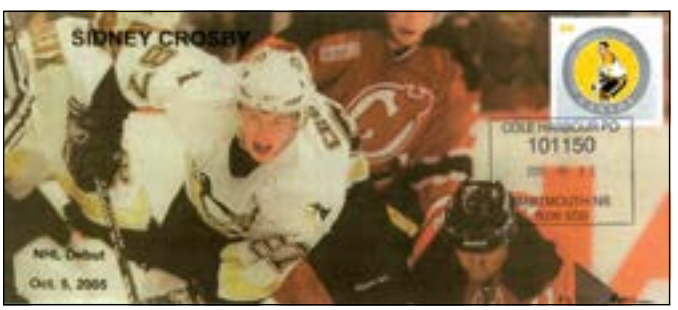


Figure 11.



Figure 12.

During the 2014 NHL Stadium Series game, I photographed a scene of the game on television. The resulting photo became a cachet image. Figure 13 shows the unusual view of Yankee Stadium on January 26, 2014.

Each year from 2014 to 2017, Canada Post released two sets of six stamps each honouring six great NHL players. The smaller stamp was issued in both self-adhesive and water-activated gum formats, with the self-adhesive stamps used on the Canada Post FDCs. The large format, high value stamps, called souvenir sheets by Canada Post, were issued in hockey card packs. The stamp could be peeled from the card and used as postage. Since Canada Post did not make a FDC for these stamps, I made some myself.



Figure 13.

I colour-photocopied a cachet image on 8½" x 11" card stock and handcrafted a 7¼" x 3¾" envelope for each large stamp. An image of the companion smaller stamp was used for the cachet image. When the covers were sent to the National Philatelic Centre, two strikes of the first day cancel per envelope were requested. For the 2014 series, three sets were made. In 2015, five sets were made (see Figure 14). For 2016 (see Figure 15), eight sets were produced, while the number increased to nine sets in 2017.

The smaller stamps in these sets were issued in souvenir sheets with water-activated gum. Each sheet was comprised of two columns of three stamps, with other images separating the columns. Figure 16 shows an intact portion of the 2017 sheet attached to a postcard, with the appropriate Howe and Orr first day cancels added.

Figure 17 shows a large (7½" x 6¼") postcard produced in 2001 by the Postcard Factory, Markham, Ontario. When Can-

ada Post issued stamps in 2017 to mark the 100th anniversary of the Toronto Maple Leafs, I turned the puck-shaped postcard into a maximum card. The puck-shaped Leafs stamp, which was released as a self-adhesive coil, was added along with a Leafs first day cancel.

Windsor, Nova Scotia promotes itself as the birthplace of hockey. Long Pond Hockey Enterprises of Windsor, NS produced the postcard in Figure 18. To the scene showing hockey players on Long Pond, I added a History of Hockey stamp along with the first day cancel (which is so tiny you can barely see it to the lower left of the stamp).

For the USA–Canada joint issue History of Hockey, I made two cachets, using one-hundred-year-old postcard images in the cachet designs. In addition to making FDCs of the Canadian



Figure 14.

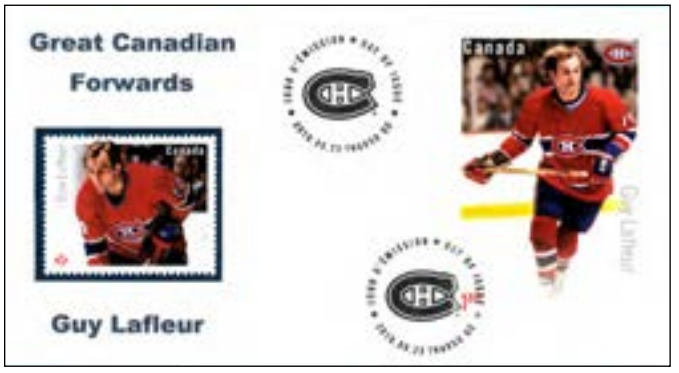


Figure 15.



Figure 16.

Figure 17.



stamps, I also made joint issue covers, which were not first day covers (Figure 19). The Canadian stamps were cancelled in Halifax, Nova Scotia on November 9, 2017 while the US stamps were postmarked in Portland, Maine on November 22, 2017.

My collection of philatelic hockey material focuses primarily, but not exclusively, on covers showing NHL players and events. For this, there are many wonderful commercially-produced items available. This article has highlighted how the commercial material can be supplemented by one's own creations. ✉

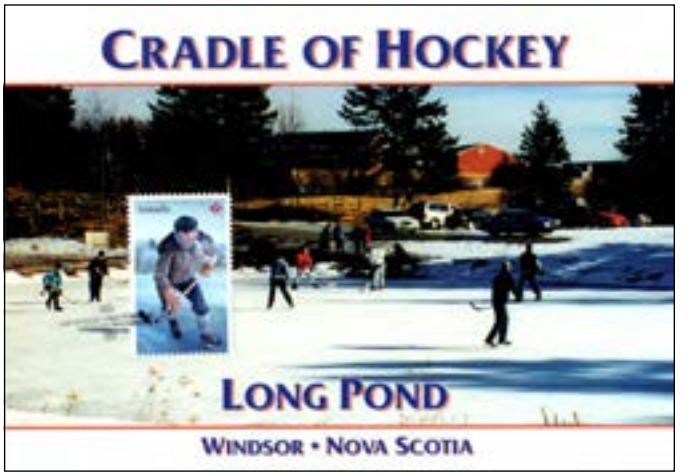


Figure 18.

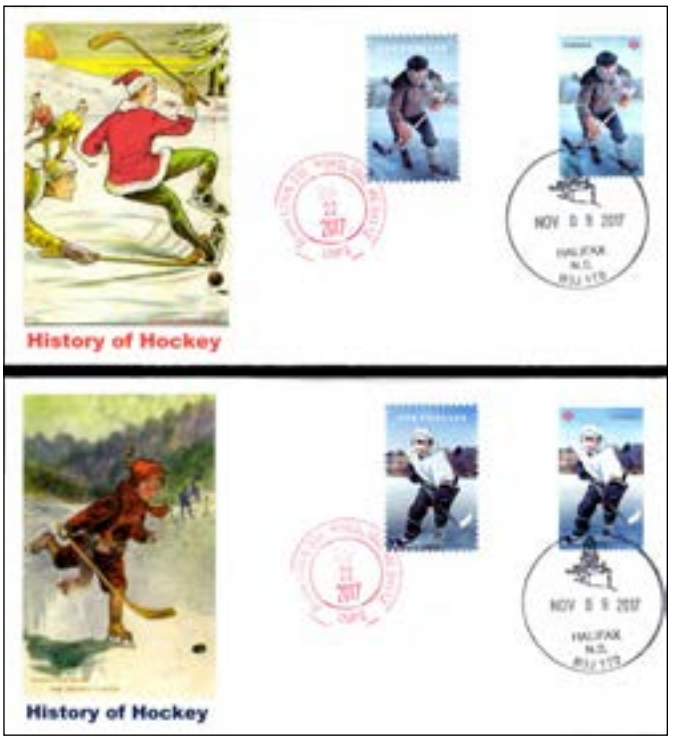


Figure 19.

PHILATELY OF ICE HOCKEY at SAINT-PIERRE et MIQUELON



BY JAMES R. TAYLOR, FRPSC

INTRODUCTION

Saint-Pierre et Miquelon (SPM), a French overseas archipelago, is located in the North Atlantic Ocean, just off the south shore of Newfoundland, Canada. The archipelago is an overseas self-governing French collective. It is the only territory in North America that remained a French possession after the 19th century. Saint-Pierre is the capital and largest town. The population of the territory in 2020 is about 7,000.[1]

The winter sport of ice-hockey, strongly influenced by the proximity of Saint-Pierre to hockey-crazed Canada, is extremely popular in SPM, with local teams often competing in Newfoundland-based leagues. Several players from the islands have played on French, Canadian and European professional hockey teams and even participated on France's national men's ice hockey team.

EARLY HOCKEY HISTORY

The popular seasonal sport of ice-skating is known in SPM since the early 18th century. Before radio and television, ice skating was a singular winter activity in Saint-Pierre. Local frozen ponds attracted many of the townspeople out for a skate. The ice-skating activity even had a hand in international diplomacy. The appointment of Arthur William (Willie) Woodhouse as British Consul at Saint-Pierre was made in 1906. Woodhouse, a career British diplomat, left his post at Boston and proceeded to Halifax by rail and on to Saint-Pierre by way of the weekly supply-boat. Willie was quite a hit with the French Governor at Saint-Pierre, who himself had only recently arrived from tropical Dahomey, the French West African colony. One story has Willie secretly teaching Governor Raphael Antonetti how to ice skate, a popular (and the only) Pierrais winter sporting pastime so that he could save face with the locals.[2]

As a result of long cold winters and the influence in the 1960s of televised hockey games from nearby Canada, the game has emerged as the national sport in Saint-Pierre et Miquelon. As soon as the temperatures are negative and the local ponds are frozen, the hockey sticks are out! Three clubs are listed in the archipelago. One welcomes minor players (4 to 18 years), and two clubs are for older adult players. Participants number 200 players in the Saint-Pierre et Miquelon hockey league. One or two off-island trips are organized in the winter to neighboring Canada, where hockey is king. Canadian teams are also welcomed to the archipelago for hockey tournaments.

OPEN-AIR ICE RINKS

Figure 1 shows the September 14, 1959, Scott 358 20F engraved stamp with ice hockey being played on an outdoor frozen pond. As is usual, with the French Colonies' issues, die and plate proofs are available to collectors. A rare perforated die proof in combination with the



Figure 1. 1957 Hockey on an outdoor rink on SPM issued in 1959.



Figure 2. The scarce composite die proof in the Ice hockey stamp issued color and the "Visons" stamp issued on the same day, September 14, 1959.



Figure 3. Marginal imperforate pair of plate proofs in the issued colors.

25F "Vision" (mink) is shown in Figure 2. A marginal pair of the 20F hockey imperforate plate proofs is shown in Figure 3. Note the engine turning in the right margin. These proofs are listed in French catalogues.[3] The properly used hockey issue as singles on covers is desirable and shown in Figures 4 and 5.



Figure 4. Commercial surface rate cover to Canada with the SPM 20F hockey stamp.



Figure 5. Cover to Paris, France with the SPM 20F hockey stamp paying the airmail rate.

Before computers and the internet, most television channels received at St. Pierre were broadcast from nearby Canada. The Canadiens hockey team from Montreal, Canada, was more likely to be televised than the French soccer stars of the distant home country, Paris Saint-Germain. Figure 6 shows the red sweater emblem of the Montreal Canadiens. The C and H stand for Canadiens and Hockey. Early fans interpreted the H to stand

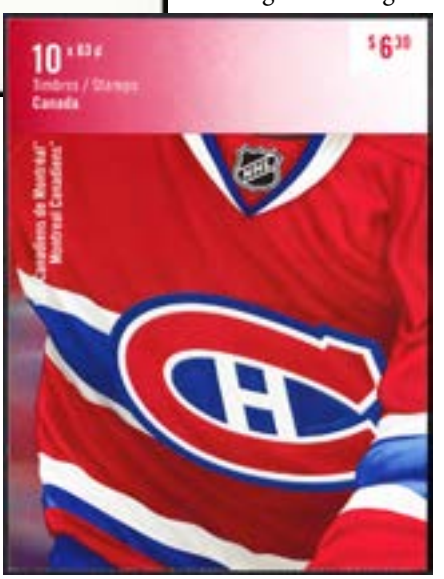


Figure 6. Montreal Canadiens jersey on a Canada stamp booklet cover.the airmail rate.

for the French term "Les Habitants" – as a result, "Habs" became a popular nickname for the club.

Figure 7 shows the SPM 60F airmail stamp issued for the 1968 Winter Olympic Games held at Grenoble, France. The design is a goaltender in full uniform. Figure 8 shows the French hockey stamp issued for the same event. This compliments the SPM design with a skater stick handling a puck.



Figure 7. 1968 SPM Grenoble, France, SPM Winter Olympic games 60F stamp showing a goaltender.



Figure 8. France 1968 Grenoble Winter Olympics stamp shows a skater stick-handling a puck.

ST. PIERRE LA PATINOIRE

The Saint-Pierre indoor ice rink, La Patinoire, was opened on December 14, 1984. The building is 60 meters long and 26 meters wide. Spectator capacity is 740, and the rink is located at Boulevard Louis Héron de Villefosse, St. Pierre. There's just one indoor North American size ice rink for the islands on St-Pierre, while in Miquelon, the smaller settlement on the north island, recreational hockey is played on a frozen pond in the winter.

The Ice-Skating Club sponsors figure skating, the Saint-Pierre Curling club features curling club, and the Hockey Sporting Club does ice hockey. Open from October to April, you can practice recreational skating (for individuals and schools) or ice sports in the three disciplines.

The ice rink hosts numerous shows and competitions: galas and figure skating competitions, ice hockey tournaments and curling tournaments. It is also the venue for commercial events such as the Archipelago, an exhibition of traders and artisans, flea markets and the Miss Saint-Pierre et Miquelon beauty pageant. The La Patinoire of Saint-Pierre is the only indoor ice rink located in overseas France.

LOCAL SPM HOCKEY TEAMS

Despite its remote location and vast distance from metropolitan France, the tiny island of Saint-Pierre has produced a disproportionate share of French national team players. Almost every French World Championship team of the last two decades has included a player from the archipelago.

The local Saint-Pierre et Miquelon team played one game against the French National Team on May 15, 2008, losing, but by a respectable 8 goals to 6. The game was played as a 'friendly" as the French team was on its way home from the 2008 Men's World Ice Hockey Championship, which was held in Canada at Halifax and Quebec City. The President of the French Ice Hockey Federation, Luc Tardiff, took the occasion to honor the Saint-Pierrais players selected for the national team. He also acknowledged the Saint-Pierrais hockey club, which had provided so many excellent players to the French teams for decades.

The Harfangs (Snowy Owls) women's hockey league was oversubscribed for the 2020-2021 hockey season. The Harfangs can now boast of being the largest amateur female hockey group in greater France. In four years of existence, the number of top female players from only seven to 43, is seen as a success by hockey player and president Maïwenn Hélène. The women's association is already thinking about expanding in the 2021-2022 season.[4]

FAMOUS SPM HOCKEY PLAYERS

The most famous hockey player born in St-Pierre was former French national team "Les Tricolores" captain Arnaud Briand, born April 29, 1970. When he started as a six-year-old, the open-air rink on a local frozen pond did not even have boards defining the playing surface. Briand explains, "Saint-Pierre et Miquelon are small islands, but we have two hockey teams in St-Pierre that are like families. Either you play for the Cougars, or you play for the Missiles. So, if you're born into a family, you already have an idea for which team you'll play. It's like a family feud," says Briand, from the Cougars family. "When I grew up, I was watching a lot of hockey on Canadian TV."[5] A 46-cent Canadian stamp, Figure 9, shows the TV program's opening logo La Soirée du Hockey. The famous French-language play-by-play commentator René Lecavalier, pictured on the stamp, introduced a unique French lexicon for the sport that is still in use.[6]



Figure 9. A Canadian stamp shows the opening logo for the Radio-Canada TV program La Soirée du Hockey with René Lecavalier the French language, play-by-play commentator.[Ref. 6]

Briand recalls that "I saw [Wayne]Gretzky [the Canadian super-star player] (Figure 10) play [on television] and got an idea [of] what I wanted to do. I played in St-Pierre and, in the summers, also went to [hockey] camps in Quebec [Canada]. I left for Quebec as a 14-year-old, and when I was 19, I left for France to play professional hockey." Briand continues, "When I left to play in Bordeaux, the hockey culture was something I missed most from St-Pierre and Canada where there was so much hockey everywhere."[5]



Figure 10. Canadian hockey hero Wayne Gretzky on a Canadian stamp in the uniform of the Edmonton Oilers.

Arnaud Briand represented France in ten World Championship games and four Olympic Winter Games in 1992, 1994, 1998 and 2002. The Winter Olympic Games of Albertville, France in 1992 were shown on a set of stamps. The 2.30+0.20F semi-postal value (Figure 11) illustrates a hockey skater (possibly Briand?). Briand, 45, finished his career after 16 professional seasons in France and played a single season with Lulea in the top Swedish league and one in Augsburg, Germany. He has fond memories that he finished his career with a farewell exhibition tournament in St-Pierre in 2008, where the French national team filled La Patinoire for every game. Briand has been a board member of the French Ice Hockey Federation since its creation as an independent organization in 2006.



11. 1991 hockey stamp for the France Albertville 1992 Winter Olympic Games.

Before Arnaud Briand, a French national player from Saint-Pierre, Patrick Foliot, was France's premier goaltender. Foliot was born on March 1, 1954, at St. Pierre. He left St. Pierre in 1981 at the age of 17 to play with Caen, Amiens, then Mont Blanc, Combloux in France, and the France national team. Foliot wore the French national team's tricolor jersey as a goaltender more than a hundred times. He played in the France men's team in the 1988 Winter Olympics held in Calgary, Canada. Foliot is featured in full goalie gear on the 5F Calgary 1988 Olympic Games stamp, Figure 12.[7] The full sheet of ten of the 5F stamp, Figure 13, shows the marginal inscriptions and the gutter illustrations of Olympic rings and the Canadian maple leaf motif. Patrick Foliot is also illustrated on a SPM maximum card (Figure 14) with a special postmark. After several years of coaching hockey in metropolitan France, he returned to the islands to coach minor hockey and managed the St. Pierre La Patinoire. Patrick Foliot has inspired and still inspires several generations of Pierrais players and fans.



Figure 12. 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics SPM 5F shows the goalie for Team France, Saint-Pierrais Patrick Foliot.

Among current players from St-Pierre, there are four national team members. Mathieu Briand – not related to Arnaud, Valentin Claireaux, Gary Leveque and Nicolas Arrossamena, all moved to metropolitan France during their junior years. Hockey is more prevalent among young men, but there was also a female player on the French under 18 years women's national team, Anaelle Champdoizeau.[8]

It is a goal of many young Saint-Perrais players to play professionally in the French Ligue Magnus and be chosen for the elite French National Team. It's just a question of time until the next player from the rocky islands 4,200 km west of Paris will be the next to wear the French "Les Tricolores" national team jersey.



Figure 13. The sheet layout of the 5F stamps with marginal and gutter inscriptions and illustrations, 5F 1988 Calgary Olympics.



14. 1988, an artistic SPM maximum card shows Saint-Pierrais Patrick Foliot. Pictorial postmark of the Olympic rings, hockey stick and "ÉQUIPE DE FRANCE DE HOCKEY" (French Hockey Team) .

CONCLUSIONS

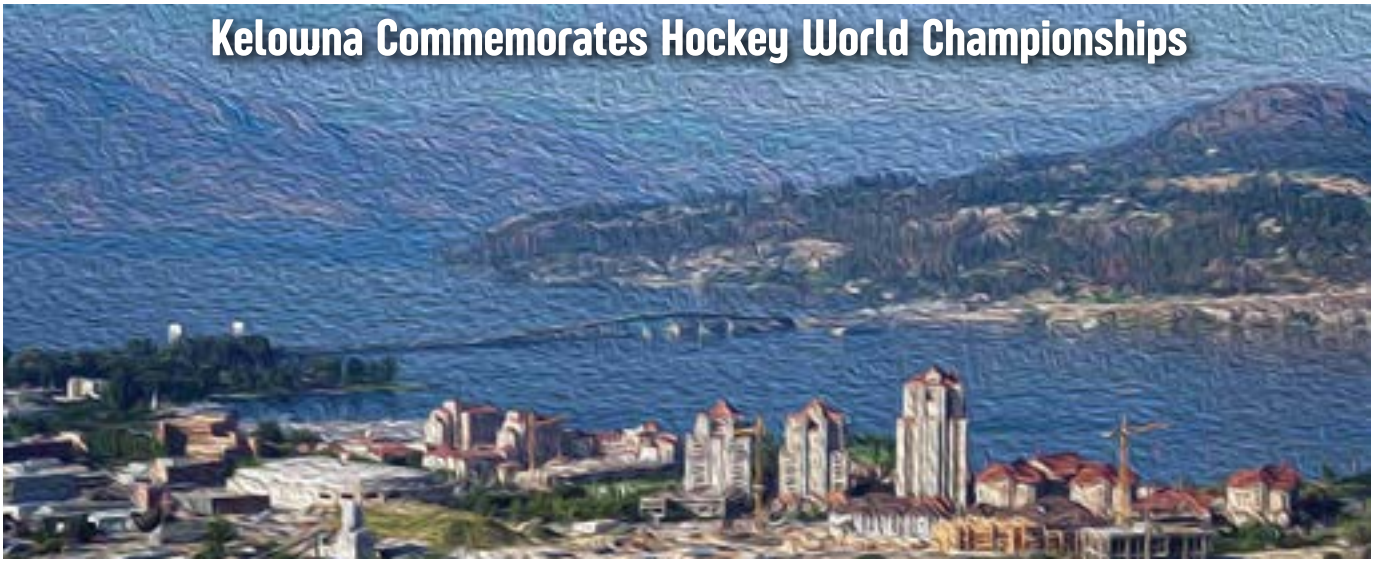
Despite its small population, about the size of a tiny town in the United States or Canada, Saint-Pierre et Miquelon is a hotbed of ice hockey. Attractive ice hockey designs are featured on the territory's collectable stamp issues[7] with a particular fondness for goaltenders! Several stamps of Canada and France illustrate and add to the story and allure of SPM hockey.

Except for stamp collectors, few people, even in France, know where St. Pierre and Miquelon is. Sometimes in France, St. Pierre is misidentified as being located in Africa. Even the Elite hockey players' website[9] lists the birthplace of Patrick Foliot as St. Pierre, Manitoba, Canada (rather than St. Pierre and Miquelon). Perhaps one day, Saint-Pierre et Miquelon ice players will gain more recognition for their hockey heritage. "However, no gateway to the NHL to date…" as one commentator acknowledged. ✉

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with Picture Postage Stamps

BY: K. PETER LEPOLD

The City of Kelowna is located in the picturesque Okanagan Valley in Canada's most westerly province, British Columbia. It is known for several major attractions. The warm temperatures in the summer and numerous beaches and parks provide wonderful recreational opportunities. Added to that, there are 19 golf courses and over 150 wineries in the Metro area. Secondly, Kelowna is a hockey town. It is home to the Kelowna Rockets, a major junior hockey team as well as a hockey training academy for women. Thirdly, the Kelowna and District Stamp Club executive supports hockey by having Canada Post print various Picture Postage™ stamps commemorating world championships.

The Kelowna Rockets would have hosted the 2020 Memorial Cup, but due to Covid-19 it had to be postponed. The Rockets previously hosted the Memorial Cup in 2004 when they defeated the Gatineau Olympiques of the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League to claim the CHL national championship. Many of its young players were drafted and now play pro hockey for teams all over North America. In 2018, Dillan Dube, a Kelowna Rocket player, was Team Canada's Captain and scored one of the three goals which won Canada the Gold against Sweden in Buffalo, NY. For young women, the local Pursuit of Excellence Hockey Academy has attracted female hockey players from across Canada and several of them were instrumental in winning Gold and Silver in Women's World Cups. In 2019, a valley girl, Anne Cherkowski from Vernon, scored one of the three goals which gave Canada the Gold. In 2020, Sarah Paul, who lives in West Kelowna, scored Canada's only goal when they won Silver.

Similar to other countries, Canada Post started in 2000 to accept orders to create personalized stamps, known as Picture Postage™. Initially, the picture was a label which could be affixed to the blank centre of the frame of a stamp. In 2004, the method of creating stamps changed and the picture and frame were printed together, which then looks more like a regular postage stamp.

The idea to create a commemorative stamp for Hockey World Cups started in 2014 when members of the Kelowna & District Stamp Club discussed the Olympic Gold Medal Game in Sochi, Russia. Earlier in 2011, Canada Post released three stamps in the Picture Postage™ format which commemorated the Winnipeg Jets with the Jets' logo and the "First Goal" by Nik Antropov (Unitrade # PP7–PP9). The Canadian Picture Postage™ program gives stamp collectors and designers the opportunity to create designs which, subject to approval, can be printed in small quantities. Currently, as few as one sheet of 25 stamps or three booklets of 12 different frame designs can ordered. The Scott/Unitrade Catalogue decided early on that due to the large number of different stamps being printed, it would not be prepared to create listings for picture postage-type stamp issues submitted by individual collectors. However, that didn't stop a collector to

PICTURE POSTAGE™ OVER THE YEARS



2000-2004
6 frames



2004-2012
2 frames



2012-present
12 frames



Figure 1.

create a web catalogue exclusively for Picture Postage™ stamps. Designers and collectors are encouraged to send pictures of their stamp creation to be listed. As of the end of 2020, more than 8,700 Canada Picture Postage™ stamps have been catalogued. All hockey stamps described in this article are, or will be listed and can be found at www.picturepostage.net (Sample # is 2591-M51).

The stamp for the Sochi Hockey World Cup was designed by K. Peter Lepold, the publicity Chair of the Kelowna Stamp Club who had created other commemorative stamps for local landmarks and tourist attractions. It was quite popular and two different versions were created (#2591-M51 & #2596-M55). It was the first of a series of a total of 15 hockey stamps, with the last one printed in January 2021. For every stamp issue created there is also a 'first day cover' which provides more information on the tournament, such as names of players scoring goals, etc.

The 2014 Olympic Gold stamp was followed in January 2015 with a new stamp when Montreal and Toronto hosted the men's Junior Games. Once again, Canada was successful in beating Russia. Two stamps commemorating the Gold win were created (#2591-M52 & #2596-M37) [Figure 2].



Figure 2.

In 2016, Toronto played host to the World Juniors and in the finals Team Canada beat Team Europe. A stamp was designed and ordered once it was known that Canada would be in the finals (#2587-M21). Once again Canada was successful in winning Gold. To commemorate the success, a stamp with the overprint "Canada 2016 – World Champions" (#2586-M78) was printed [Figure 3].

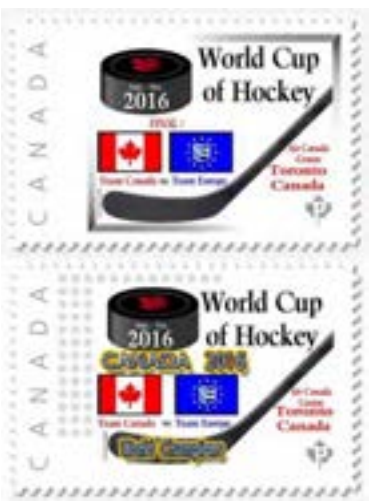


Figure 3.

During 2018, the city of Buffalo, New York was hosting the Men's World Juniors. The Gold medal win of Canada against Sweden was justification to design another stamp for this achievement (#2586-M81) [Figure 4]. Kelowna's Rocket player Dillon Dube scored the first goal. Upon his return to Kelowna he received several of our stamps and autographed some 'first day covers'. The same year was also the first year that a stamp was



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

created for the Women's Hockey Finals played in South Korea. In the finals, USA beat Canada 3-2 (#2591-M59) [Figure 5].



Figure 6.

In January 2019, Vancouver and Victoria, BC hosted the Men's World Junior Hockey Championship. Since it was played in our home province, we decided to create a stamp for this occasion (#2591-M127) [Figure 6]. Unfortunately for Canada, Finland and USA played in the final game. Later in the month, Obihiro, Japan hosted the U18 Women's World Championship. This time Canada beat the USA 3-2 (#2587-M254) [Figure 7]. Later in June the IIHF men's teams played in Bratislava & Kosice, Slovakia. This time Finland won against Canada in the Gold medal game 3-1 (#2591-M141) [Figure 8].



Figure 7.



Figure 8.

Early January 2020 saw Slovakia host the U18 Women's World Championship. Canada ended up in the finals against the USA, but lost 2-1. Still, because the lone Canadian goal was scored by a Kelowna player, there was something to celebrate (#2593-M42) [Figure 9]. Three days later it was Canada's Junior Men's Team turn to play in the Czech Republic in the Gold medal game. Our team was successful in beating Russia 4-3 (#2593-M153) [Figure 10]. Later, from March 31 until April



Figure 9.



Figure 10.



Figure 11.

10, Halifax and Truro, NS were scheduled to host the 2020 IIHF Women's World Championship. But then Covid-19 happened and the games were postponed. Initially, we had planned to issue a stamp for the games, but then decided to postpone the stamp as well. Several collectors were expecting a stamp and it was decided to add "Cancelled Due to Covid-19" to the original design. Canada Post approved and in August 2020 a stamp with an overprint was released (#2586-M254) [Figure 11].

Our most recent stamp issue commemorates the 2021 Worlds Men's Junior Championship. Scheduled for January 2021, it was played in Edmonton, AB. Covid-19 restrictions meant players had to stay in a "bubble". Games were broadcast on TV, but there was no live audience in attendance. The Gold medal game was played between the USA and Canada. The USA won 2-0 (#2591-M172) [Figure 12].



Figure 12.

Over the years Canada Post has issued different stamp sets such as "Toronto Maple Leafs", "Great Canadian Goalies", "History of Hockey" as a joint effort with the US Postal Service, etc. Kelowna's stamp issues have honoured annual World Championships and in addition, have recognized local players who have contributed to our medals. ✉

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THE YOUNG COLLECTOR

by Joseph Perrone | josephperrone@rpsc.org

HOCKEY, A FAMILY AFFAIR

When I was younger, I absolutely hated waking up early save for three reasons: fishing, Saturday morning cartoons, and road hockey: the quintessential Canadian sport.

Saturday nights were especially fun, because the Toronto Maple Leafs would most likely be playing and I enjoyed watching them - even if they were trounced repeatedly. I was a fan of Phil Kessel and wore his jersey. *Hockey Night in Canada*, with Ron Maclean and Don Cherry, will remain a fond lifelong memory.

As many Canadian children do, I played ice hockey in a family-friendly home league. Though I could barely skate forward, let alone backward, I learned persistence and had a great time. I still enjoy the opportunity to play the game at a non-competitive level in college with my buddies.



Though I could only ever dream of winning a Stanley Cup, my family does have some direct and some remarkably interesting ties to hockey history.

My mother's grandfather, Donald Burke, was the very silversmith who added new rings to the Stanley Cup year by year, as teams won the greatest prize in hockey. On my 13th birthday, my Dad took me to the Hockey Hall of Fame where the Stanley Cup resides, and I was immensely proud.

In fact, the silver tea set which Harold Ballard, then-owner of the Leafs, presented to the Leaf's team captain, Darryl Sittler, for his 10-point game on February 7, 1976 vs. The Boston Bruins was also made by my grandfather's silver-smithing company, Burke and Wallace. The story is that Harold Ballard called my great-grandfather and said he needed something special to acknowledge this amazing feat of Sittler (which remains unmatched to this day) since he had recently publicly complained about his captain's performance.



Another interesting family connection to hockey is that my paternal great-grandfather, John Balych, a Ukrainian immigrant to Toronto, laboured on the construction crew that built Maple Leaf Gardens where the Leafs played for 67 years, from 1931-1999.

As the original six teams in the National Hockey League have since grown to thirty-one, this Canadian passion has developed its own history, which has been captured by some fascinating stamps.



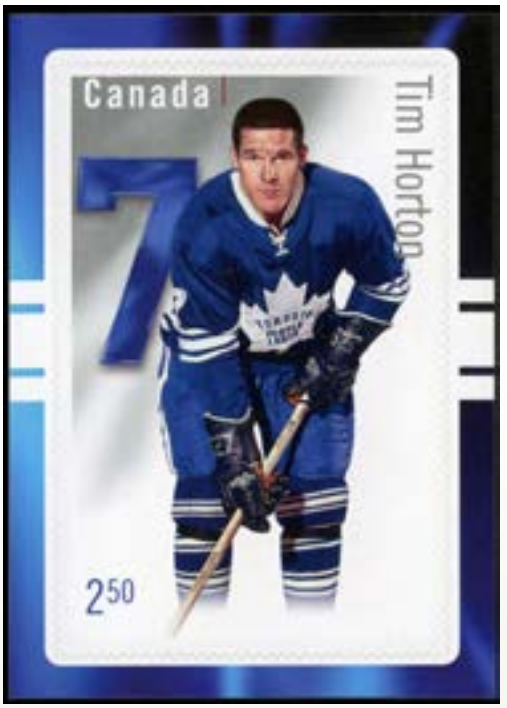
The first Canadian hockey stamp is the 1956 issue featuring two players and a goalie (Scott 359). The sticks they use are wooden, and there are no helmets on any of the players, including the goalie! Not until 1959 did the first goalie, Jacques Plante of the Montreal Canadiens, wear the first mask. He began to use it during practices after a sinusitis surgery but, during a game verses the New York Rangers on November 1, 1959, his nose was broken by a flying puck. He went to the dressing room to fix his nose and returned, making history by wearing his homemade fiberglass mask.



Plante's mask can be seen on the Canadian stamp (Scott 1838f) from February of 2000.

The Original Six teams and their rivalry continue to this day. I feel I am part of that history today when the Leafs play Montreal or one of the other original teams. For instance, I vividly remember my disappointment on May 13, 2013 when the Leafs lost their 4-1 lead against the Bruins in the first playoff round. Boston pulled goalie Tuukka Rask and, with the extra forward, scored in overtime to crush my hopes and dreams of watching the Leafs in a second-round matchup.

In 2014, Canada Post issued a set of stamps commemorating an important player from each of these original six teams: the



Toronto Maple Leafs, the Boston Bruins, the Montreal Canadiens, the Detroit Red Wings, the Chicago Blackhawks, and the New York Rangers.

My favourite of all is these stamps is the one of the Leaf's legendary defenseman, Tim Horton (Scott 2788), who died in a tragic car accident on February 21, 1974 when he opted to drive home to Buffalo from a game in Toronto, instead of taking the team bus.

Not only was Horton good on the ice, but he founded a store that has become the face of Canadian coffee. In 1964, he and his business partner, Ronald Vaughan Joyce, opened a little donut shack which grew into the quintessentially Canadian Brand, *Tim Hortons*. When non-Canadians tell me what they know about Canada, one of the first things they always talk about is *Tim Hortons*.

In 2014, when the first hockey card stamps came out, I thought that it was an interesting and tasteful blend of hockey and philately. For Christmas that year, my parents bought me a few packs of this collection, which I really loved. In fact, I still have not opened them because I can't bring myself to destroy the wrapping and packaging!

Hockey has created a lot of characters and heroes on the ice, but also a lot off the ice. One hockey parent who is recognized as a hero is Walter Gretzky, who recently passed away on March 4, 2021. I am glad I had the chance to meet him and receive his autograph a few years back at an old-timer charity hockey game held in Owen Sound, Ontario. A hockey player himself, Walter helped to coach his son Wayne Gretzky as a youth, who became the legendary goalscoring and playmaking Hall-of-Famer. Perhaps there should be a stamp commemorating the life of Walter Gretzky.

Hockey is a great Canadian sport with a living and fascinating history that is fun to explore, and I think that collecting thematic hockey stamp issues could be a great way to bring new collectors to the hobby. ✉

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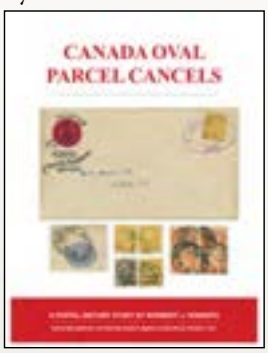
BOOK REPORTS

by/par Tony Shaman, FRPSC

CANADA OVAL PARCEL CANCELS

By Norbert J. Hobrath, published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2020. Spiral bound, 68 pages, 8½ by 11 inches. ISBN : 978-1-989280-10-2 (colour edition.) Member price $31.00 Canadian funds, plus shipping and handling. Available from Longley Auctions, P.O. Box 620, Waterdown ON L0R 2H0.

Any philatelist looking for a new collecting challenge need look no further than Canada's oval parcel cancels. While many knowledgeable collectors are convinced that way too many covers have been ruined because "stamp collectors" ripped the stamps off them, think about all the oval parcel cancels that have been lost because recipients of parcels simply discarded the parcel's wrapping paper, including the cancelled stamp(s) after the parcel was opened. Little wonder then that collectors have difficulty finding stamps cancelled with oval parcel devices.



In addition to depicting colour images of oval parcel strikes in this pioneer publication, the author also provides a two-page list of relevant references including those of philatelic authorities such as Fred Jarrett, Wally Gutzman, Dr. Fred G. Stulberg and Dave Lacelle, among others.

The book is divided into seven chapters, including the above-mentioned reference listing and a preface providing some background information about the author's collecting interests. We learn, for instance, that he had a number of collecting interests including a specialized collection of U.S. Special Delivery stamps, German Souvenir Sheets and a Tennis on Stamps thematic collection before he zeroed in on his current collecting love: Canada's oval parcel cancels. His 'Tennis on Stamps' exhibit now resides in the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island.

In Chapter 2, we learn that not all cancels that look like oval parcel cancels are what they appear to be at first glance. Three-plus pages of explanatory text and illustrations are devoted to this topic. The balance of the chapter explains how collectors can identify the genuine oval parcel cancels along with a list of Canadian cities which made use of these elusive strikes.

Chapter 3, one of the most colourfully illustrated in the book, deals with the oval parcel strikes that were in use in Montreal. Illustrated are four different Montreal strike styles with each one cross-referenced with its corresponding Jarrett, Lacelle, and Olson catalogue numbers. Cancelled stamps, off and on cover and on piece are amply illustrated for each of the four different hand cancellers. Judging by the number of illustrations, type 2 cancels appear to be the most common with type 4 the scarcest.

Toronto strikes are covered in Chapter 4. Drawings of 35 different cancellation types are shown along with their Jarrett, Lacelle, and Olson cross references. The vast majority of illustrated stamps are Small Queens, although the 35-plus years that these strikes were in use, extend into the Diamond Jubilee period.

Collecting items covered in Chapter 5 is likely the most challenging for collectors as it deals with the oval parcel cancels in use in cities other than in Canada's two largest communities, Toronto and Montreal. Although some fair-sized cities, including some of Canada's provincial capitals, were provided with oval parcel handstamps, so were several smaller communities such as Acton and Cobourg in Ontario and St. Hyacinthe in Quebec. At this point in the author's research, he has not been able to determine how the Canadian Post Office decided which local post offices would be supplied with one of these cancellers. As in other chapters, each known strike is illustrated with an artistic drawing along with a sampling of cancelled stamps and covers.

The concluding chapter lists a dozen reasons why collectors might want to pursue this field of collecting.

Although the author has listed and illustrated every type of reported oval parcel specimens, there may well be some unknown examples lurking in a mission mixture somewhere. For that reason, this work remains a work a progress. Nonetheless, it is presently as complete as possible and for anyone casting about for a new field to collect, owning a copy of this comprehensive publication will give them a head start.

CANADIAN POSTAL STATIONERY USING THE KARSH AND WILDING PHOTOGRAPHY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

By Earle L. Covert, published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2020. Spiral bound, 240 (120 double) pages, 11 by 17 inches. ISBN : 978-1-989280-11-9 (colour edition.) Member price $44.00 Canadian funds, plus shipping and handling. Available from Longley Auctions, P.O. Box 620, Waterdown ON L0R 2H0.

This postal stationery publication is the 108th volume in the BNAPS exhibits book series. Many postal stationery items as measured in their footprint are big and require correspondingly large pages to accommodate an exhibit. BNAPS has risen to the challenge in picturing Covert's stationery exhibit. We should note that only once before has a BNAPS exhibit been published in 11-inch by 17-inch landscape format. Covert's exhibit is equally expansive.



From the 1953 Karsh photo proofs to regular issue and private order postcard, no collecting area seems to be lacking in the exhibit's outstanding material. In the proof section are examples of the 2-cent value in green on white unwatermarked paper. Other outstand-

ing pieces include the first Karsh images on the 5-cent and 4-cent proofs in blue as well as a similar, but with four proof impressions in purple marked "not approved."

Proofs on different paper thicknesses and with different manuscript numbers are also depicted.

A rich display of No. 8 envelopes imprinted with the 2-cent first Karsh Queen Elizabeth photograph show the different gums used on the envelope flap and the various methods that the Department of Public Printing and Stationery used to introduce a new rotary press to apply the gum with a roller mechanism.

Collectors and postal historians will also find these postally used envelopes of interest because of their corner card impressions and the assorted machine cancels. These postal markings are a bonus in the study of postal stationery. Examples of different shades of gum are amply illustrated as are the methods of how these gums were applied to envelope flaps.

Contemporary postage rate increases could be accommodated by returning outdated envelopes to have the requisite new rate added. A couple of examples in the exhibit show the addition of a 1-cent Wilding impression to the existing 1-cent Karsh photo postage. Examples of precancelled post band and wrappers, uncancelled postcards, overprints, revalued and privately applied headings are all amply illustrated.

The second Karsh issue is shown with regular imprints and errors. Eye-popping error examples depict a 2-cent double print and a 5-cent triple print. Unlike the first Karsh envelopes showing a rate increase with the addition of a second stamp imprint, a rate increase that became effective when the second Karsh photo envelopes were in use merely added the digit 3 imprint to show the new rate. Private order envelopes in the exhibit illustrate a #8 cross flap, window envelopes, form 95 election envelopes, precancels, postcard overprints and an assortment of other rate and card varieties.



Wilding photograph stationery examples in the exhibit are as amply represented as the Karsh items. Included in this section of the exhibit are proofs including inverted impressions of the 2-cent denomination as well as regular issue envelopes. Also shown are used and unused postcards, private order envelopes, un-gummed flaps, long pointed, cross flap envelopes, side seam envelopes, Kraft and white paper envelopes with flaps left "OPEN FOR INSPECTION." Attractive and artistically designed corner card envelopes abound throughout the exhibit.

As in the Karsh section of the book, election envelopes, private order postcards, post band and labels and Government issue envelopes are well represented.

This is an extensive exhibit and a brief review such as this cannot begin to cover all the papers, gums, printings and so on pictured in this publication. For the postal stationery aficionados, and other interested collectors, owning a copy of this publication will be a wise investment.

R.C.A.F. CHRISTMAS CARDS 1939 – 1980

By A. David Hanes, published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2020. Spiral bound, 286 pages, 8½ by 11 inches. ISBN: 978-1-989280-15-7 (colour edition.) Member price $64.00 Canadian funds, plus shipping and handling. Available from Longley Auctions, P.O. Box 620, Waterdown ON L0R 2H0.

Everyone, at least in the western world, knows about our popular Christmas cards, but more than likely not everyone is aware of a series of parallel greeting cards: the RCAF Christmas cards. How many civilians, for instance, are aware that members of the Canadian Air Force have made extensive use of these military-style cards over the years to send season's greetings to friends and family? This tradition appears to have carried on after 1968 when Canada's three branches of the armed services, the army, navy and air force, were integrated into a single unified structure known as the Canadian Armed Forces.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the military line type of organization was carried over into the greeting style of RCAF Christmas cards. Although many of these cards extend season's greetings from air force base commanding officers, cards also exist from airmen, junior and senior non-commissioned officers and on up the ranks to staff and squadron officers. One card, for example, from Canadian Forces Station Gypsumville, Manitoba, is signed "Food Services".

The book is divided into seven main sections, beginning with cards commemorating the British Commonwealth Air Training Program. By 1945, the end of World War II, Canada had 151 training schools for airmen operating in every Canadian province. Cards from these various schools are pictured with each school's function and location identified. Where applicable, the author lists the type of instruction that schools provided such as flight and wireless instructions, elementary flight training, service flying, bombing, gunnery and so on.

The cards pictured in the book's second chapter depict cards from the various squadrons spread across Canada. Organized in 1920 as the Canadian Air Force, it became the "Royal" Canadian Air Force in 1924. The various squadrons were given different identification numbers over time but were finally assigned numbers from the 400 block, which they have retained to this day. Sixty pages are devoted to the aircraft pictured on different cards used by these various squadrons.

Chapter 3, one of the shortest in the book, but also one of the most colourful, pictures various aircraft used by the RCAF. Shown are the following aircraft: Lancaster Bomber, Spitfire, Bristol "Beaufighter," Harvard Trainer, Kitty Hawk, Mosquito, Fairy "Battle," and the Lockheed "Hudson."

Unlike most of the cards depicted in the book, cards in Chapter 4 do not show the location of the air force base, station, or school; some cards indicate "RCAF Overseas" while others simply show "Greetings" or "RCAF Greetings." However, one card is inscribed "Divadale," which was a luxurious estate located in the Bayview area of Toronto. It also served as a convalescent hospital during the WWII years.

Obviously, cards from RCAF stations that are no longer in operation are no longer produced. When the heavy or over the horizon radar was developed, many of Canada's 61 predating and WWII air stations became obsolete and were closed. Fortunately, this publication pictures these historic cards for the benefit of future collectors.

Another type of attractive card fallen by the wayside is one that was produced by the "flocking" method. The author depicts a number of these cards in the book. The glue and coloured particles that are sprinkled over a specific, artistic design give it its unique texture and its eye appeal.

For anyone with an interest in Canadian military history, Canada's air force, or its wider unified military structure that became effective in 1968, will want to own a copy of this amply illustrated and colourful publication.

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