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Copies mailed: 131

(view this issue in *almost* full-colour on-line)

Dues Notice

A special thanks to all of those members who responded promptly with their dues renewal included with the previous issue of the *Corgi Times*.

A red X here ____ indicates that this will be your last issue of *Corgi Times*. Please take a minute and send in your 2011/12 dues now.



Majestic Forests of Canada
See page 28

Picture Postage™

The October 11 issue of *Canadian Stamp News* reported that Canada Post is issuing Picture Postage™ stamps honouring Diwali, Eid and Hanukah this fall. Two different designs are available for each religious festival.

ESG member Andrew Chung was told by the National Philatelic Centre of Canada Post that Diwali was issued September 12, Eid was released October 13 and Hanukah will be released November 7.

These non-denominated domestic postage paid stamps are available from Canada Post in panes of 21, at \$17.90 per pane. Six different panes, totalling \$107.40 are required to obtain a set of six different singles.

Jim Phillips, Director Stamp Services, Canada Post, notes that initial quantities printed are 1,300 panes of the Diwali stamps. Depending on demand, additional panes can be printed. First day covers are not available.

continued on page 24



Diwali Picture
Postage™ stamps,
panes of 21.



Eid Picture Postage™ stamps, panes
of 21.

Who are We?

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

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

BNAPS

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Annual Dues

Canadian addresses is C\$15.00. US and Canadian addresses option of US\$15.00. All others US\$19.00.

Please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Robin Harris, Editor at the address listed to the right.

Articles with no by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2011 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

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

► Quarter 4 Stamp Issues

Canada Post's *Details* magazine for the fourth quarter issues of 2011 lists only two different issue dates:

- October 3 – International Year of Chemistry: single stamp in booklet pane of 10 stamps
- November 1 – Christmas stamps: four designs including a souvenir sheet and gutter booklet product. There are three stamps featuring Stained Glass (Permanent™, \$1.03, \$1.75) and a single design showing Holly.



► Holiday Greeting Cards

An intriguing package of Holiday Greeting Cards is being released this Christmas season by Canada Post. The package of twelve cards features four designs from recent Christmas postage stamps: "Snowman" (2005), "Reindeer" (2007), "Christmas Tree" (2009), and this year's "Holly".



I personally find these designs gorgeous in their "simplicity". I hope Canada Post continues this theme for many more years.



Snowman (2005)
Scott 2124



Reindeer (2007)
Scott 2239



Tree (2009)
Scott 2344



Holly (2011)
Pre-issue image

Corgi Times

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Back Issues:

Sample or single issues C\$3.50, US\$3.50 each.

(Six issues per volume) Vol I through V C\$17/vol, US\$17.00/vol; Vol VI C\$21, US\$21; Vol VII C\$18.50, US\$18.50; Vol VIII to XIII C\$20/vol, US\$20/vol

Corgi Times is produced with Adobe InDesign CS4® for Windows. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address above. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Scanned illustrations (300dpi, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background) should be sent as separate files from text files. Lower quality images will *not* be printed and will likely result in the article not being printed.

Study Group Business

❖ New members

Barry Magill (AB)
Gilles Morel (ON)

❖ Deceased

Russel J. Harvey (UK)

Planning Calendar

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

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

2012

ORAPEX 2012: May 5-6 RA Centre Ottawa.

Theme of the show is 'The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II'. John M. Hiller award for best traditional Canadian Elizabethan exhibit. Info from Robert Pinet at pinet.robert@gmail.com.

ROYAL 2012: Jun 1-3, 2011 in Edmonton, AB

BNAPLEX 2012: Aug 31-Sep 2, 2012 in Calgary, AB

Annual Dues Notice / Donations

Thanks to all those who responded quickly and passed along their 2011-12 dues renewal, as requested in the last issue of *Corgi Times*. Fourteen people have not yet renewed. A special thanks to those who included a monetary or postage donation:

Robert Anderson (C\$20)
Richard Beecher (C\$25.50 postage)
John Burnett (US\$25)
Brian Cannon (C\$5)
Alfred Carroccia (US\$5)
Tim Creech (C\$10 postage)
André Dumont (C\$10)
Georg Gerlach (C\$5)
Andre Giguere (C\$25)

Arthur Gillard (C\$10)
William Greig (C\$10)
Robert Haslewood (C\$20)
John Jamieson (C\$100)
Larry Kemp (US\$100)
Lois McAuley (C\$10)
Robert McLeish (C\$21)
David Oldfield (C\$8.20 postage)
Del Peters (C\$20)

Samuel Rock (US\$5)
Arlene Sullivan (C\$20 & 19.99 postage)
Lloyd Tancock (C\$5)
Donald Ure (US\$5)
Adri Veenstra (US\$1)
Clarence Wigmore (C\$15)
Mirko Zatka (\$94 postage)

Annual Index

Thanks again to ESG member Robert McGuinness for compiling and passing along the annual index to the 2010-2011 *Corgi Times* (Volume XIX). You will find it attached to this *Corgi Times*.

Article Request

This *Corgi Times* is about three weeks late being completed and mailed to the membership. Why?

Same answer as noted in previous issues ... simply a lack of material. I'm not sure what else to say. Without material, I either delay an issue until such time as enough material is generated and/or received to fill a customary 16-page issue (this one is only 14 pages), or I mail a slimmed down version of the newsletter at its regularly scheduled time. If we went with the latter route, then this issue would have been about 6, maybe 8 pages in length!

Canadian Pride Reprint?

There appears to be a reprint of the Canadian Pride (O Canada) booklets of 10 (Scott 2423a) and 30 (Scott 2423b) that were first released January 17, 2011 for the 59¢-era rate change.

The red ink on the original appears "flatter" than the reprint. The red on the reprint seems to have a bit more of a "glossy" look.

In addition, the yellow ink fluoresces on the original printing, but is non-fluorescent on the reprint.



Canada Post 2011 Stamp Program (partial)

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

Issued	Description	Scott#
May 3	Commemorative Envelope: Canadian Forces Postal Service	
May 9	Commemorative Envelope: University of Regina	
May 13	59¢ Unusual methods of mail delivery (2 designs)	2468–69
May 19	59¢ Parks Canada 100th Anniversary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.89 postal card 	2470
May 20	Permanent™ (59¢) Signs of the Zodiac: Gemini <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.89 postal card 	2451
Jun 1	Commemorative Envelope: Wilfrid Laurier University	
Jun 9	Permanent™ (59¢) Art Deco (5 designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$2.95 souvenir sheet • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) • \$53.10 uncut press sheet (18 souvenir sheets) 	2472–76 2471
Jun 22	Permanent™ (59¢) Signs of the Zodiac: Cancer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.89 postal card 	2452
Jun 22	Signs of the Zodiac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.36 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 designs 	2445
Jun 22	Royal Wedding Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.18 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 (with Westminster Abbey) • \$1.18 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 (with Parliament Buildings) • \$1.89 postal card 	2478 2477 2477b
Jun 30	Recording Artists (Ginette Reno, Bruce Cockburn, Robbie Robertson, The McGarrigle sisters) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) self-adhesive booklet of 8 (4 different covers) • \$2.36 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • 4 x \$1.89 postal card (1 of each design) 	2483 2482b
Jul 7	Roadside Attractions (The World's Largest Lobster, The Wild Blueberry, The Big Potato, The Giant Squid) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) self-adhesive booklet of 8 • \$2.36 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • 4 x \$1.89 postal card (1 of each design) 	2485 2484
Jul 30	Recording Artists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) gummed panes of 16 (4 different) 	2479–82
Aug 8	Miss Supertest III <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$2.34 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 (Permanent™ (59¢) and \$1.75) • 2 x \$1.89 postal card (1 of each design) 	2487 2486
Aug 17	59¢ Canadian Innovations (4 designs), self-adhesive booklet of 8	2488
Sep 6	Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) + 10¢ self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.38 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 	
Oct 3	International Year of Chemistry, self-adhesive booklet of 10	
Nov 1	Christmas: Stained Glass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.03, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.75, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$16.68, self-adhesive gutter booklet (6 x \$1.03 and 6 x \$1.75) • \$3.37 gummed souvenir sheet of 3 	
Nov 1	Christmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (59¢) Holly, self-adhesive booklet of 10 	

BNAPEX 2011

by: *Bob Elias*

The Elizabethan II Study Group held its annual "Show and Tell" on September 2, during BNAPEX 2011 in North Bay, Ontario. Sixteen enthusiasts were welcomed by Bob Elias.

John Burnett got things started with some "letters from home". These featured current stamps that are seldom seen on cover, as well as stamps from the Millennium Collection book that were used before the post office issued these stamps in souvenir-sheet format. John also had a 2001 item from Kelowna adorned with 35 of the 95¢ stylized maple leaf stamps.

Earle Covert showed examples of high-denomination stamps used on redirection of mail cards and hold mail cards, with rates of up to \$30. He mentioned the use of \$250 worth of 25¢ stamps on sheets stapled to householder mail cards! Earle also brought Canada Post's current pre-paid registered envelope, prompting a discussion of whether this product always fulfills its promise.

Jim Watt passed around two of the very few known Cameo booklets that contain the 5¢ Wilding stamp instead of the proper Cameo issue. He also showed a scarce lower-right block of the 6¢ Centennial orange on low-fluorescent speckled paper, perforated 10, having the light-in-train variety in position 89.

David Bartlet had two dramatic items of the 39¢ Queen Elizabeth booklet issue. One was a long selvage strip showing the colour bars that would normally be trimmed off. The other was the uncut partial sheet of stamps that goes with it. David also tempted us with full sheets of postage due stamps that have been overprinted for next year's BNAPEX in Calgary!

Andrew Chung showed us an unissued Canada Post presentation card, which had been prepared for the

1976 Summer Olympic Games in Montreal and signed by Postmaster General Bryce Mackasey. He also brought a strip of 10¢ Weathercock stamps from the top pane of the second printing, which was miscut to the right and therefore revealed the inscription.

Adri Veenstra had good luck in the opening hours of the bourse! He passed around his Centennial acquisitions including mail to Lebanon, Finland, and Kenya, a special delivery item from Burlington to Detroit at the 48¢ rate, and an example of 8¢ postal stationery with the small-size image.

Robert Lemire raised the subject of collecting modern postal stationery envelopes according to their printing dates. Many such varieties are available, but assembling all of them is a challenge. The sealed packs available at post offices don't necessarily contain complete sets, and dates can't be seen on all of the envelopes without opening the package.

Leopold Beaudet discussed recent research on the 8¢ Centennial coil stamps, based on material examined at the Archives in Ottawa. Numerous dots and "coiled scratches" were found on the plate proofs, so evidently these are constant varieties. In one case, a dot in the left margin is repeated at regular intervals along the coil of stamps.

Peter MacDonald concluded by pointing out that a new, "Fakes and Forgeries" study group is being formed. Its subject is relevant to all other study groups, including Elizabethan II.

Next year, our annual "Show and Tell" will be held during BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX, August 31 to September 2 at the Hyatt Regency in Calgary, Alberta. I'm sure our get-together then will be as lively as it was this year!

Elizabethan II Market Place

Classified listings in the Market Place are \$1.00 for 25 words. Additional words are 5¢ each. Camera ready display ads (preferably 300dpi, black and white tiff scans) pertaining primarily to the Elizabethan era will be accepted at the following rates: 1/8 page \$5.00; 1/4 page \$8.00; 1/2 page \$15.00 and a full page at \$30.00. 25% discount for four consecutive insertions of the same ad.

Full payment must accompany ad. Payment in Canadian funds to: Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: Robin Harris, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0, Canada.

WANTED: Covers bearing stamps from BK88 (#939, #941, #947) or #947c, cancelled between 1985 to 1987. All destinations. Contact David Oldfield. kdoidaho@roadrunner.com

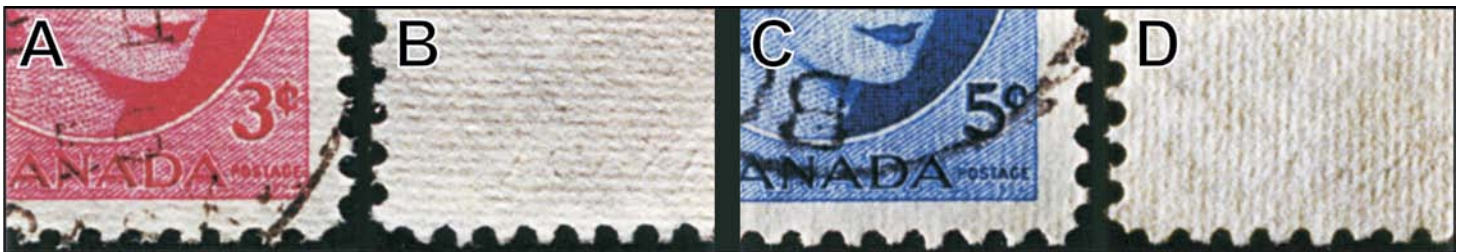
Paper Texture of Printings from Wilding Plates

by: Robert J. Elias

Paper texture is significant in the study and classification of the Canadian 1¢ to 6¢ Wilding definitives [1]. These stamps were printed on wire-wove paper having a ribbed texture on one side. In the case of stamps from post-office panes, it is important to consider both the direction of ribbing and the side of the stamp on which ribbing occurs (see Figure).

A horizontal or vertical direction indicates whether the printing plate was configured to produce sheets of 400 stamps (four panes of 100 in two columns and two rows) or 600 stamps (six panes of 100 in three columns and two rows).

Ribbing on the front or back indicates whether paper was fed to the press with the ribbed side facing toward or away from the plate. Harris [2] identified the direction of ribbing associated with each of the numbered Wilding plates, for all of the denominations. But which plates yielded printings of stamps having a ribbed front or a ribbed back?



Wilding paper texture: A) horizontally ribbed front; B) horizontally ribbed back; C) vertically ribbed front; D) vertically ribbed back.

In order to answer that question, I identified the paper texture of several thousand inscription blocks. These represented all of the plates for which inscription blocks exist, for all of the denominations. The results are summarized in the accompanying Table.

For several plates that would have yielded horizontally ribbed stamps, it cannot be verified whether ribbing is on the front or back, because the inscriptions were trimmed off the printings (1¢ plate 10, 2¢ plate 10, 4¢ plates 13 and 14, 5¢ plate 14). Two lines of evidence suggest that these stamps probably have a ribbed back: 1) printings from these plates were issued very late in 1957 or in 1958 [3], when declining usage of stamps with a horizontally ribbed front was offset by a peak in those with a ribbed back [1]; and 2) printings from the immediately preceding plates of the 1¢, 4¢, and 5¢ denominations all have ribbing on the back (1¢ plates 8 and 9, 4¢ plates 10-12, 5¢ plate 13; see Table).

Inscription blocks representing plates 11 and 12 of the 1¢ denomination were issued by the Philatelic Office. They all have a vertically ribbed back. However, 1¢ stamps with a vertically ribbed front are also known to exist [1, 4]. They must have come from among the panes of plate 11 and/or plate 12 that were

Plate	1¢				2¢				3¢		4¢				5¢				6¢
	Paper texture of printings from Wilding plates*																		
	hRf	hRb	vRb	vRf	hRf	hRb	vRb	vRf	hRf	hRb	hRf	hRb	vRb	vRf	hRf	hRb	vRb	vRf	hRf
1	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X
2	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X
3	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	
4	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-			X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	
5	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	
6	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	
7	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	
8	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	
9	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-			X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	
10	-	X ¹	-	-	-	X ¹	-	-			-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
11	-	-	X	? ²	-	-	X	-			-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
12	-	-	X	? ²	-	-	X	-			-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	
13					-	-	X	-			-	X ¹	-	-	-	X	-	-	
14					-	-	X	-			-	X ¹	-	-	-	X ¹	-	-	
15					-	-	X	-			-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	
16					-	-	-	X			-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	
17					-	-	X	-			-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	
18					-	-	X	-			-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	
19					-	-	X	-			-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	
20					-	-	X	-							-	-	-	- ³	

* hRf = horizontally ribbed front; hRb = horizontally ribbed back; vRb = vertically ribbed back; vRf = vertically ribbed front.

¹ Stamps probably have a ribbed back, but there are no inscription blocks for verification (inscriptions were trimmed off all printings).

² Stamps with a ribbed front come from among the panes of plate 11 and/or plate 12 that were distributed to post offices as "field stock", which had the inscription trimmed off and is therefore unidentifiable.

³ Plate was not used, but would have yielded vertically ribbed stamps.

distributed to post offices as “field stock”, which had the inscription trimmed off and is therefore unidentifiable as to the printing plate.

A proof of the 5¢ plate 20 exists, but printings attributable to this plate are unknown and the plate was evidently not used [3]. Like plates 15-19 of the 5¢ denomination, plate 20 was configured to print 600 stamps (six panes of 100 in three columns and two rows). It would therefore have yielded vertically ribbed stamps if it had been used.

This study shows that printings from some plates all have ribbing on the same side, but for other plates there are printings with a ribbed front and also printings with a ribbed back (see Table). For the 1¢, 2¢, 4¢, and 5¢ denominations, the changes in paper texture through the succession of plate numbers are comparable to the chronologic changes in paper texture that have been determined from dated, used stamps [1]. The early printings had a horizontally ribbed front, followed by a transition to printings with a horizontally ribbed back. Later printings were vertically ribbed, mostly with ribbing on the back but some with a ribbed front.

- [1] Elias, R.J. 2003. Paper texture of Wilding definitives. *Corgi Times*, January-February 2003, p. 58-60.
- [2] Harris, D.R. 1998. 1952-53 *Karsh*, 1954-62 *Wilding*, 1962-66 *Cameo Definitives*.
- [3] Elias, R.J. 2011. Dates of Wilding plate proofs and printings. *Corgi Times*, July-August 2011, p. 12-13.
- [4] Elias, R.J. 2003. Paper varieties of Wilding definitives: checklist. *Corgi Times*, March-April 2003, p. 75.

50¢ Red Calla Lily

In the March–April 2011 *Corgi Times* (page 65) we reported of the new discovery of a major paper/taggant variety on the 50¢ Red Calla Lily flower coil stamp, first issued on December 20, 2004 (Scott 2072).

The variety consists of an overall turquoise green “fluorescent” ink, across the entire stamp (Unitrade 2072aiii).

Andrew Chung has passed along a scan of another cover of this rare stamp. This cover is postmarked on 2005.11.29 at Thunder Bay ON. Compared to other dated copies that we have reported, this is a rather “late” usage.



50 cent coil with turquoise green fluorescent ink postmarked on 2005.11.29 at Thunder Bay ON on cover

Articles Urgently Needed

Picture Postage™ Religious Holidays

continued from page 17

At the time of this writing it is not known if Scott Publishing will be assigning numbers to these stamps. Remember, though, that Scott assigned numbers to the Write Me ... Ring Me stamps issued in 2004 as well as the Canada-Alaska Cruise stamps of 2003.

These stamps are available from three sources: National Philatelic Centre Canada Post (phone), Canada Post website (online), selected Canada Post outlets. To find an outlet near you, visit the Canada Post website for each of the stamps and search your city. There is a "find a city" search box on each of these screens. If there are any outlets in your city they will be listed.



www.canadapost.ca/diwali



www.canadapost.ca/eid

Diwali stamps

Here is a list of post offices that were displayed when searching specific cities for the Diwali stamp:

Fraser PO (In Fraser Speedway Shipping) 6417 Fraser St Vancouver BC V5W 3A0	Jane Park Plaza PO (in Pharmasave) 873 Jane St Toronto ON M6N 4C0	Great Lakes (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 25 Great Lakes Dr. Brampton ON L6R 2S0	Rockwood Mall PO (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 4141 Dixie Rd Mississauga ON L4W 1V0
Sunridge PO (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 135 - 2525 36th St NE Calgary AB T1Y 5T4	Toronto Stn P 704 Spadina Ave Toronto ON M5S 2J0	Cottrelle (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 3938 Cottrelle Blvd. Brampton ON L6P 2R0	Brittany Glen (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 5602 Tenth Line W. # 101 Mississauga ON L5M 7L0
Falconridge PO (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 5500 Falsbridge Drive NE Calgary AB T3J 5J0	City Centre (in Shoppers Drug Mart) Unit 379/25 Peel Cntr Dr Brampton ON L6T 3R0	Snelgrove (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 11965 Hurontario St. Brampton ON L6Z 4P0	Mississauga Stn B 966 Dundas St E Unit #3 Mississauga ON L4Y 4H0
Millwoods PO 607 - 2331 66 St NW Edmonton AB T6K 4B0	Brampton Main Retail 26 Hale Rd Brampton ON L6W 3M0	Northgate (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 980 Central Pkwy Dr Brampton ON L6S 3L0	Mississauga Square One 100 City Centre Dr Mississauga ON L5B 2B0
Toronto Atrium On Bay PO 595 Bay St Toronto ON M5G 2C0	Brampton West (in Rexall/Pharma Plus) 545 Steeles Ave W # 0980 Brampton ON L6Y 4C0	Springdale Sq.(in Shoppers Drug Mart) 49 Mountainash Rd. Brampton ON L6R 1W0	Levi Creek (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 7235 Bellshire Gate Mississauga ON L5N 8A0
Toronto Adelaide PO 31 Adelaide St E Toronto ON M5C 2J0	Countryside (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 10970 Airport Rd. Unit B Brampton ON L6R 0E0	Westwood Mall (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 7205 Goreway Dr Mississauga ON L4T 2T0	Roseborough (in Pharma Plus Drug Mart) 1240 Eglinton Ave. W. Mississauga ON L5V 1N0
Leslie Lakeshore 17 Leslie St Toronto ON M4M 3H0	Brampton South (in Pharma Plus Drug Mart) 499 Main St. S. # 0984 Brampton ON L6Y 1N0	Mavis Road PO (in Shoppers Drug Mart) 3980 Grand Park Dr Mississauga ON L5B 4X0	Mississauga Stn Streetsville 145 Queen St S Mississauga ON L5M 1L0

Varieties

Pane varieties have already been spotted (based on only 6 panes viewed so far) ... this list will surely be updated as more information comes forward. The Diwali panes are known with and without a UPC barcode on the back. These panes have either an A 12 2006 or C 12 2006 code in the lower left corner. The Eid panes I have seen have a 12 2006 code in the lower right corner, reading up (there is no preceding letter).

Catalogue listing?

Should these religious themed Picture Postage™ stamps be listed in either (or both) the Scott and/or Unitrade catalogues? There are “pros” and “cons” and I would certainly like to hear from you.

Picture Postage™

The traditional Picture Postage™ stamp is one that is custom made and ordered by the general public in (typically) an extremely low quantity. Perhaps only one or two panes of stamps are ordered. There are likely tens of thousands (or hundreds of thousands?) of these unique stamp designs that have been requested and printed over the years. Only Canadian Bank Note Company would have a complete listing of these. It would be impossible, without these records, to produce an accurate and complete listing in a catalogue.

But, these six new Religious Holiday designs were specifically requested by Canada Post, not the general public. The 1,300 panes of 21 stamps is a larger quantity than that reported for the Write Me...Ring Me issue of 2004.

Official release by Canada Post?

Since these designs were requested by Canada Post, and produced by Canadian Bank Note Company, just like any other stamp issue, does that mean they are an official release by Canada Post? In many ways, they are.

Product announcement

For most collectors, the first you would have heard of these stamps is likely from the front-page article in the October 11 issue of Canadian Stamp News.

Typically, a new Canada Post stamp release is announced about a year in advance with the annual stamp program release. This is followed by a full product listing in the quarterly publication, *Details*. On the day of issue, a press release is e-mailed to hundreds (thousands?) of media outlets. So far, none of

these announcements have been made by Canada Post for these designs, although something is expected in the next *Collections* magazine.

Availability

A “normal” stamp release by Canada Post is available by phone order, online website, and *all* postal outlets across Canada. Subsequently, the stamp(s) is released in the quarterly pack and the annual collection.

You can order these six designs by phone or via the Canada Post website. However, less than 40 selected postal outlets across the country will have these, in a very small group of cities. In fact, most *entire* provinces will not see any of the stamps made available for sale at a Canada Post outlet! In addition, they will not be available in the quarterly pack or annual collection.

Cost

There has always been a premium to be paid for Picture Postage™ stamps. That is the case with these six designs, but not quite as much as the traditional Picture Postage™ stamp. The smallest order that one can place for a Picture Postage™ stamp is a pane of 21, which costs \$27.95, or \$1.33 a stamp. In this case, the religious themed stamps are \$17.90 per pane of 21, or 72¢ a stamp (compared to today’s domestic rate of 59¢).

With that said, many past stamp issues have been released by Canada Post at a premium over face, which have been listed in the catalogues.

Single stamps

Single stamps cannot be ordered for these religious themed Picture Postage™ stamps. However, neither can you order a single stamp for any of the self-adhesive or souvenir sheet issued stamps in recent years.

Future stamps

If these religious themed stamps prove popular with the general public, will Canada Post issue other theme-specific Picture Postage™ designs? Most likely.

So, “to list or not to list”, that is the question! What are your thoughts?

- Should these religious themed Picture Postage™ stamps receive a “major” number, listed in sequence amongst the other 2011 stamp issues?
- Or, should they receive a minor number after the existing original Picture Postage™ stamps released in 2004 (Scott 2063–2064)?
- Alternatively, should these Canada Post-released Picture Postage™ stamps be listed in the “back-of-the-book”, in their own section?



6¢ Centennial Constant Plate Flaws

Two pages from the Michael Painter collection showing the two key flaws of the 6¢ Centennial stamp — the “C” flaw and “A” flaws. (scans courtesy Saskatoon Stamp Centre)

CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS

There are too many Centennial plate flaws to include in this exhibit. Just three, which Harris lists as key items, are shown here as examples.

Doubled C in Canada.
Position 10 on 6¢
orange perf 10 sheets.
Occurs on 1 in 2000
stamps.



Fluorescence varies in these examples.

A second key plate flaw.

Doubling of 2nd A in Canada. Position not known. Perf $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ 6¢ orange and black.



Slight inconsistencies suggest a progressive flaw.



HB

Apparently orange plate used to print black.



NF

Fluorescence varies in these examples.

Majestic Forests of Canada

by: Robin Harris

One of the most popular set of stamps issued by Canada in 1990 was the four stamps titled Majestic Forests of Canada (Scott 1283-1286). They were released in panes of 20 stamps on August 7.

The pane arrangement of the se-tenant designs was such that identical pairs of each design could be removed from the pane. Most se-tenant issues do not provide this kind of variety. When they do occur, collectors take notice.

The *Unitrade Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* first recognized these identical pairs on the Forest stamps by adding an "i. identical vert. pair" listing for each stamp in the 2008 edition.

Canada Post included a strip of 4 of these Majestic Forests stamps in one of their Thematic Collections - *Our World Volume Two: Images of Nature* (listed in the "Back-of-the-Book" section of the Unitrade catalogue as item No. 47).

As noted on the Library and Archives website, this 25.0 x 24.6 cm "book has 15 pages of text with stamps from Sweden, Australia, Canada, United States, United Nations and the United Kingdom; Canadian stamp strip of 4 stamps of the 1990 Majestic Forests series Contains bilingual text; English with language of issue country; information about issues."

PETRO-CANADA PROMOTION

Petro-Canada, in conjunction with Canada Post Corporation, had a special promotion with these Majestic Forests stamps.

At the time of issue, Petro-Canada was a crown corporation of Canada in the field of oil and natural gas. At its participating gas stations, drivers could receive one package of four 39¢ Canadian Forests stamps (a \$1.56 value) for just \$1.00 (Figure 1). These were available from September 7 through November 18, 1990 (just 10 weeks).

These four stamps were specially produced in a different pane configuration just for this promotion. Each of the four



Figure 1: Petro-Canada promotional pamphlet



Figure 2: Majestic Forest mini-panes of 4



Figure 3: Petro-Canada promotion envelope

designs appeared by itself in miniature panes of 4 stamps (Figure 2) and were distributed in specially prepared envelopes (Figure 3) with an accompanying pamphlet describing the various trees and forests appearing on the stamps.

This pamphlet included a detachable postage paid reply card that the consumer was to affix a single of each stamp in the designated location, mail the card to Canada Post at which point Canada Post would then affix a commemorative cancellation to the stamps and return them with a "Certificate of Participation" (Figure 4). This particular item is the "cancelled on Petro-Canada souvenir card" entry listed in the Unitrade.

Scott Publishing assigned a "a. pane of 4" listing for each of these miniature panes (Figure 2). The mint and used prices in the catalogue are for the complete panes of 4 stamps, not single stamps from the panes.

The catalogue notes that the pane of 20 stamps was printed on Harrison paper while the miniature panes of 4 stamps were printed on Peterborough paper. Thus, single stamps of each can be differentiated.

The Introduction to the Unitrade catalogue includes a section titled "Paper Manufacturers". A table within this section lists the various companies who have produced the paper used on the modern-era stamps of Canada. The table describes the gum colour (useful for identifying mint stamps) and the paper appearance, which is useful for identifying used stamps.

PRESS SHEETS

While on a visit to the Library and Archives in Ottawa in June 2009, I took the opportunity to view the press material that is available for the Majestic Forests stamps.

Two different press sheets are available for viewing: a sheet of 120 subjects in 6 panes of 20 stamps each, and a sheet of 112 subjects in 28 panes of 4 of the miniature panes. This particular information was added to the 2010 edition of the Unitrade catalogue.

Illustrated in Figures 5 and 6 are digitally re-created images of these two press sheets.

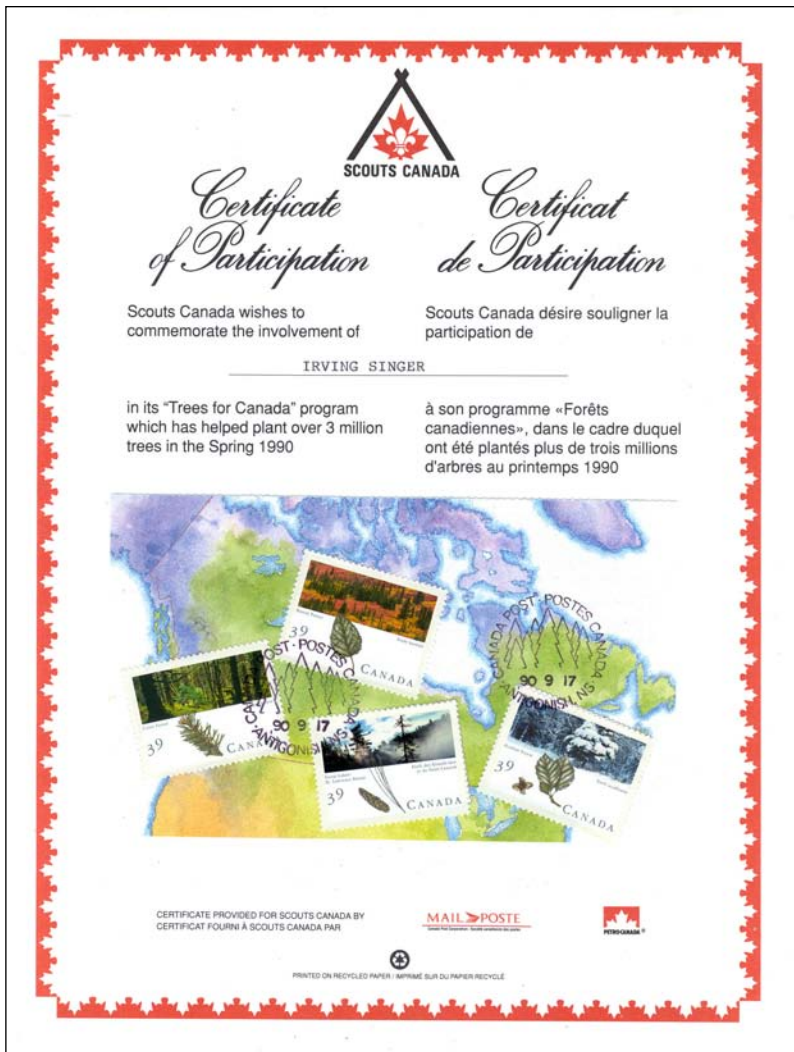


Figure 4. Certificate of Participation
(Courtesy Andrew Chung)

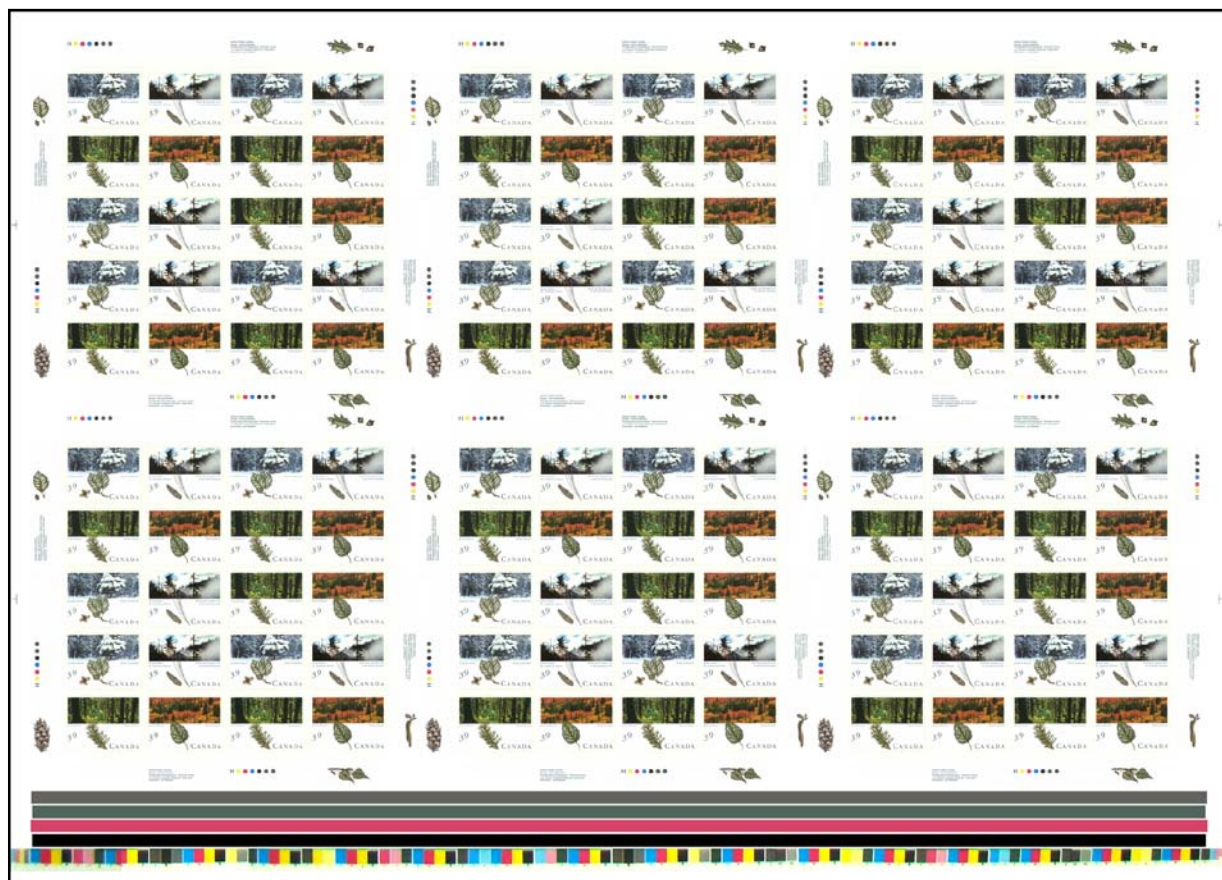


Figure 5. Press sheet of Majestic Forests panes of 16 (digitally created as observed June 10, 2009 at Library and Archives Canada)

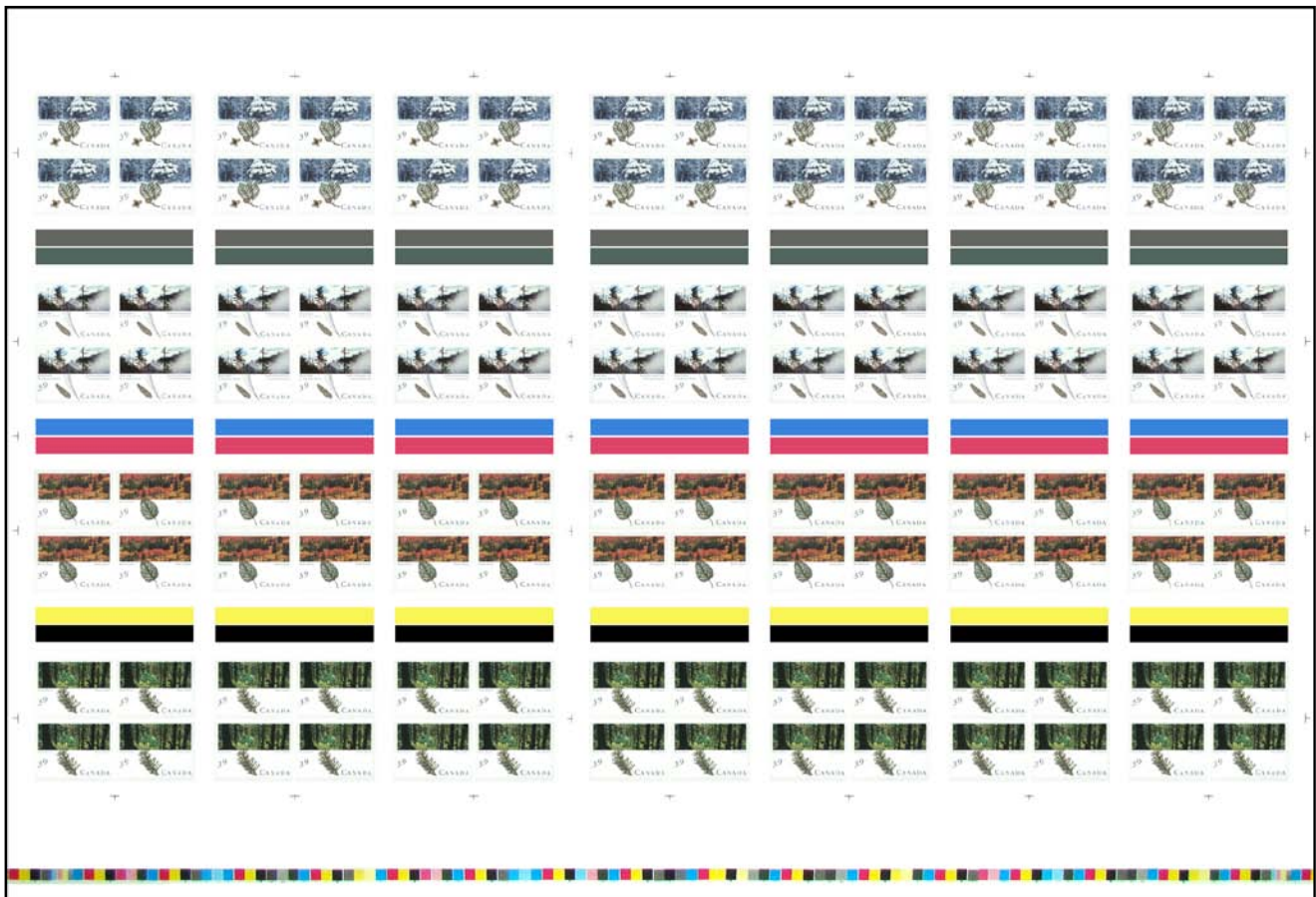


Figure 6. Press sheet of Majestic Forests mini panes of 4 (digitally created as observed June 10, 2009 at Library and Archives Canada)

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