



In This Issue

Grey Cup Winner 31
 Editor Status 31
 Canada Post News 32
 Study Group Business 33
 Lowe-Martin taken on too much? 33
 Canada 2012 Stamp Program . . 34
 Market Place 35
 Canada 2013 Stamp Program . . 36
 Generous ESG Members 37
 Franklin the Turtle Tagging . . . 37
 Lowe-Martin Die Cutting 38
 "O Canada" Counterfeits 39
 Tecumseh Variety 39
 Recent Printing Quantities 47
 Canada Post Year End Sales . . . 48

Feature Article

Picture Postage™ (2012) 40

Copies mailed: 123

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

Grey Cup Winner

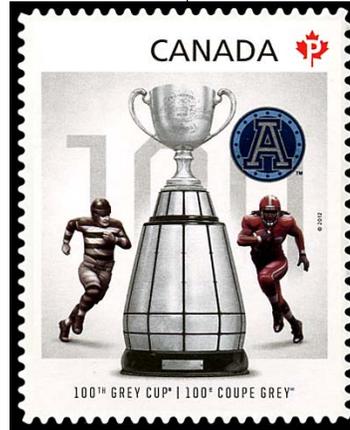
Canada Post honoured the winner of the 100th Grey Cup with an overprinted Grey Cup stamp, available in selected post offices in Toronto on November 28.

The Grey Cup was played Sunday, November 25 between the Toronto Argonauts and the Calgary Stampeders. Toronto won (handily?) 35-22, due to early turnovers by Calgary.

Stamp designs for *both* teams were shown on Canada Post's Facebook website a few days *before* the Grey Cup game was played.

I placed my order via the Canada Post website just a few minutes after the game was completed. In fact, the Grey Cup itself had *not yet* been presented to Toronto and the stamps were *already* available for ordering. The website said that these orders would begin shipping on the 27th. However, a call to Canada Post on the 30th said they had not yet begun shipping.

Some 30,000 booklets of 10 were produced. Canada Post notes that die cut singles will be available in the Jan-Mar 2013 quarterly pack.



Stop the press! It is understood that at least some of the overprinted panes that were shipped to post offices in Toronto are *unfolded*. This is a unique variety not available elsewhere.

Editor Status

The editor received a handful of e-mails from ESG members regarding the announcement in the last *Corgi Times* that the editor is stepping down from this position. No one has come forward to take over this position. This may be the last issue of the *Corgi Times*.



New Picture Postage™
See page 40



Season's Greetings

Who are We?

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

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

BNAPS

Website: www.bnaps.org

Membership information:

David G. Jones, Secretary
184 Larkin Dr
Nepean, ON K2J 1H9
Canada
E-mail:
shibumi.management@gmail.com

Elizabethan II Study Group

Founder: John D. Arn, OTB

Chairman:

Robert J. Elias
10 Thornhill Bay
Winnipeg, MB R3T 3W5
Canada

Treasurer:

Derek Fleming
854 Silver Birch Trail
Mississauga, ON L5J 4C1
Canada

Corgi Times Index Robert McGuinness

Market Report vacant

Website:

www.adminware.ca/esg

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 ©2012 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

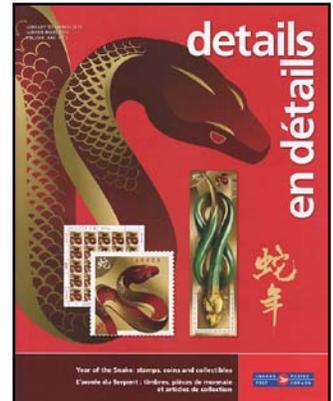
Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

► 2013 Quarter 1 Details

Canada Post mailed the 2013 Quarter 1 *Details* magazine in early December. The on-line PDF appeared a couple of days after the magazine was received. For some reason, the on-line shopping cart had all of the first quarter stamps available for sale a couple of weeks *before* the mailing of the printed magazine (I can't recall seeing that happen before).

Once again, Canada Post has gone *way overboard* on the number of stamp issues and stamps per issue, at least as far as collectors are concerned:

- Jan 8: Year of the Snake — three denominations, two souvenir sheets, prepaid postcards, uncut press sheet
- Jan 14: Canadian Pride — five designs, four booklets, souvenir sheet, prepaid postcards
- Jan 14: Queen Elizabeth II — one design
- Jan 14: Baby Wildlife: four designs, three booklets, five coils, souvenir sheet, prepaid postcards, stamp dispenser
- Jan 17: Raoul Wallenberg — one design
- Feb 1: Black Heritage Month — two designs, two booklets
- Feb 20: Signs of the Zodiac — four designs, four booklets, souvenir sheet, gutter booklet, full-series pane of 16, prepaid postcards
- Mar 4: Magnolias — two designs, one booklet, coil, souvenir sheet, prepaid postcards, stamp dispenser
- Mar 22: Photography — seven designs, three booklets, two souvenir sheets, prepaid postcards



When Canada Post does something these days, they sure jump in all the way (*deeper* than the deep end).

I would consider only two of these issues to be one I would call the “old” normal (i.e. just one domestic-rate stamp and no other ‘extras’). Canada Post’s “new” normal appears to be a topic with several stamps, and then throw in different denominations in different formats and don’t forget the postcards and extra add-on products.

Corgi Times

Editor:

Robin Harris
PO Box 104
Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0
Canada
E-mail: corgi@adminware.ca
Phone: (204) 268-9395

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

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.

2013

BNAPEX 2013: Aug 30–Sep 1, 2013 in Charlottetown, PEI

Has Lowe-Martin taken on too much?

by: Robin Harris

Do you find things take longer to arrive when you are overly anxious to receive them? That was the case with me for my last two Canada Post orders.

Picture Postage™

The first instance was the placement of two Picture Postage™ orders on the first day of availability via the Canada Post/picturepostage.ca website on Saturday, November 24. Both orders were done in the morning and were presumably two of the *first* orders placed for the new Picture Postage™ frames.



It took nearly three weeks to receive one of the orders (which consisted of a pane of 25 and three booklets) and over three weeks to receive the other (which consisted of a pane of 50 and three booklets).

The pane of 25 featured the “Christmas” theme and arrived *just* in time to mail out this year’s Christmas cards.

Calls to Lowe-Martin asking for the status of the orders revealed that my designs were ‘reviewed and accepted’ on the 27th. It took another week before they were printed and yet another week before they shipped.

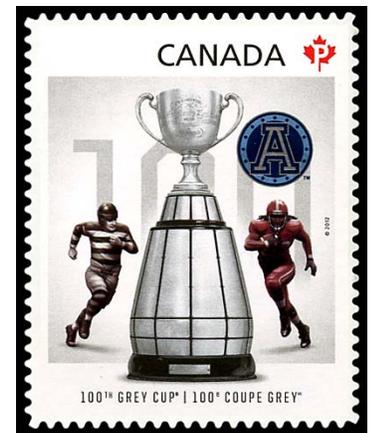
For a brand new product, where one would expect that quick service would be wanted by Lowe-Martin, my experience proved to be very poor service. One would hope that whatever circumstances delayed my orders has been resolved for future orders, particularly as demand picks up.

Grey Cup Winner

A couple of days prior to the playing of the 100th Grey Cup game in Toronto on Sunday, November 25 (between the Calgary Stampeders and the Toronto Argonauts), Canada Post announced via their Facebook page that the winning team would see a special stamp issued for their achievement.

The stamps would be available to order on-line following the completion of the Grey Cup game (to ship by Tuesday, November 27) and then be available in the winning team’s home city on Wednesday, November 28.

I visited the Canada Post website just after the completion of the game (Toronto won ... boo!) and was able to order a couple of panes. In fact, by the time I finished the order and returned to the couch, the Grey Cup itself had not yet been presented to the winning team (the stamps were certainly available for ordering very shortly after the game was finished).



My order, perhaps the first one placed (?), and certainly one of the very earliest on-line orders, did not arrive in my post office box until December 13 ... over two and a half weeks after the order was placed and *over two weeks* after Canada Post had said the stamps would ship. A couple of calls to Canada Post to check on the status of the order confirmed that the stamps did not ship by the 27th and, in fact, had not yet shipped well into the first week of December.

Clearly, Lowe-Martin was not prepared to print and distribute these special overprinted Grey Cup winner stamps in a timely manner.

Is Lowe-Martin getting too busy for their own health? Lowe-Martin now prints the majority of Canada’s postage stamps. They have come a long way since they began printing Canadian stamps back in May 2002.

Canada Post 2012 Stamp Program

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

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 10	Year of the Dragon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) pane of 25 • \$1.80, self-adhesive booklet pane of 6 • \$1.80 souvenir sheet • \$1.75 (Rabbit) and \$1.80 (Dragon) “transitional” souvenir sheet • \$29.95 uncut press sheet of 12 souvenir sheets • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2495 2497 2496 2496a
Jan 16	Permanent™ (61¢) Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee self-adhesive booklet of 10	2519
Jan 16	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) souvenir sheet of 4 • \$5.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2513
Jan 16	Baby Wildlife rate-change definitives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) Racoons, self-adhesive roll of 100 • \$1.05 Caribou, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.29 Loons, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.80 Moose, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.05 Caribou, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.29 Loons, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.80 Moose, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • Permanent™ (61¢) Racoons, self-adhesive roll of 5,000 • \$4.75 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2506 2507 2508 2509 2510 2511 2512 2505 2504
Jan 16	Canadian Pride rate-change definitives (five designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 30 • \$3.05 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 	2499–03 2498
Feb 1	Black Heritage Month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) John Ware self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (61¢) Viola Desmond self-adhesive booklet of 10 • gutter booklet • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2520 2521 2521b
Feb 6	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) souvenir sheet of 4 • \$5.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2514
Feb 23	Art Canada: Joe Fafard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) pane of 16 • \$1.05 self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.80 self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$3.46 gummed souvenir sheet of 3 • \$1.05/\$1.80 gutter pane of 6 (3 of each) • \$33.36 uncut press sheet (2 panes of 61¢ and 4 panes of souvenir sheet) 	2522 2524 2525 2523 2523b
Mar 1	Daylillies (two designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.22 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2529–30 2527–28 2526
Mar 6	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) souvenir sheet of 4 • \$5.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2515
Apr 5	Titanic (4 x Permanent™ (61¢) + \$1.80 souvenir sheet) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x Permanent™ (61¢) in pane of 16 • 2 x Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.80, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.80 souvenir sheet • \$26.95 uncut press sheet of 12 souvenir sheets • \$1.89 postal cards (three designs) 	2531–34 2536–37 2538 2535
Apr 10	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) souvenir sheet of 4 • \$5.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2516
May 3	Permanent™ (61¢) Selkirk Settlement	2539

Issued	Description	Scott#
May 7	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) souvenir sheet of 4 • \$2 pane of 8 • \$2 souvenir sheet of 1 • \$80.00 uncut press sheet of 12 souvenir sheets • \$7.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2517 2540 2540a
May 11	Children's Literature: Franklin the Turtle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 12 • \$2.44 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2542–45 2541
May 17	Calgary Stampede <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.05, self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.66 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 • Permanent™/\$1.80 gutter pane of 10 (6 of Permanent™ and 4 of \$1.05) • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2547 2548 2546 2548b
May 22	Canadians that made a difference (4 x Permanent™ (61¢)): Rick Hansen, Michael J. Fox, Louise Arbour, Sheila Watt-Cloutier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklets of 10 (4 different) • \$2.44 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 	2550–53 2549
Jun 1	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (Volume 6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.95 keepsake folder (souvenir sheet, postal card, booklet) 	2518
Jun 15	War of 1812: Heroes of the War (2 x Permanent™ (61¢))	2554–55
Jun 27	Permanent™ (61¢) London 2012 Summer Olympic Games	2556
Jun 29	Permanent™ (61¢) Tommy Douglas and the Birth of Medicare	2557
Jun 29	Canadian Football League Team Logos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive rolls of 50: 8 different • \$4.88 gummed souvenir sheet of 8 	2559–66 2558
Jul 23	Signs of the Zodiac (4 x Permanent™ (61¢)): Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklets of 10: 4 different • \$2.44 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • \$14.64 cross gutter pane of 24 (6 of each design) • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2453–56 2446 2456b
Aug 16	100th Grey Cup Game <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklets of 10: 9 different • \$5.49 gummed souvenir sheet of 9 • \$1.89 postal cards (one of each design) 	2568–76 2567
Sep 17	Permanent™ (61¢) + 10¢ Canada Post Community Foundation semi-postal, self-adhesive booklet of 10	B19
Sep 28	Permanent™ (61¢) Flag on Bobsled spelling correction (in booklet of 10)	2502a
Oct 11	Regiments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklets of 10: 3 different • \$1.83 gummed souvenir sheet of 3 	2578–80 2577
Oct 15	Christmas – Permanent™ (61¢) Stained Glass, self-adhesive booklet of 12	
Oct 15	Christmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢) Cookies, self-adhesive booklet of 12 • \$1.05 Cookies, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.80 Cookies, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$3.46 gummed souvenir sheet of 3 	
Oct 16	125th Anniversary of Organized Philately in Canada <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15¢ Beneficial insects souvenir sheet of 3 	2409b
Nov 5	Picture Postage™ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 designs in 2 orientations in 3 formats in 4 denominations 	
Nov 28	Grey Cup Winner (Toronto Argonauts) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 	

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. 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.

Canada Post 2013 Stamp Program

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

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 8	Year of the Snake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢) pane of 25 • \$1.85, self-adhesive booklet pane of 6 • \$1.85 souvenir sheet • \$1.85 (Snake) and \$1.80 (Dragon) “transitional” souvenir sheet • \$29.95 uncut press sheet of 12 souvenir sheets • \$1.99 postal cards (one of each design) 	
Jan 14	Permanent™ (63¢) Queen Elizabeth II, self-adhesive booklet of 10	
Jan 14	Baby Wildlife rate-change definitives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢) Woodchucks, self-adhesive roll of 100 • \$1.10 Porcupine, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.34 Fawn, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.85 Black bear, self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.10 Porcupine, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.34 Fawn, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.85 Black bear, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • Permanent™ (63¢) Woodchucks, self-adhesive roll of 5,000 • \$4.92 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • \$1.99 postal cards (one of each design) 	
Jan 14	Canadian Pride rate-change definitives (five designs) (“limited print run”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 30 • \$3.15 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 	
Jan 31	Canadian Pride rate-change definitives (five designs) with backprint security features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 30 	
Jan 17	\$1.85 Raoul Wallenberg, self-adhesive booklet of 6	
Feb 1	Black Heritage Month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢) Oliver Jones, self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (63¢) Joe Fortes, self-adhesive booklet of 10 	
Feb 20	Signs of the Zodiac (4 x Permanent™ (63¢)): Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (61¢), self-adhesive booklets of 10: 4 different • \$2.52 gummed souvenir sheet of 4 • \$7.56 gummed pane of 12 (all 12 Zodiac designs) • \$15.12 cross gutter pane of 24 (6 of each design) • \$1.99 postal cards (one of each design) 	
Mar 4	Magnolias (two designs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive roll of 50 • \$1.26 gummed souvenir sheet of 2 • \$1.99 postal cards (one of each design) 	
Mar 22	Canadian Photography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 x Permanent™ (63¢), self-adhesive booklet of 10 • \$1.10, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.85, self-adhesive booklet of 6 • \$1.89 souvenir sheet of 3 x Permanent • \$4.21 souvenir sheet of 4 (2 x Permanent, \$1.10, \$1.85) • \$1.99 postal cards (seven designs) 	

Generous ESG members

Once again, a special thank you to those ESG members who included a little bit extra with their recent dues renewals ... it is always appreciated.

Postage donations:

Richard Beecher (\$26.70), "HH" (\$14.86), Barry Magill (\$12.20), David Oldfield (\$8.46), Gunther Sawatzki (\$10.42), Jim Wiseman (\$5.90).

Monetary donations:

Andre Bisailon (\$10.00), Peter Butler (\$10.00), Brian Cannon (\$5.00), Alfred Carroccia (\$5.00), John Church (\$5.00), Tim Creech (\$20.00), Christopher De Haer (\$2.00), Georg Gerlach (\$10.00), Arthur Gillard (\$5.00), William Greig (\$30.00), Robert Haslewood (\$20.00), Stanley Kalabza (\$10.00), James Love (\$70.00), Barry Magill (\$10.00), Lois McAuley (\$12.00), Robert McLeish (\$21.00), "DN" (\$10.00), "HN" (\$20.00), Michael Nowlan (\$5.00), Robert Olds (\$20.00), "KR" (\$5.00), Samuel Rock (\$5.00), Gunther Sawatzki (\$5.00), Lloyd Tancock (\$5.00), Don Toelly (\$25.00), "ST" (\$30.00), Donald Ure (\$5.00), Adri Veenstra (\$1.00), Barrie Wilbee (\$20.00), Peter Wood (\$5.00),

Franklin the Turtle Tagging

by: Robin Harris

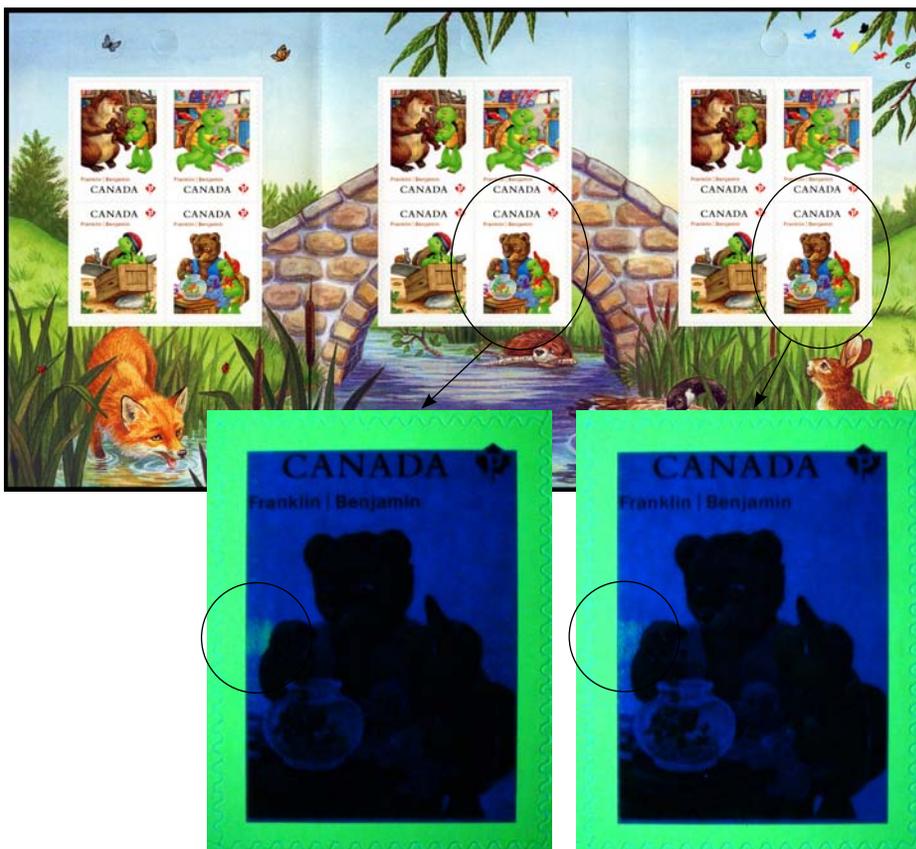
On May 11, 2012 Canada Post issued four stamps featuring Franklin the Turtle, the first in a new series on Children's Literature. The issue included a souvenir sheet of 4 (Scott # 2541) and a booklet containing 12 stamps (Scott # 2542–45, BK487).

Scott 2545 (the lower right stamp of each 'block' of 4) shows Franklin and Bear. On all of the booklet panes that I have seen, purchased from several different locations throughout southern Manitoba, what appears to be a 'constant' tag smear appears on two of the three Franklin and Bear stamps (from the middle panel and right panel of the booklet).

The tag smear is located along the left tag bar, half-way down the stamp and runs into the arm and paw of Bear.

The location of each tag smear is the same, but the size and intensity is a bit different between the two stamps.

Can anyone else confirm these tag smears on booklets purchased in other locations across Canada?



Low-Martin Die Cutting

by: Robin Harris

The original printings of the 2012-rate Baby Wildlife coil definitives printed by Lowe-Martin (Scott # 2506–2509) were from die cut pattern # 16. These had either 4 or 5-nibs per stamp.

Three of these stamps (Permanent™, \$1.05, \$1.29) have now appeared with a different die cutting pattern (#17, 18 and 19?) which has only 3-nibs per stamp.

The “nibs” are spots along the die cutting that is not cut during the die cutting process. The purpose of this is to allow a small bit of each adjacent stamp to remain attached to its neighbour so that the adjacent stamps remain attached when rolled into the coils of 50 or 100 stamps. Without the nibs, the stamps would separate from each other. The very first set of coils produced by Lowe-Martin (2004 80¢ and \$1.40 Maple Leaf, Scott 2054–55) did not have these nibs and the stamps, when rolled, were very prone to separation and damage when handled.



The new 3-nib die cutting provides distinct varieties to these Baby Wildlife definitives.



Left: 5-nib variety
Right: 3-nib variety

Interesting coil box

The Lowe-Martin coils are shipped to post offices with 10 rolls per box. On the end of each box is a white self-adhesive label that contains important information, particularly to the Canadian philatelist.

Illustrated below is a recent box seen for the Permanent™ Racoons stamp (Scott # 2506).

The label indicates that there are 10 rolls in the box; the production date of the box was September 5, 2012. The 10 rolls came from the larger printing roll, numbered “13b”. This is the first reported instance of a *letter* being used as part of the roll number. Could this simply be a typing error by the person preparing the label, or is there some significance to the letter “b”?

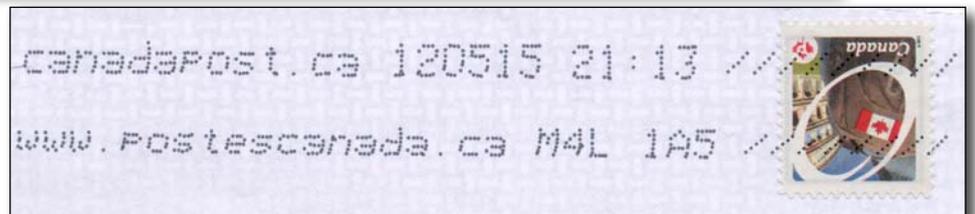
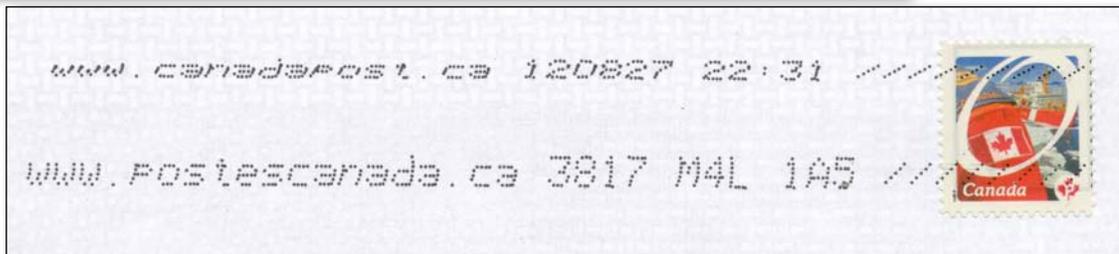
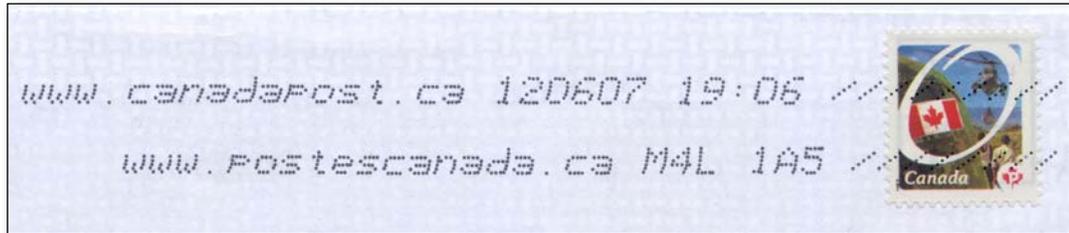


"O Canada" Counterfeits

The 2011 Permanent™ "O Canada" self-adhesive booklet stamps (Scott 2419–23, BK439) have been found as counterfeits.

The November–December 2012 *Canadian Philatelist* (bi-monthly journal of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada) reports of this finding by ESG member Richard Gratton.

Illustrated below are cropped images of three used singles, dated May 15 through August 27, 2012 (courtesy ESG member Andrew Chung).



Tecumseh Variety

A correspondent has passed along a scan of a possible constant variety on the recently released War of 1812 issue (Scott # 2555).

He has 10 panes, all purchased from the same post office in Milton, ON, that show the same red dot on the right-hand Tecumseh stamp in the second row of the pane.

Can any of our readers confirm this variety?



Picture Postage™ (2012)

by: Robin Harris

Picture Postage™, whereby you provide a photograph of your choosing to be used as the central image of customized postage stamps, was introduced in Canada in 2000 (Scott 1853). Over the years, several different frames were introduced.

Themes

November 2012 saw a significant change in Picture Postage™, specifically in the overall stamp format, ordering, and supplier of the stamps. Twelve themes are available; illustrated below (in vertical orientation) and described as shown by Canada Post on their website (picturepostage.ca):



A “Picture Postage™ Collector’s Pack” consisting of a set of portrait-oriented singles is available from Canada Post. It contains a coupon for up to 50% off your first order of Picture Postage™, but you are limited to just one coupon on your e-mail account. The coupon code is the same in all Collector’s Pack. The on-line ordering system for Picture Postage™ only allows the code to be used once; this is quite different from other coupons redeemable by other businesses where multiple coupons can be used. (Canada Post ... you missed the boat on this one)

Portrait vs. Landscape

The twelve themes are available in portrait and landscape orientation. Each is different due to the position of the value tablet. In either portrait or landscape, the value is oriented vertically and placed at the lower right corner as you view the stamp.

Canada’s first Picture Postage (where you could order your own images, which were supplied on a separate sheet of paper which was then removed and placed into the centre of different frames) was released April 28, 2000.

A revision in 2004 was the first to have your customized image printed directly on the stamp, within one of two frame designs.

Picture Postage — I



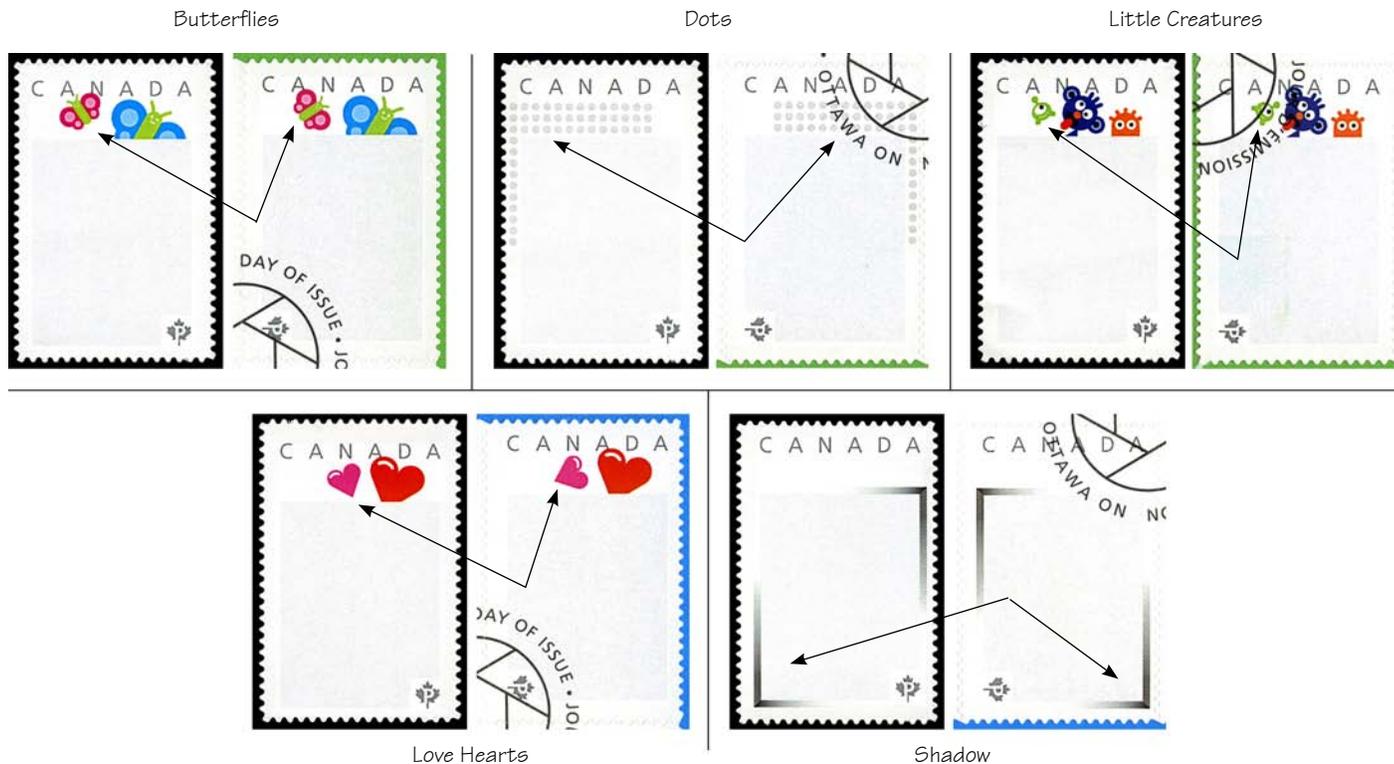
Scott 1853

Picture Postage — II



Scott 2064

Interestingly, five of the themes have a subtle difference between portrait and landscape orientation. Shown here are the die cut portrait singles compared with a cropped image from the landscape-oriented stamps found on the OFDCs:



Collector's Pack/FDC vs. Picture Postage™ ordered stamps

The stamps available in the Collector's Pack and the stamps used on the official first day covers are printed by lithography. The stamps that you receive through your Picture Postage™ custom order are not quite the same quality, particularly noticeable in 'Canada' and the value tablet. Clearly, a special print run was done on high-end printing equipment to supply the "philatelic" version of these stamps.

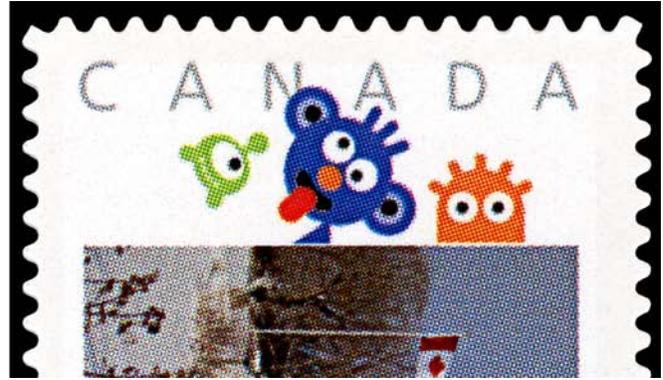
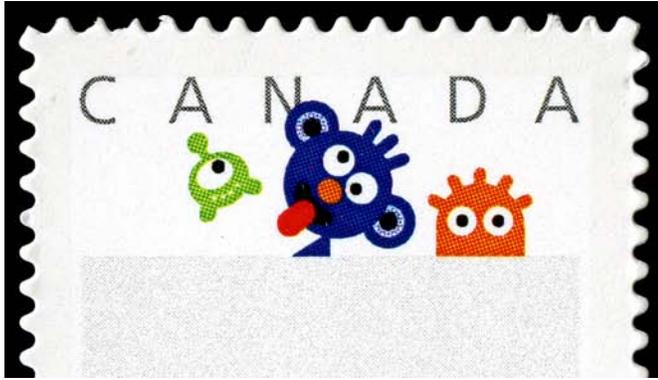


Left: Collector's Pack of 12 die cut singles

Official First Day Covers (set of 2)



The Harris Homestead, using three different images, four different themes, and two different denominations.



Printing detail: die cut single (left) vs. personalized order (right)

Denominations/Formats

The new Picture Postage™ is available in four denominations: Permanent™ rate, oversize, USA, and International. With that said, you cannot order at today's rates, but must get the new rates that come into affect in January 2013. Canada Post missed out on this; I know of several collectors who were looking forward to getting stamps at the current rate, before the rates went up in January.

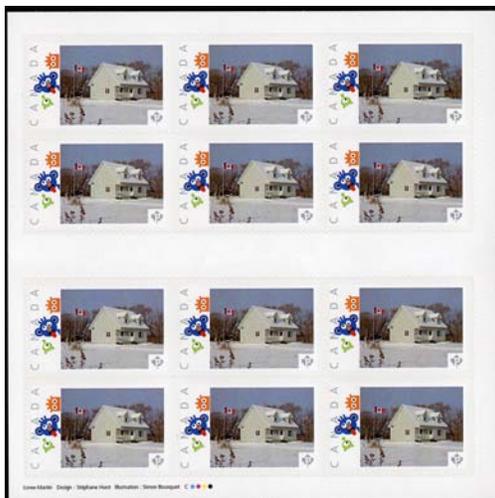
On November 16, Canada Post updated their 'app' for tablets and smart phones. For at least one day, the app showed today's (2012) postal rates as being available for purchase (that is, \$1.05, \$1.29 and \$1.80). However, come November 24, the rates were showing as \$1.10, \$1.34 and \$1.85 (the new 2013 postal rates). Did anyone happen to order at the current rate and receive same?



Turtles chocolates promotion. Perhaps the only \$1.29 denominated Picture Postage™ in the new themes? Available November 2 at most Canada Post outlets.

There are three different formats available for each of the new customer-ordered Picture Postage™ themes: booklets of 12, panes of 25+1 and panes of 50. There is a minimum order of three booklet panes (i.e. you are forced to buy a minimum of 36 stamps this way).

Each item (booklet/pane) has a unique order number and serial number (?) included either on the back of the booklet cover or in one corner of the pane selvedge near the inscription.



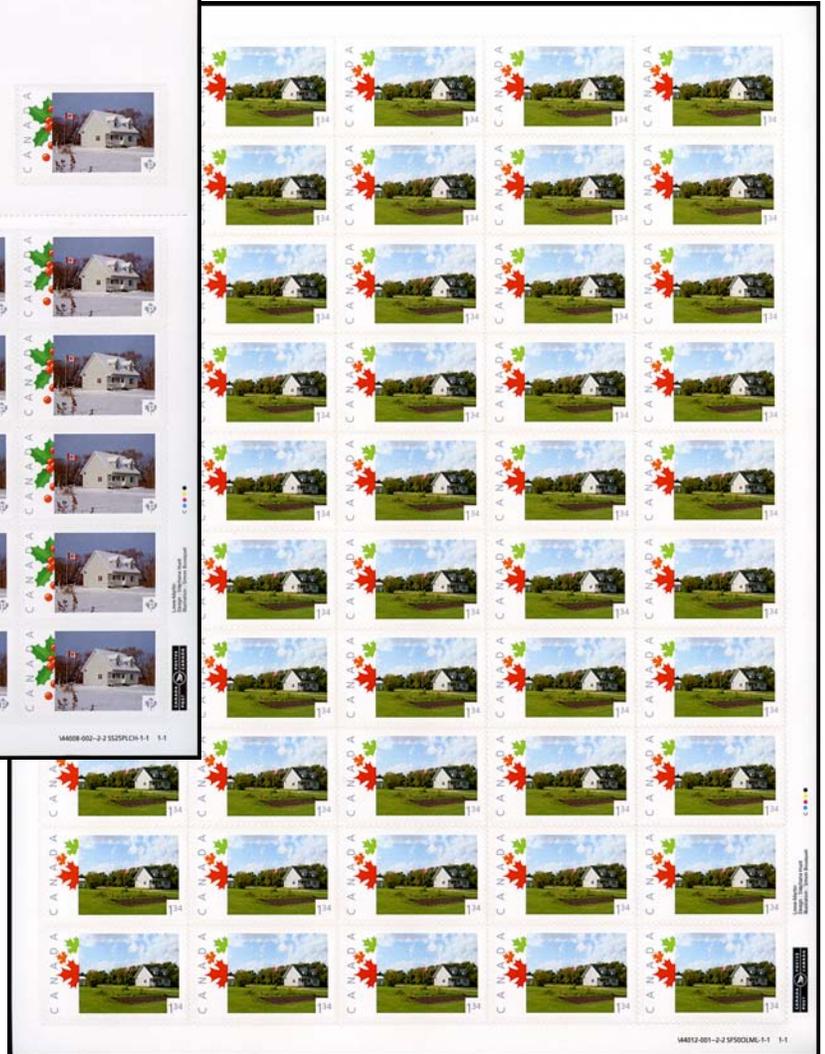
Booklet pane of 12 (Little Creatures theme, landscape)



Cover of booklet pane of 12 (Ballons theme, landscape)



Left: pane of 25+1
Below: pane of 50

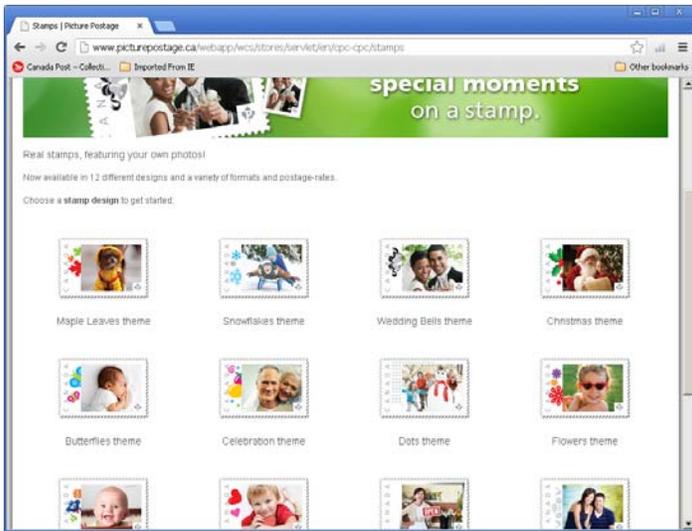


Ordering Picture Postage™

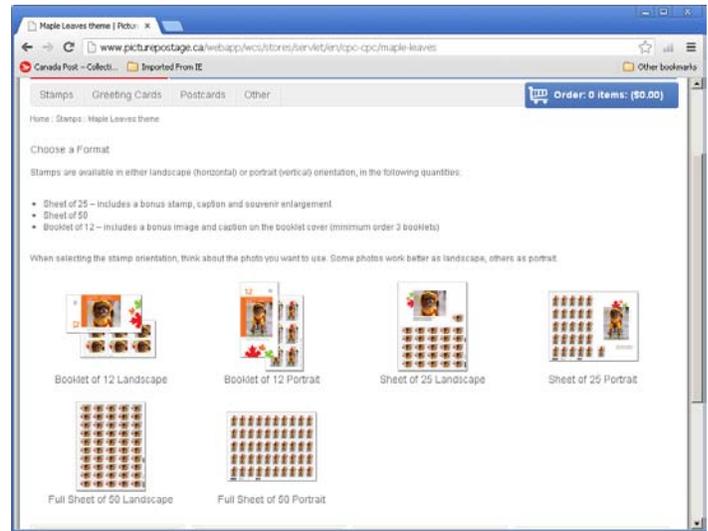
I found the ordering process to be extremely easy. You must create an account with the picturepostage.ca website (this is different from the Canada Post online ordering system).

The steps are as follows:

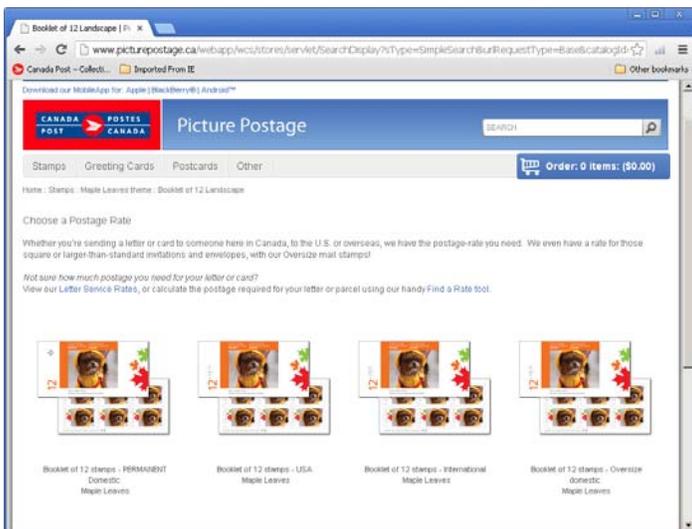
1. pick a theme (twelve available)
2. choose a format (booklet, pane of 25 or pane of 50) and orientation (landscape vs. portrait)
3. select a postal rate (domestic Permanent™, USA, International, domestic oversized)
 - a summary page is displayed along with pricing options for different quantities of stamps ordered.
4. you are presented with an enlargement of your selected theme and are about to 'add' your own image to the stamp. This will allow you to browse your computer to find the desired photo. You can upload an image from your computer, from your Facebook account or one used and saved previously with the picturepostage website.
5. if you are ordering a booklet or pane of 25 you will then choose an image and caption. The image can be different from what is being printed on the stamps.
6. now you will be presented with a complete preview of what you have designed. At this point you can save your image for future orders. You must confirm three items (permission to use image, text is spelt correctly, and you have read the terms and conditions).
7. you then Add the item to the shopping cart. You can now proceed to the checkout or continue 'shopping' by creating more customized Picture Postage.



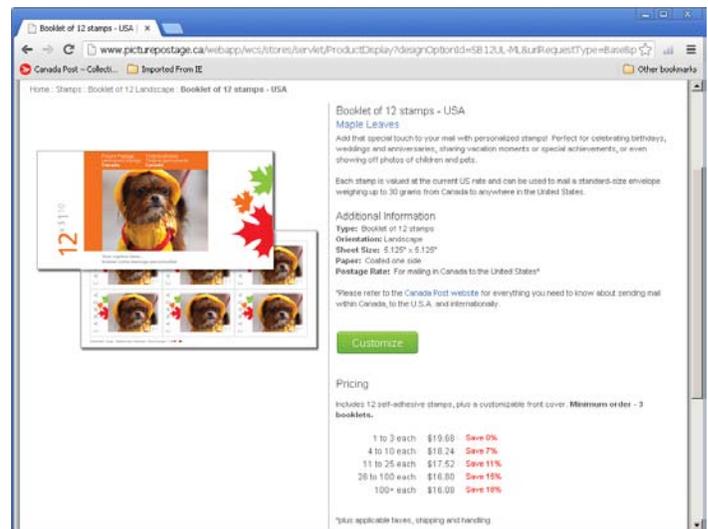
Select a theme



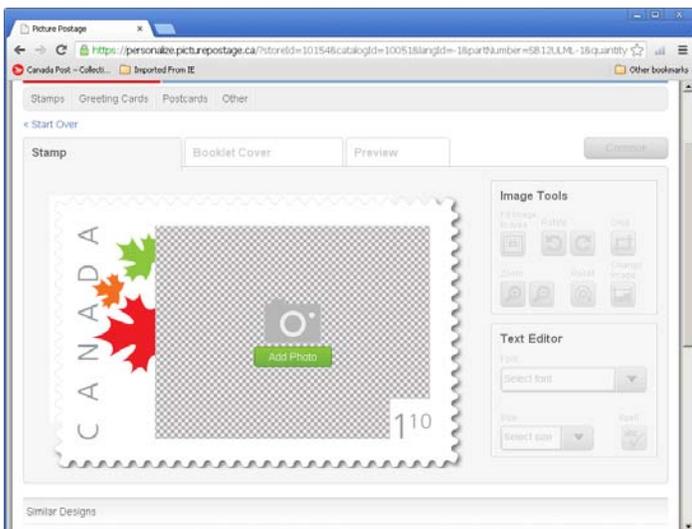
Select a format and orientation



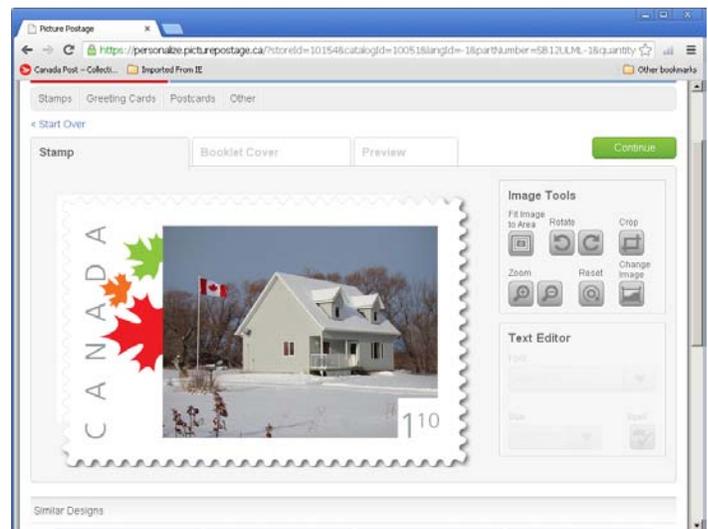
Choose a postage rate



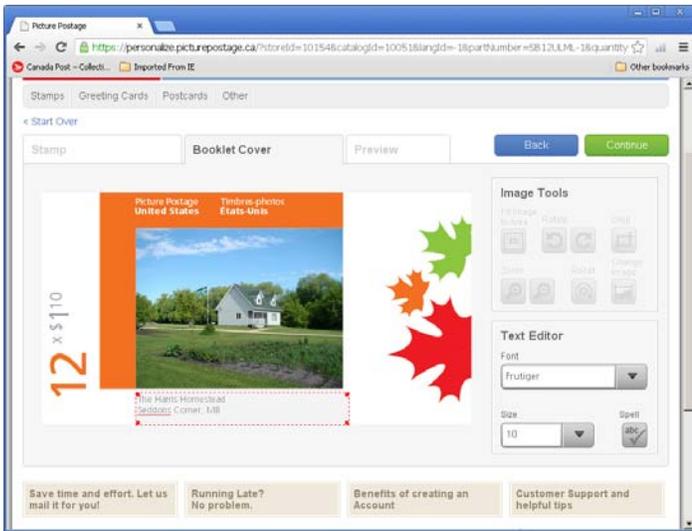
Pricing options ... about to customize



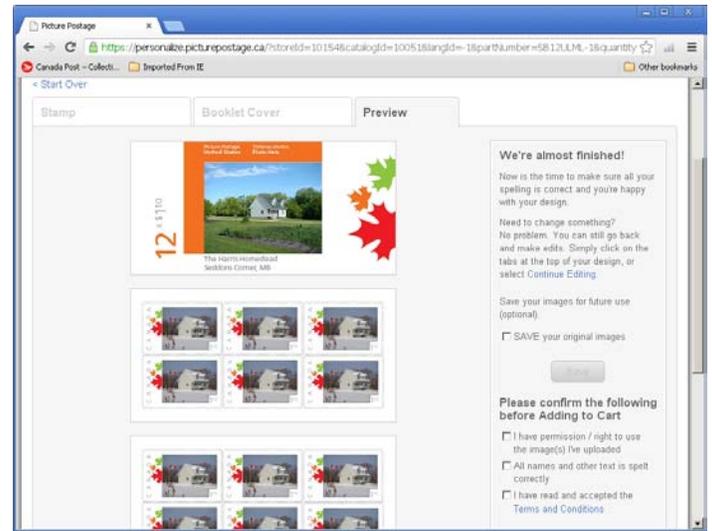
Stamp enlargement



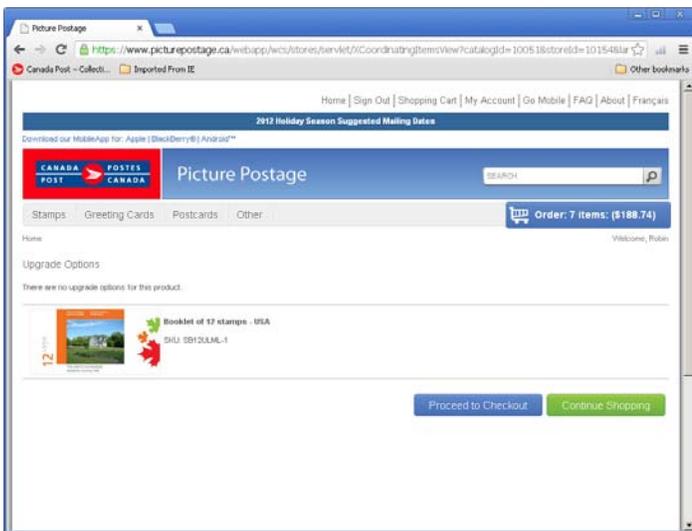
Enlargement after selecting personalized photo



Booklet cover customization (image and caption)



Summary of specific item



Checkout or continue shopping?

So, what is the “issue date” for this new Picture Postage™?

- Nov 1 was the day Canada Post said the “Turtles” promotion (with the “dots” design) was available
- Nov 2 was the day you could buy the “Turtles” promotion
- Nov 5 is the date on the OFDC and ‘release’ of the Collector’s Pack singles
- Nov 16 is the date that Canada Post’s “app” was available on smart phones and tablets, and you could place your personalized order
- Nov 24 is the date that the *picturepostage.ca* website says the stamps were available for online ordering

The checkout process summarizes all of the items you have in your shopping cart. You select your shipping address, method of shipping (Regular or Xpresspost) and billing method. At this stage you can apply your promotional code, if you have one. It is as easy as spending a couple of hundred dollars on any other business’ online shopping cart.

Stamp Pricing

The tables below show the pricing schedules for the four different postal rates and three different formats (booklet of 12, pane of 25 or pane of 50). You can order a single pane but you must buy a minimum of three booklets (36 stamps).

The discount shown in the tables is the quantity discount for each example.

Domestic (61¢ Permanent™)						
Qty	Booklet of 12 (face: \$7.32)		Pane of 25 (face: \$15.25)		Pane of 50 (face: \$30.50)	
1-3	14.40		28.75		52.50	
4-10	12.96	10%	25.88	10%	47.25	10%
11-25	12.24	15%	24.44	15%	44.63	15%
26-100	11.52	20%	23.00	20%	42.00	20%
101+	10.80	25%	21.56	25%	39.38	25%

Domestic (\$1.34 Oversize)						
Qty	Booklet of 12 (face: \$16.08)		Pane of 25 (face: \$33.50)		Pane of 50 (face: \$67.00)	
1-3	22.56		45.75		86.50	
4-10	21.12	6%	42.88	6%	81.25	6%
11-25	20.40	10%	41.44	9%	78.63	9%
26-100	19.68	13%	40.00	13%	76.00	12%
101+	18.96	16%	38.56	16%	73.38	15%

USA (\$1.10)						
Qty	Booklet of 12 (face: \$13.20)		Pane of 25 (face: \$27.50)		Pane of 50 (face: \$55.00)	
1-3	19.68		39.75		74.50	
4-10	18.24	7%	36.88	7%	69.25	7%
11-25	17.52	11%	35.44	11%	66.63	11%
26-100	16.80	15%	34.00	14%	64.00	14%
101+	16.08	18%	32.56	18%	61.38	18%

International (\$1.85)						
Qty	Booklet of 12 (face: \$22.20)		Pane of 25 (face: \$46.25)		Pane of 50 (face: \$92.50)	
1-3	28.68		58.50		112.00	
4-10	27.24	5%	55.63	5%	106.75	5%
11-25	26.52	8%	54.19	7%	104.13	7%
26-100	25.80	10%	52.75	10%	101.50	9%
101+	25.08	13%	51.31	12%	98.88	12%

Based on these prices, we can now calculate the minimum cost to obtain a single mint example of each theme and orientation as well as a total price for a complete collection of each format as well.

- Minimum cost to obtain a mint single copy of each theme and orientation. This is based on a pane of 25 since ordering a booklet of 12 requires three booklets to be purchased (or 36 stamps):

four values x 12 themes x landscape/portrait

$$(28.75 + 45.75 + 39.75 + 58.50) \times 12 \times 2 = \mathbf{\$4,146}$$
, plus shipping and taxes

- complete set of all formats and themes in both landscape and portrait (you are required to buy three booklets):

$$\{ [(14.40 \times 3) + 28.75 + 52.50] + [(22.56 \times 3) + 45.75 + 86.50] + [(19.68 \times 3) + 39.75 + 74.50] + [(28.68 \times 3) + 58.50 + 112.00] \} \times 12 \times 2 = \mathbf{\$18,101.04}$$
, plus shipping and taxes

I guess one could get a second mortgage on their house!

Other products

You are not limited to having your own personalized image placed on a postage stamp. You can also have it placed on greeting cards, postcards, and (according to the picturepostage.ca website), coming soon ... invitations and announcement cards and envelopes!

Catalogue Status

I spoke with the New Issues Editor of Scott Publishing Co. (Martin Frankevicz) shortly after these stamps were released. Scott is still determining how (or even if) to list these new Picture Postage™ stamps. It is possible that only the die cut singles will be listed with a footnote; they may not be listed at all. We will keep you posted.

If Scott Publishing does not list these, the Unitrade catalogue will include the die cut singles in the new Picture Postage section and treat the personalized panes similar to what has been done for past Picture Postage™ issues.

Articles Urgently Needed

Recent Printing Quantities

by: Robin Harris

Do you get the feeling that there are less and less stamps being printed for each stamp issue? I have a feeling that is the case so I prepared the following two charts of recent Christmas and Lunar New Year stamps to see if there was an apparent trend in printing quantities. These two "series" were selected as they span many years and, based on their topic, should have a consistent, year-to-year, printing quantity.

Do you see any trend? The Lunar New Year stamps, after an initial upward trend in printing quantities, have certainly seen a significant reduction in quantities printed over the years. If there was a demand of these stamp by the collecting community (and I include anybody in this category who is interested in the Lunar New Year issues), then one would expect the quantities to at least stay the same from year to year. Clearly this is *not* the case.

The recent printing quantity of 5,250,000 domestic-rate stamps compared to the peak of 16,280,000 some ten years ago certainly shows that it is the public's mailing habits that have forced the much lower printing quantities.

Christmas Issues				
	Domestic	USA	International	Souvenir sheet
1997	39,305,650	9,601,250	10,381,900	
1998	39,306,000	9,601,000	9,601,000	
1999	25,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	
2000	27,500,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	
2001	64,815,000	10,922,000	10,992,000	
2002	53,515,000	9,174,165	9,174,165	
2003	48,000,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	
2004	60,000,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	
2005	60,000,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	
2006	65,000,000	6,900,000	6,800,000	
2007	71,000,000	6,900,000	6,000,000	
2008	54,000,000	6,600,000	6,000,000	250,000
2009	24,000,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	240,000
2010	41,500,000	3,720,000	3,720,000	200,000
2011	40,000,000	4,260,000	4,080,000	190,000
2012	49,000,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	195,000

Lunar New Year Issues			
		Domestic	Souvenir sheet
1997	1	12,000,000	2,000,000
1998	2	13,280,000	2,500,000
1999	3	13,280,000	2,575,000
2000	4	16,280,000	4,100,000
2001	5	16,280,000	2,980,000
2002	6	11,000,000	1,700,000
2003	7	10,000,000	1,600,000
2004	8	8,000,000	1,700,000
2005	9	8,000,000	550,000
2006	10	8,000,000	950,000
2007	11	8,000,000	700,000
2008	12	8,000,000	750,000
2009	1	7,500,000	750,000
2010	2	6,500,000	750,000
2011	3	5,500,000	550,000
2012	4	5,250,000	500,000

Postal Rates Books

As an Elizabethan II Study Group member you can pick up these valuable reference books at a much reduced price below retail. The chart notes the various pricing for both Volume I and Volume II. Send your order to: Robin Harris, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0 Canada.

	Volume I Domestic	Volume II USA & Int'l
ESG members	C \$62.95 US \$62.95	C \$34.95 US \$34.95
Non-members	C \$89.95 US \$89.65	C \$49.95 US \$49.95
Postage:		
Canada	C \$16.00	C \$15.00
USA	US \$22.00	US \$15.00
Int'l (surface)	US \$22.00	US \$17.50
	(502 pages)	(275 pages)
	Nov 2004	Apr 2007
	<i>Exchange rate subject to change</i>	



Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era In Canada 1952-2002



Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era From Canada 1952-2005

Canada Post Year End Sales

Who likes a good Boxing Day Sale? Seems Canada Post has gotten into the "spirit". Selected items on the Canada Post website (canadapost.ca) received significant discounts (up to 75% off) and/or a discount on a discount from Monday, December 17 to Monday, December 31. Illustrated below are a sampling of a few of these, including the Jubilee Keepsake folder volumes and the annual Collection Canada books.

Notice the QE II Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folder Volume 5. It originally sold for \$7.95 at the time of issue in May 2012 (just seven months ago!). It contains a \$2 souvenir sheet and a 4 x Permanent™ (61¢) Jubilee pane, along with a \$1.89 prepaid postcard (total postage value of \$6.33). We previously reported on this item being sold at 50% off (\$3.98). The "year end" sale gives an additional 10% off (down to \$3.57). When the new postal rates go into effect in January 2013, the postal value of the items in this folder will be \$6.51. You are getting quite a deal with this sale.

Which is worse: Canada Post is offering deep discounts (below face!) on recently issued stamps or Canada Post still has stock of 13 year-old stamps lying around?

	<p>Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folder Volume 1 (1952-1962) Long live the Queen! Canada Post celebrates the Diamond Jubilee, honouring Queen Elizabeth II's 60-year reign with a variety of stamps and collectibles.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folder Volume 2 (1963-1972) Long live the Queen! Canada Post celebrates the Diamond Jubilee, honouring Queen Elizabeth II's 60-year reign with a variety of stamps and collectibles.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folder Volume 3 (1973-1982) Long live the Queen! Canada Post celebrates the Diamond Jubilee, honouring Queen Elizabeth II's 60-year reign with a variety of stamps and collectibles.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee - Keepsake Folder Volume 4 (1983 to 1992) Order the 4th volume in our collection of keepsake folders, released to honour Queen Elizabeth II's 60-year reign.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee - Keepsake Folder Volume 5 (1993 to 2002) Buy Volume 5 in our collection of Diamond Jubilee keepsake folders, celebrating Canadian and Royal milestones between 1993 and 2002!</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee - Keepsake Folder Volume 6 (2003 to 2012) Pick up Volume 6 in our collection of Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folders. Celebrate Canadian and Royal milestones between 2003 and 2012.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>
	<p>Regal Collection Long live the Queen! House your Diamond Jubilee collection in this majestic Regal Collection folder.</p> <p>50 % Off! Shop Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31 and receive an additional 10% off already discounted prices.</p>

	<p>2003 Collection Canada November 4, 2003 - A unique, limited edition book that includes a full set of 2003 mint condition Canadian stamps, plus fascinating stories and breathtaking imagery around the stamp themes. This year's edition also comes with a special bonus poster featuring the Space Station and international space stamp images.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31.</p>
	<p>2004 Collection Canada November 2, 2004 - This deluxe, beautifully bound hard cover delves into the thematic relationships and intriguing stories behind Canada Post's 2004 stamp program. In addition to a full set of 2004 mint stamps, this comprehensive retrospective includes a special 24-page insert featuring original works published for the first time from two of Canada's most celebrated authors, Roch Carrier and Rudy Wiebe.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31</p>
	<p>2005 Collection Canada November 16, 2005 - Collection Canada 2005 is a lively expose that captures the beat of the stories, people and events that inspired an entire year of stamps. It's also the easiest way to collect all 67 stamps issued by Canada Post in 2005 and makes a treasured gift for any collector. This impressive 116-page volume includes a special feature celebrating the amazing career of world-renowned jazz legend Oscar Peterson as well as a 15-minute, three-track Oscar Peterson CD, including one song that has never before been released on CD.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31</p>
	<p>2006 Collection Canada Behind every postage stamp is an intriguing and uniquely Canadian tale that deserves to be told. This year's edition of Collection Canada tells those stories, and gives readers a front-row seat to every fascinating plot twist and amazing character that took centre stage on Canadian stamp issues in 2006. Collection Canada 2006 also includes every stamp design of 2006 that's 62 stamps with a total face value of \$41.56. Protective mounts throughout the book ensure that each stamp stays in mint condition.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31</p>
	<p>Collection Canada 1999 This attractive, 66-page hard-covered book is the easiest way to collect and showcase all 75 stamps issued by Canada Post in 1999.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31.</p>
	<p>Collection Canada 2000 The 2000 Millennium Edition records the year in stamps and presents them in a collectible hardbound volume.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31.</p>
	<p>Collection Canada 2001 The 72-page 2001 edition of Collection Canada contains all 65 stamps issued by Canada Post.</p> <p>25 % Off! Monday Dec 17 to Monday Dec 31.</p>