

**EDMONTON STAMP CLUB**

# **BULLETIN**

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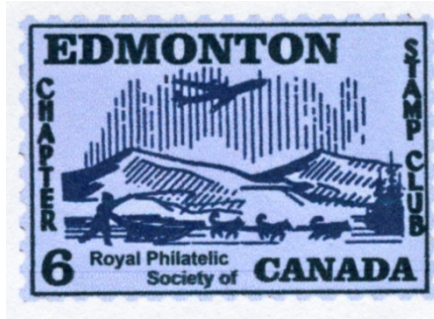


Rufus is well known to *ESC Bulletin* readers as our periodical's mascot and a true philatelist, i.e., lover of stamps. But now he has decided to become a contributor as well! See his contribution on p. 9 inside.

Regular meetings

St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:00 pm

**Check Page 20 for meeting dates**



The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society. **The editor welcomes communications of all kinds – letters, comments, and articles.**

These may be forwarded to John-

Paul Himka, Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6, or click “contact” on our website ([edmontonstampclub.ca](http://edmontonstampclub.ca)) or email to [jhimka@ualberta.ca](mailto:jhimka@ualberta.ca).

The Edmonton Stamp Club respectfully acknowledges that we are located on the traditional territory of the First Nations, the Inuit, and the Métis peoples. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting.

## 2025 - 2026 Board of Directors

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



March was a busy month with another successful Spring National Stamp Show. We had these three days full of fun and activities.

Friday evening, Dave Hetke led a team of volunteers who systematically put the show panels up at the Central Lion's facility. There were 105 panels in total ready for a group of expert judges to adjudicate. Thanks to Stéphane Cloutier and Steven Friendenthal for their work on the exhibits.

Big thanks to Show Chair Ed Dykstra. It takes a lot of behind the scenes work to organize. Brian Heibert collected the \$5 admission fee, and Jacques Martel expertly shared club information at the entry table. Frank Gasparik again volunteered to photograph our event.

Saturday morning our friend Doug Hunter of the Edmonton Food Bank brought greetings and officially declared the show open while cutting the ribbon. By the end of the show, attendees had filled three large containers with much needed food. Our dealers remarked at how busy their booths were. Special thanks to all dealers, and personal thanks to local club members. Keith Spencer and Richard Barnes offered free appraisals, dealing with a continuous queue. Jeff Pacey had a full house at the junior table as did Peter Kuester with the circuit books table. Judging occurred in the exhibit area, and a steady flow of attendees looked at the myriads of panels. In the afternoon, Mayor Andrew Knack brought greetings on behalf of the City of Edmonton. This is the third year he has attended the event. I had the pleasure of walking him through the dealer tables and the exhibits. He was notably impressed and will return.

Sunday started with the Awards Breakfast. The judges remarked at the high quality of exhibits. Junior club member Kali Daum took three awards for her one-panel display. Her proud father watched as she

walked to the podium. Special thanks to Bob Hewitt from Paul Kane High School for engaging the school stamp club with ours. This is the first time a junior member has displayed and won awards at our show. The show wrapped up at 4 PM on Sunday.

Special thanks to Central Lions staff and the staff in the cafeteria.

Calgary will be hosting the Royal next year, and the Edmonton Stamp Club is committed to supporting that cause. They were out in force at our March show and took home several awards.

David V. Pattison, President

## **Canadian Stamps Celebrating Education Part I: 1976 to 1999**

Wayne Madden  
madden(at) shaw.ca

For those of us who have dedicated our life's work to the promotion of learning and education, stamps that celebrate teachers, literacy, and Canada's extensive network of quality schools, colleges, and universities will certainly have some special meaning.

Looking through my own collection of Canadian stamps, I noted the first stamps celebrating a Canadian institution of higher learning were two se-tenant stamps issued on 1 June 1976 honoring the centenary of the Royal Military College of Canada. (Eight cents!!! How the cost of a first class stamp has increased in half a century!) Located in Kingston, Ontario, the college states its mission on its website as: "As a military university, the Royal Military College of Canada educates, develops and inspires bilingual, fit and ethical leaders who serve the Canadian Armed Forces and Canada."<sup>1</sup> In addition to military officer cadet training, the college offers both

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<sup>1</sup> Royal Military College Website: <https://www.rmc-cmr.ca/en>.

undergraduate and graduate academic courses. The stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company.



On 28 October 1983, Canada Post issued a single 32-cent commemorative stamp, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, to celebrate the centenary of the Dalhousie Law School, the oldest continually operating common law school in Canada. At the time, the Law Society of Upper Canada felt preparing students for the practice of law should be done by the profession itself. It was the vision of Dr. Richard Chapman Weldon that the academic side should be a three-year university law course followed by a shorter period of apprenticeship in a law office. Thanks to the generosity of a benefactor, the Dalhousie Law School was born in 1883. This model is now the standard of legal training in Canada. Many political and legal leaders took their academic training at Dalhousie Law School.

Lack of literacy is not a major problem in most of Canada. However, there are many nations in the world that have adult literacy rates below 50 percent. Drawing attention to this in a worldwide effort to improve literacy, the United Nations declared 1990 as World Literacy Year. Postal authorities worldwide issued stamps. Canadian graphic artist Debbie Adams designed Canada's stamp, a 39-cent stamp, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company and issued 8 September 1990. The design featured a symbolic bird in flight, indicating that literacy leads to freedom. The bird is composed of letters, numerals, and words in several alphabets.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://stampsandcanada.com/>, Literacy – a Human Right – 29 cents 1990 – Canadian Stamp.



The next literacy stamp was a semi-postal stamp issued on 9 September 1996. Revenue from the 5-cent surcharge was designated to go to ABC Canada for Family Literacy projects in Canada. The design of the 1990 stamp features on the background of this stamp, which appears as a jigsaw puzzle with hands of an adult and a child putting the final piece into place. The printer was Ashton-Potter Canada Limited.

Between the issue of those two stamps was the 16 October 1991 issue of a stamp to celebrate the sesquicentennial of Queen's University. Founded as Queen's College at Kingston in 1841 with a charter granted by Queen Victoria to the Rev. Thomas Liddell, a young Presbyterian minister, it officially opened in March of 1842 in a rented house. After years of financial insecurity, it was later established as an independent university in 1912. Queen's University boasts the oldest self-governing student body in Canada. Designed by Les Holloway and Richard Kerr and based on a photograph by Michael Mitchell, the stamp was printed by Ashton-Potter Canada Limited.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Ibid., Queen's University 1841-1891 – 40 cents 1991.

Also printed by Ashton-Potter Canada Limited, on 28 September 1996, was a stamp honoring Edouard Montpetit, the founder of the Faculty of Social, Economic, and Political Sciences at the University of Montreal. A lawyer, economist, and academic, Dr. Montpetit served in a number of positions at the university from 1920 until his death in 1954.<sup>1</sup>

The next stamp commemorating a major anniversary of a Canadian university was issued on 25 September 1998, the sesquicentennial of the University of Ottawa. Founded by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in 1848 as the College of Bytown, it was granted university status twenty years later. Until the 1930s, it was staffed mainly by Oblates. The university became a nondenominational university in 1965. Designed by Harris Design Associates and printed by the Canadian Banknote Company, the stamp features a photograph of Tabaret Hall, the administration building named after its first administrator, Father Joseph-Henri Tabaret.<sup>2</sup>

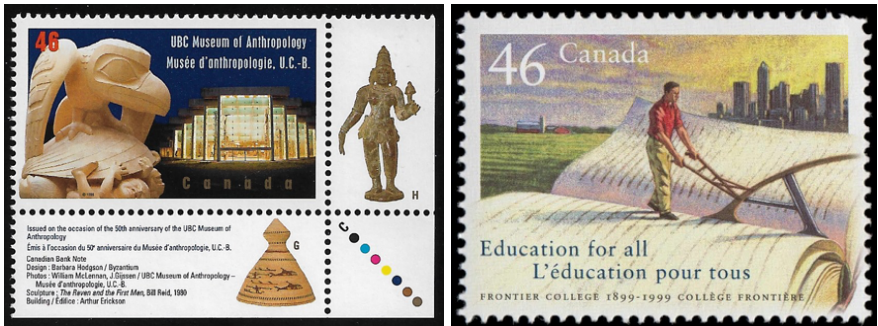


In 1999, two stamps on the theme of education were issued. The first, on 9 March, commemorated the golden anniversary of the University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology, Canada's largest teaching museum. Featuring the museum building and a First Nations carving, the stamp was printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this issue are the images of artifacts shown in the selvage of the stamps as shown on the following page.

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<sup>1</sup> Edouard Montpetit, Wikipedia article.

<sup>2</sup> "OTD: Canada Post marks 150 years since University of Ottawa's founding," *Canadian Stamp News*, 25 September 2021.



Then on 24 September, Canada Post issued a stamp to celebrate the centennial of Frontier College. Founded in 1899 by Nova Scotia Presbyterian Minister Alfred Fitzpatrick as the Canadian Reading Camp Movement, the college served laborers, primarily immigrants, in remote logging, mining, and railway camps. Teachers worked alongside the laborers during the day and taught elementary reading, writing, and arithmetic to fellow workers in the evenings. Frontier College continues to operate today, working with immigrant and underprivileged communities and assisting children aged 7 to 12 with reading and homework.<sup>1</sup> Printed by Canadian Bank Note Company Limited, the stamp features an allegorical picture of a worker plowing a book and the motto, “Education for all; L’éducation pour tous.” The background shows both rural and urban scenes signifying the work of the college in both country and city settings. It is the opinion of this writer that perhaps this stamp is the finest education themed stamp produced to date.

**Fun Fact:** Among the teacher-laborers who worked with Frontier College is former Edmonton MP and federal cabinet minister, The Hon. David Kilgour.

**Part II of this series will cover the period 2000 to 2003.**

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<sup>1</sup> *The Canadian Encyclopedia* s.v. “Frontier College” by Paul Laurendeau, published online 20 January 2017.

## The Truth about Dogs

Rufus  
rufus(at)2cute.cat



### Photos from Our Recent National Show

The photos of our show that appear in this issue were taken by the show organizer Ed Dykstra unless otherwise noted. Below are judges doing their thing – judging.



## Palmarès (Prize List)

I apologize for the very small print. Thankfully, every right-thinking philatelist owns a magnifying glass. I am hoping that the document will also appear on the Edmonton Stamp Club website at <https://www.edmontonstampclub.ca/>.

### Palmarès

Edmonton Spring National  
March 21-22, 2026

#### Open Class Exhibits

Exhibitor	Title	Score	Medal	Special Awards
Sam Chiu	The IPO Tieprints of 1899: Chinese Imperial Post Office's Measures to Counteract Pilfering of Foreign Stamps on Outgoing Mail	95	LG	<b>Grand Award</b> , APS Award for Research, Auxiliary Markings Club Award of Excellence
Joel Weiner	Allied Forces Cancellations Used in Palestine During World War I, 1917-1921	94	LG	<b>Reserve Grand Award</b> , APS Award of Excellence 1900-1940, PHSC Best Military Exhibit
Sam Chiu	Hong Kong Wartime Airmail September 1939 to December 1941	93	LG	RPSC Excellence for Treatment, CAS Best Airmail Exhibit
Bryan Dunne	British Columbia Forgeries	93	LG	PSSC Specialization Award, Best BNAPS Exhibit, BNAPS Best BNA 2 x 4 Exhibit
Steve Friedenthal	Canada World War II Patriotic Postage Meter Slogans 1939-1945	92	LG	APS Award of Excellence 1940-1980, PHSC Best BNA Postal History Exhibit
Sam Chiu	Hong Kong Queen Victoria Postal Stationery: Cards, Envelopes and Wrappers, 1879-1902	92	LG	United Postal Stationery Society Marcus White Best Multi-Frame Award
Joel Weiner	The Handstruck Postal Markings of Oxford, U.K. 1706-1952	92	LG	RPSC Excellence for Synopsis / Title Page
Kenneth Snelson	UK Returned Letter Offices - Rationalization of Ambulance Envelopes - c1897 to c1925	92	LG	RPSC Excellence for Material
Dave Bartlet	Canadian and Newfoundland Pioneer Airmail Flights of 1918-20	92	LG	ATA Gold Award
Robert Stock	Oxford County, U.C. / C.W. Postmarks	90	LG	APS Award of Excellence Pre-1900, BNAPS Best Researched BNA Exhibit
David McLaughlin	Householder Mail in Canada 1889-1989	88	G	
Sam Chiu	Frogs & Toads, their Relevance to Humans	87	G	ATA Silver Award
Neil Donen	1935/36 Canada Air Mail Usage of 1935 Silver Jubilee Stamps	86	G	
Peter MacDonald	Canada's Centennial Year Christmas Issue	83	LV	BNAPS John D. Arn White Queen Award
David McLaughlin	Victorian Belt & Buckle Symbols in Philately, Postal History & Ephemera	83	LV	RPSC Excellence for Presentation, AAPE Exhibiting Excellence
Dave Russum	Great Britain to Canada Mail 1800 to Present - Efficiency and Rates	80	LV	

Dave Bartlet	Okanagan Wineries, from a Philatelic Aspect	79	V	AAPE Creativity Award, ATA Bronze Award
Mark Oakley	Post Offices of the Pacific Northwest Coast of British Columbia	78	V	RPSC New Exhibit Award, AAPE Exhibiting Excellence
Dale Speirs	Postal History of The Calgary Winter Olympics	73	LS	AAPE Jean Beninghoff Encouragement Award

### Single Frame Exhibits

Exhibitor	Title	Score	Medal	Special Awards
Jean-Jacques Tillard	Les entiers postaux "pêcheur" et "goëland" à SPM 1909-1918	93	LG	Single Frame Grand, United Postal Stationery Society Porter Venn Best Single Frame Award
Kenneth Snelson	The Development of UK Post Office Detained for Postage Notices	93	LG	
Neil Donen	"Madame Joseph" Forged Postmarks of the King George 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue: Continental Africa	92	LG	
Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI	90	LG	BNAPS Best BNA One Frame Exhibit
Sam Chiu	Pre-War Port Arthur, 1898-1904	88	G	
Donna Trathen	Canada's First RCMP Stamp (1935)	88	G	
Stéphane Cloutier	Tsar Nicholas II's Visit to Paris, France in October 1896	85	G	
Bryan Dunne	Canada 1897 Jubilee Fakes & Forgeries	85	G	
Dave Bartlet	Royal Flying Corps in Canada 1917-18	85	G	ATA One Frame Award
David Biltek	Varieties in the Key of G	81	LV	
David Biltek	Canada's First Official Stamps: What, Why, How and When	77	V	
Duncan Murray	First Stamps of British North America	76	V	
Władysław Dziemińczuk	The Last Post	69	S	AAPE Women Exhibitors Serling Achievement Award

### Youth Exhibits

Exhibitor	Title	Score	Medal	Special Awards
Kali Daum	Facial Hair in Philately	78	LV	ATA Youth Award

## The Club Table at the Entrance to the Show



## Our Great Show

Ed Dykstra  
eddykstra(at)shaw.ca

[This is an abridged version of an article that Ed, who chaired the show committee, wrote for *Canadian Stamp News*.]

The Edmonton Stamp Club hosted another National Stamp Show, 21-22 March. It was well attended, with fourteen dealers from all over Western Canada. The exhibits were greatly appreciated by the judges, as many high awards, such as Large Gold Medals, were awarded. The exhibits came from many places across Canada, and as far as St Pierre & Miquelon.

The exhibits were full of very interesting and exotic material, to say the least! Of much interest was a Junior Exhibitor exhibiting for the first time. Her name is Kali Daum, who exhibited: Facial Hair in Philately and won a Large Vermeil and also the American Topical Association Youth Award.

The Mayor of Edmonton, Andrew Knack, said a few words of welcome, which was much appreciated. He has been at our show three times so far, and took in the exhibits as well. He is keenly interested in that part of our show. The Food Bank was also there and at least two large collection boxes were filled. The club is very appreciative to the people attending our show and for their generosity!

Evaluations at the show.



## Topical Collecting – Oxymorons

Judy Madden

headachesolvers(at)gmail.com

I was working on the Irish portion of my collection when I had a thought of using oxymorons as a theme for a topical collection. Just in case someone who is reading this does not know what an oxymoron is, the Cambridge dictionary defines it as two words or phrases used together that have, or seem to have, opposite meanings.

The stamp from which this idea grew was the 1938 stamp celebrating the Centenary of the Temperance Crusade. Given the plethora of Irish pubs here in North America and the popularity of green beer and Irish coffee around St. Patrick's Day, I was somewhat surprised. I was even more surprised when I realized that Ireland issued stamps honoring the Bicentenary of Guinness Brewery in 1959. New Zealand has also issued stamps that could be grouped together as oxymorons. Ernest Rutherford, a New Zealand physicist and chemist, was a pioneering researcher in both atomic and nuclear physics. He has been described as "the father of nuclear physics." The centenary of his birth, 1971, was marked by an issue of two stamps. New Zealand is nuclear free and issued a stamp honoring this status in 1995. Then, in 2008 New Zealand issued the "A to Z" of New Zealand. The alphabet included "R" for "Rutherford" and "N" for "Nuclear Free."



What a perfect collecting opportunity for people with a sense of humor, a desire to do a bit of research, and little room to house a large collection. Probably not a good bet for people who like competing in stamp shows, but, then again, who knows. I've not done a lot of research to see how many more oxymorons I can find.

## Exposure

**FAST FACTS**

# Our stamp on history

Thanks in no small part to the advanced printing techniques used to foil would-be counterfeiters, Canada's stamps are the envy of the world.

To this day, their colourful and innovative designs are recognized internationally, continuing a proud tradition that started with our first ever, issued back in 1851.

- The three-pence beaver was not only the Province of Canada's first stamp, it was the first piece of postage currency in the world to feature the image of anything other than a head of state or coat of arms.
- The world's first pictorial stamp was designed by Sir Sandford Fleming, who also created standardized time zones.
- According to 2009 material from the Canadian Museum of Civilization, postmaster-general James Morris suggested the rodent star in the stamp's design over breakfast with Fleming. The beaver represented the industry, ingenuity and perseverance of our young country.
- The 3d beaver was released April 23, 1851 ('d' denoting the British abbreviation for pence, which harkens back to the Roman word for coin, 'denarius').
- All the provinces ceased to issue their own stamps and used the Dominion of Canada general issue as they joined Confederation. Newfoundland continued to



The first Canadian stamp was worth three British pence and was issued April 23, 1851. **WAYNE CUDDINGTON**

# GOAT

## ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

Are you the GOAT? Design and colour our GOAT colouring sheet and find out! Submit your colouring sheet of Will from GOAT and enter for your chance to win a \$500 Cineplex gift card, plus passes to see the film!

ENTER NOW AT [CANADA.COM/CONTESTS](http://CANADA.COM/CONTESTS)

Additional passes to see GOAT available to be won.




Our hobby got some profile in the *Edmonton Journal*. There was an article about Canada's first stamp, with a list of notable things to

remember about the stamp. There was also an advertisement for the movie *Goat*. This is an animated movie about animals playing roarball and about their aspirations. Too bad our Stamp Show doesn't get this kind of publicity. Unless of course you pay for a space. So we at least got the hobby some exposure! Thanks for that at least! Anyway, I hope you enjoyed your time at the show, whether you bought stamps, saw the exhibits, went to a seminar, or joined the Awards Breakfast on Sunday morning.

Ed Dykstra, VP and Show Chair



Cutting the ribbon: Doug Hunter of the Food Bank and young daughter of dealer Firmin Wyndels



Dealers dealing at our Spring National Show in Edmonton

## Calgary Philatelist

John-Paul Himka  
jhimka(at)ualberta.ca

Our sister organization, the Calgary Philatelic Club, graciously mails me its own equivalent of this *Bulletin*. They call theirs *Calgary Philatelist*. It is edited by Dale Speirs, who also does a lot of the writing. It is available (but only to members) on its website <https://calgaryphilatelicsociety.com/>. If you want to join in order to read it, dues are a modest \$25.

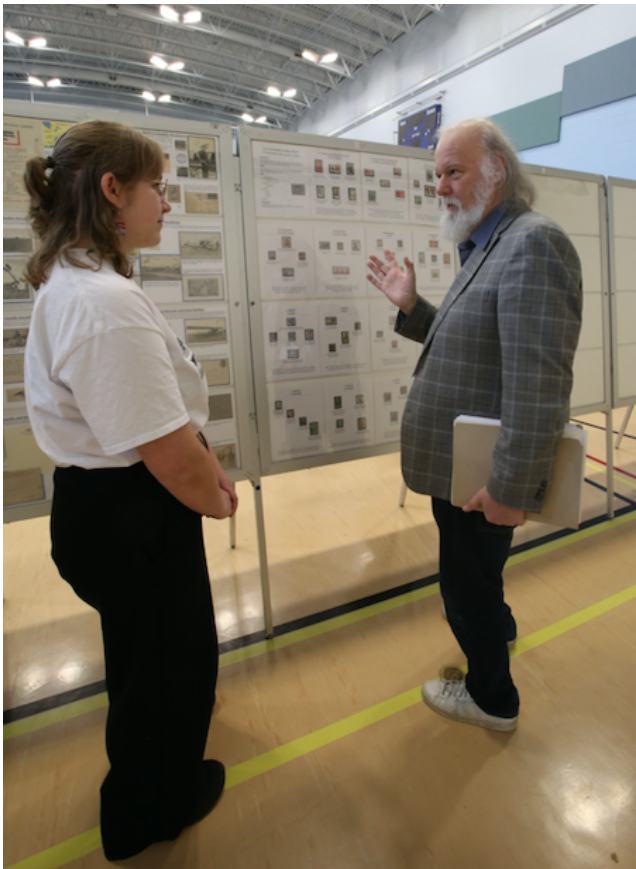
The format and periodicity do not differ much from what we do here in Edmonton. Neither of us uses glossy paper or prints in color. The Calgary journal has 16 pages per issue, ours has 16-20.

I notice that Tony Doughty, who has made contributions to our *ESC Bulletin*, is now writing interesting, less specialized pieces for *Calgary Philatelist*. The April 2025 issue (no. 224), for example, contains his useful article "A Very Brief History of Canadian Postage Rates: To 'P' or not to 'P' – That is the Question."

Editor Dale Speirs has contibuted many pieces on Ukraine’s wartime stamp issues, an important resource for Ukraine collectors.

Most issues of *Calgary Philatelist* contain two full-page ads from stamp dealers or philatelic organizations. (The ESC *Bulletin* also accepts ads, as outlined at the bottom of p. 2 in every issue.)

On the bottom of the last page of each issue one finds this interesting statement: “Junior Club meetings information from [Calgary VP] Jim Senecal at (403) 547-7681 or jsenecal[at]telusplanet.net.”



Junior exhibitor (and award winner) Kali Daum listens to advice from Judge John Wilson




### At the Junior Table



Jeff Pacey organized the junior table (Photo: John-Paul Himka)

## Winners and a *Mea Culpa*

Yours truly, the editor, managed to screw up the Winners announcement in the previous edition of the *Bulletin*. The real winner on 9 February was our treasurer, Brian Heibert. The winners announced instead of Brian actually won on 23 February.

		
Brian Heibert won \$39 in the 50/50 on 9 February	Warren Stein won the door prize on 9 March	Ernie Carlson won \$31.50 in the 50/50 on 9 March

		
Chris Johnson won the door on 23 March	Jeff Pacey won \$29.50 in the 50/50 on 23 March	Bret Dykstra won both the door prize and \$35 on the 50/50 on 13 April

Love them smiling faces!

# Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830-109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the main entrance at the southeast corner of the school. For information about the club call 780-467-4825 or 780-437-1787.

**2026**

27 April

11 and 25 May

8 and 22 June

## A Friend's Daughter Did a Backpacking Tour through Asia

Jeff Pacey

jpacey(at)telus.net

And she sent me this beautiful postcard:

