

**EDMONTON STAMP CLUB**

# BULLETIN

Volume 115, Number 6, June 2026

ISSN: 0046-1318

Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6

Website: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.ca>

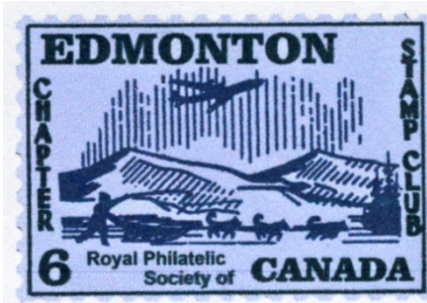


See story on p. 9

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.

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Area code 780 (unless otherwise noted)

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“We’ll start the meeting at 7:15!” As president of the Edmonton Stamp Club, I’m usually shouting that to the gathered masses as they are engrossed in group conversations.

If you haven’t been to a club meeting lately you should, as there’s lots of conversation and exchange of stamps and information. As president, I’m often in those scrums and have to tear myself away to make announcements.

Speaking of announcements, we now have 44 junior members and counting. Free junior memberships until June 2027. Lots of help offered to junior members. Our challenge is keeping our club topical for new and younger members.

If you’re looking for updates on club activities check out our Facebook page and website. You never know what Joe is posting, but you’re guaranteed to find something interesting.

Summer is upon us. Thanks to the Edmonton Catholic School Division we will once again enjoy the cafeteria space at St Joseph High School.

I had a call from my church pastor the other week. Shopping bag of stamp collectables that will be available for auction and juniors.

David V. Pattison  
President

## Canadian Stamps Celebrating Education Part III: 2004 to 2008

Wayne Madden  
wmadden(at)shaw.ca

In the years of 2002 and 2003, several Canadian universities and colleges celebrated milestone anniversaries and were honored in the Canadian Universities series of stamps issued by Canada Post. The series continued, admittedly at a slower pace, until 2008.

The first university to be honored was the Université de Sherbrooke, founded in 1954 as a French-speaking Catholic university in a region of Quebec with a large English-speaking population. Initially, the university was served mainly by Catholic academic staff, but the Quiet Revolution led to a gradual reduction in clergy serving there. The appointment of a lay person as Rector (Yves Martin) in 1975 largely marked the end of religious activity in the university. In 1991, a second campus was opened in Longueuil. To illustrate the stamp, issued 4 May 2004, a picture of the very modern Georges-Cabana Pavilion was chosen along with the university coat of arms.<sup>1</sup>



Four days later, on 8 May 2004, a stamp was issued to honor the University of Prince Edward Island. Although the university itself was only established in 1969, its roots go back to the establishment of

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia Article.

Central Academy in 1834 and St. Dunstan's University in 1835. Central Academy was renamed Prince of Wales College in 1860 in honor of a visit by H.R.H. Edward, Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII). In 1965, the college was raised to university status. St. Dunstan's University was founded as St. Dunstan's College and granted a charter to award degrees in 1917 although it did not grant its first degree until 1941. The present-day university is located on the former property of St. Dunstan's University with a satellite campus in the Prince of Wales College location. The university has continued to grow, with ten faculties today.<sup>1</sup>

One stamp in the universities series was issued in 2005, a 14 February stamp celebrating the centenary of Nova Scotia Agricultural College, located in Bible Hill, Nova Scotia. The college merged the School of Agriculture located in Truro and the School of Horticulture located in Wolfville. Legislation was passed in 1980 allowing the college to grant the degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture in association with Dalhousie University and the first degree was granted in 1985. (Later, in 2012, the college was merged into Dalhousie University as that university's Faculty of Agriculture.)<sup>2</sup>



Again, in 2006, there was only one stamp issued in the series, this time a stamp on 26 September honoring the centenary of Macdonald College (the Mac), a campus of McGill University in

<sup>1</sup> "History and Mission," University of Prince Edward Island Website.

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia Article.

Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec. As with the Macdonald Institute (honored in 2003, see Part II in this series), the college was planned and funded by the tobacco manufacturer Sir William Macdonald. Hosting agricultural, human nutrition, and parasitology programs, the college became the Macdonald Campus of McGill University in 1965. From 1907 to 1970, the McGill School for Teachers was also hosted at the college.<sup>1</sup>

The first stamp of the series to be issued in 2007, on 12 March, celebrated the centenary of H.E.C. Montreal (Hautes études commerciales de Montréal; translated to English: "High Commercial Studies of Montreal"). Founded in 1907 by the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, H.E.C. Montreal is the graduate business school of the Université de Montreal offering undergraduate and graduate business degrees. Originally the first management school in Canada, it was initially located in Place Viger, the building featured on the stamp.<sup>2</sup>



Less than a month later, on 3 April, a stamp was issued to honor the University of Saskatchewan on its centenary. Established by the Saskatchewan legislature in 1907, the city of Saskatoon was selected as the location in 1909 and the first students were admitted in 1912, the same year the university issued its first degrees. Given that

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia article,

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia article and information from the H.E.C. Montreal website.

agriculture is the basis of Saskatchewan's economy, it is not surprising that the College of Agriculture was the cornerstone of the university and that it is also the home of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.<sup>1</sup>

All these stamps are in vertical format and were designed by Denis L'Allier. Printers included the Canadian Bank Note Company and Lowe-Martin Company Inc.

The final two stamps in the Canadian Universities series, issued on 7 March 2008, celebrated the centenaries of the University of British Columbia (U.B.C.) and the University of Alberta. The designer of these stamps was Susan Mavor of Metaform Communications Design. Both stamps, printed by the Lowe-Martin Company Inc., are of a smaller horizontal format. Each features a key campus building (for the University of Alberta, it is the former Medical Building, later the Dentistry-Pharmacy Centre, and now renovated as the University Commons), the university coat of arms, and a design featuring the university's initials. University colors are used on the stamps.

Although British Columbia became a province in 1871 and the first proposal to establish a university was made in 1877, the university was not established until 1908. None other than Dr. Henry Marshall Tory helped to set up McGill University College of British Columbia. This evolved into the University of British Columbia, but it was not until 1925 that the university moved to its current Point Grey site. A second campus in Kelowna was established in 2005.<sup>2</sup>

Alberta's first premier, Alexander Rutherford, was sufficiently dedicated to education as a priority that he appointed himself as the province's first minister of education. Determined to avoid a multiplicity of denominational colleges, he introduced a bill into the legislature in 1906 to create a single province-run university. When

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia article with information from the University of Saskatchewan website.

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia article.



Edmonton was confirmed as the capital city, Calgarians assumed they should get the university. Premier Rutherford only promised that it would be south of the North Saskatchewan River. As promised, the university was not located in Edmonton. It was located in the City of Strathcona, a separate city at that time. Opening with five professors and only forty-five students in 1908, the university temporarily operated out of Queen Alexandra School and Strathcona High School until the first building on campus, Athabasca Hall, opened in 1911. Premier Rutherford also ensured the fledgling university had the strongest of leaders in its new president, Henry Marshall Tory, who had played a key role in the opening of the McGill University College of British Columbia (U.B.C.).<sup>1</sup>

This ended the Canadian University series of stamps, but as we will see in the final part of this article series, it was not the end of stamps celebrating education and educators in Canada.

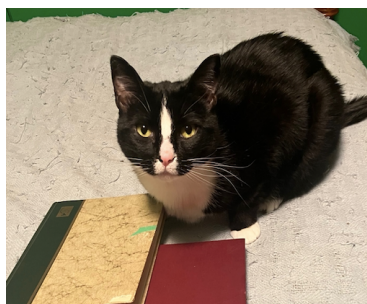
**Fun Fact:** Calgary was not pleased when the University of Alberta was located in the city of Strathcona. In fact, Calgary M.L.A. and provincial Conservative Leader R.B. Bennett suggested that “the day will come when the outraged citizens of Alberta will tear down the university and cast it brick by brick into the North Saskatchewan River.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ellen Schoeck, *I Was There: A Century of Alumni Stories about the University of Alberta 1909 – 2008* (Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 2006).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

**Part IV (Conclusion) of this series will cover stamps issued after 2008.**



## Stamp Clubs

[At every club meeting, interesting philatelic literature is placed on a table at the back of the cafeteria, and it's free for the taking. I generally look at what's there and sometimes take items home. At the last club meeting (8 June), I noticed a pamphlet with yellowed pages entitled *The Stamp Finder*. You can see a photo of the pamphlet's cover on the cover of this issue of the *Bulletin*. This pamphlet was published sometime between the end of World War II and 1956 by the Philatelic Institute in Cambridge, MA. Its main purpose was to help beginners identify what stamps come from what countries. But I noticed it also had sections on stamp clubs. And since we're a stamp club, I thought it would be instructive to see what the pamphlet had to say. Hence, this selection of excerpts. – JPH]

**Stamp Clubs Are Fun.** Stamps also furnish the basis for enjoyable social activities. There are thousands of stamp clubs, in churches, libraries, Scout troops, Y.M.C.A.'s, large firms (General Electric Co., National City Bank, American Telephone Co., etc.), and other organizations. And in schools, stamp collecting is particularly well regarded, because of the lively interest it creates in history, geography, current events, and other subjects.

**How to Organize a Stamp Club.** You will find that the hobby of stamp collecting is twice as much fun if you make a practice of talking and

swapping stamps with other collectors. The best way to accomplish this is by belonging to a stamp club, for a club enables you to increase your knowledge of stamps, dispose of your duplicates in exchange for stamps you want, and participate in enjoyable club activities. If there is not already a stamp club in your neighborhood, it should be an easy matter to get several friends together to form one.

Many people, also, are in a favorable position to sponsor enjoyable group activities by introducing philately and starting a stamp club within some larger organization. In public and private schools, summer camps, business firms, churches, libraries, scout troops and Y.M.C.A.'s there is often a real need for a club's stimulating influence.

Undoubtedly you know several people – teachers, scoutmasters, camp directors, etc. – who would be interested in starting a stamp club. Many group leaders will welcome the idea of such a club, for it is both easy and inexpensive to organize, and it is sure to prove a lively, wholesome and interest-arousing influence, wherever it may be.

A stamp club may be as formal or informal as you please. It can be started by saying, "Let's meet at George's house tomorrow and swap stamps." At each meeting the date and place of the next meeting can be decided.

Or, if you wish, you can organize a regular club, with all the formalities such as electing officers, drawing up a constitution, and conducting formal meetings. Meetings should be held regularly, and dues should be moderate: just enough to furnish the "eats" for every meeting. For entertainment, you can have stamp treasure hunts, guessing contests, stamp grab bags, auction sales, and trading sessions.

**Suggestions for Club Meetings.** Every club will naturally arrange its program to suit itself. We offer the following remarks merely as suggestions to be adapted to your own plans.

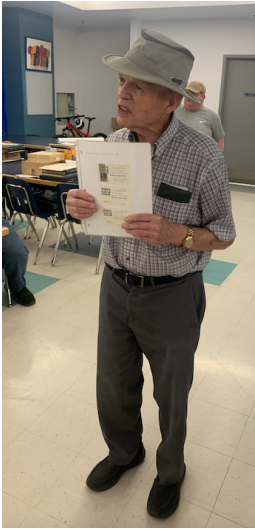
Meetings should be held regularly, and for most clubs, the best interval would seem to be every other week. If possible, the club should secure a permanent meeting place: perhaps a room in the local library, or a basement, attic, or garage donated by a member. If such a club-room is not available, the meeting can be held at the homes of the various members, where, by the way, some obliging wife or mother will usually be glad to serve at the appointed time that indispensable feature of all group meetings – the refreshments.

Fees for club members should be moderate: just enough to enable the club to subscribe to one or more stamp magazines and to furnish (in the absence of the obliging wife or mother mentioned above) the “eats.”

Never forget that the primary purpose of a stamp club is pleasure, and that anything which is disagreeable or boring to the majority of the members (long and dull speeches, for example) should be carefully avoided. Get the official business over with as quickly as possible, and let the fun begin. Games, raffles, auctions, humorous speeches or articles, stamp treasure hunts, etc., will do infinitely more for a stamp club than dragging out the dry-as-dust formalities of official business. Here are a few suggestions:

*Stamp Treasure Hunt:* Packages of stamps are hidden in all parts of the room. Club members search for them, keeping what they find for their collection. Use some really good stamps and also, to create amusement, some utterly worthless ones.

*Guessing Contest:* A bowl of stamps is displayed, and each member writes a guess as to the number of stamps in the bowl. The person who makes the nearest guess wins the stamps. A lot of the cheapest stamps obtainable, with some good ones mixed in, is ideal for such a guessing contest.



Keith Spencer offering another fascinating presentation at our 25 May meeting. This time he talked about the history of our club.

*Stamp Grab Bag:* Each person draws a stamp package, sight unseen, from a bag or box. Use worthwhile “grabs” and include one especially fine prize and one worthless “booby” prize. Wrap the booby prize in a grand manner: many boxes within boxes, for example, at last revealing a common one-cent stamp or a single hinge!

The stamps to be used in the above-mentioned stunts can be purchased by the club treasury, or each member can pay a small sum to defray the cost.

*Auction Sale:* This is an ever-delightful stunt for stamp clubs. Stamps are put up for sale by various members and “knocked down” to the highest bidder. A commission of from 10% to 20% of the selling price is charged and turned over to the club’s treasury. In this way members can profitably dispose of their duplicates. Many clubs hold auction sales at every meeting and find them an unending source of entertainment, especially where the club humorist is auctioneer.

*Trading Stamps:* A large part of every meeting should be devoted to stamp trading. The members sit down informally to look at each other’s collections and duplicates, and to exchange stamps. This is one of the greatest advantages of belonging to a stamp club, for it

affords a pleasant way to get rid of your duplicates, acquire new stamps, examine your friends' collections and show them your own.

For other ideas, we suggest that you obtain a book on party games, and look through it for games that can be adapted to stamp collectors, always using stamps or philatelic supplies for prizes. Remember that the more original your stunts and entertainment, the more people will join your club.

**Getting New Members.** One of the most important club activities should be helping to spread philately: showing other people what stamp collecting is all about, starting new collectors, and getting new members for the club.

Once a year, at least, the club should hold an exhibition in some public place. Interesting displays, especially fine album pages, stamps and their stories, etc. can be shown. The local library or church may be able to offer a room for this purpose; or a merchant can often be persuaded to donate a display window for the exhibition, in return for its advertising value to him. Prizes should be awarded for the best exhibits, and local stamp dealers, who will probably be glad to furnish the prizes, can be enlisted as judges.

From time to time the club should hold "new member" contests; and the person who brings in the largest number of new members should receive a substantial prize.

The more members you have in your club, the livelier things will be. It means bigger and better entertainments and auction sales, and more opportunities for swapping duplicates. Remember that the larger the roll of members, the more interesting and enjoyable a stamp club will be to all who belong.



## My Visit to the Calgary Philatelic Society

Paul Sampson

paulsampson100(at)hotmail.com

At our Edmonton Spring Show I picked up a copy of the *Calgary Philatelist*, the bulletin of the Calgary Philatelic Society. It looked like a lot of interesting things were going on there, and I decided I would drop in for a visit on my next trip. I contacted Murray Bialek, president of the CPS, and let him know I was coming by. He could not have been more kind and helpful.

The Calgary meeting location is at the Kerby Centre in downtown Calgary (1133 - 7th Avenue SW), easily accessible by the Light Rail Transit. The meeting room is large, with lots of tables and seating as the photos show. The meeting proceeds much as ours might. Auction items are laid out for viewing. The Circuit Books are available at a viewing table. Their extensive library is in a permanently positioned cabinet which is unlocked for the meeting. It is quite large and is a Lending Library.



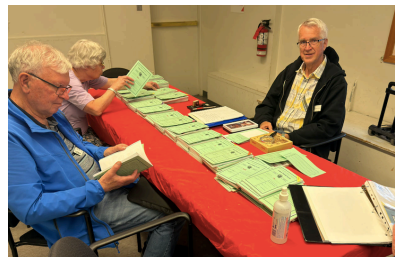
Murray Bialek,  
CPS President



Room layout



Auction items

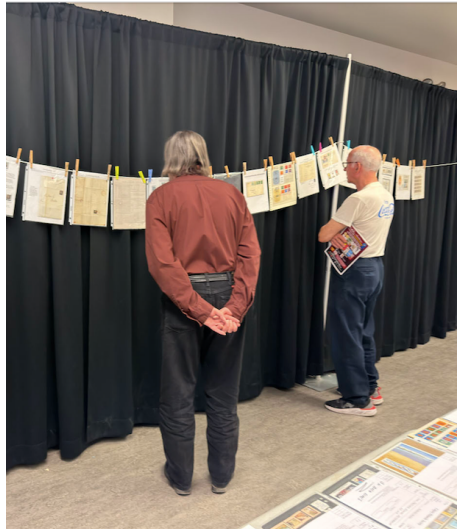


Circuit books

They have a “clothes line” strung up on one side of the room and material is hung there for viewing. An interesting way for members to show and receive feedback on their material.



On-site library



“Clothesline”

The meeting includes the auction viewing, a general meeting, and a presentation, much as ours does.



Auction



Head table seating

Calgary also hosts the Alberta Regional Group of the British North American Philatelic Society (BNAPS), which meets the second Wednesday of the month (except July and August). Currently using Zoom. Calgary is also home to CAPE - the Calgary Association of Philatelic Exhibitors which meets on the fourth Wednesday of the

month. The CPS also invites all Calgary youth to attend the meetings of its Junior Stamp Club from September to June.

What brought me to the meeting in the first place was the Calgary bulletin, so it was a treat to meet the editor Dale Speirs. This evening he had a display about the Penny Black on the club “Clothesline” for all members to view.



*Calgary Philatelist* editor Dale Speirs

In the end, a great trip to a very friendly and welcoming crowd in Calgary. I liked it so much I joined the club! Bonus – I got to participate in the auction!

## **The Boston Stamp Show 2026**

Ed Dykstra  
eddykstra(at)shaw. ca

There was another great international stamp show held in Boston, USA, 23-30 May. You may have heard of it: “Boston 2026 World Expo.” Every ten years the US philatelic community organizes an international stamp show that is just out of this world. This is also

the 250<sup>th</sup> year that the USA declared itself an independent country. Boston is where independence gathered its momentum, including Paul Revere's famous ride with Charles Dawes to warn the people in the area that the British army was heading its way. The all-night ride gave the American army time to prepare, and the element of surprise was gone for the British army.



This shot cuts off a lot!



There were two stamps issued last year to commemorate this. There were a few stamps issued during the show as well, and there were line ups to buy them and get special cancellations. There is always a lot of activities over and above the usual exhibits and dealers' booths. But note that there were over four thousand frames of exhibits and over a hundred dealers.

There was a big display from Great Britain which is celebrating the hundredth birthday of Queen Elizabeth this year. The display also had a Rolls Royce that Queen Elizabeth used on some of her tours and visits. There was a huge area for the juniors or youth. There was even a large stamp that was being remade using Lego bricks! Anybody could stop by and put a few bricks in.

A group of people donated around eight million stamps (to whom I am not sure). But if you wanted, you could sit down around several tables and help yourself to them. Awesome! Then there were many events, namely seminars and society meetings, for many countries of the world. Some days had well over thirty different events. You and several clones just might have attended them all! On that note, my wife Rose enjoyed a workshop for making your own post card. She enjoyed the post card exhibit as well. It was about as big as our whole show's exhibits.

There were many people attending the show, mostly from the US and some from Canada too, of course. But many also came from overseas.

I was blessed to be able to coordinate this with our holidays to see the Maritime Provinces, the Boston Stamp Show, and at least a day at Cape Cod! It was an adventure worth doing.



Queen Elizabeth II's Rolls Royce

## Edmonton Stamp Club Elections 22 June

### MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2026-27 YEAR CAN BE PAID NOW

DEADLINE IS 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

Without a valid membership, you may not be able to attend club functions and participate in our auctions

Single membership \$35

Family membership \$45

Student membership \$10

+ \$10 surcharge if you want the *Bulletin* sent to you by post instead of email

Pay by eTransfer to edmontonstampclub.ca

Pay by cash or check at any club meeting

Pay by check mailed to:

Edmonton Stamp Club  
PO Box 399, Stn Main  
Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6



# 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

- 22 June

5 and 26 October

7 December

8 and 22 February

12 and 26 April
- 14 and 28 September

9 and 23 November

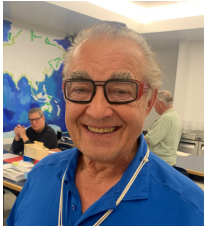
11 and 25 January

8 and 22 March

3 and 17 May
- 7 and 21 June

\* \* \*

## We Have Winners!

|                                                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                                    |                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |                 |
| Ken Kluchky won the door prize on 25 May                                          | Jacques Martel won \$28 in the 50/50 on 25 May                                     | Jeff Pacey won the door prize on 8 June                                            | A man wins the 50/50 two meetings in a row, takes home a larger amount (\$39), and he's frowning? |