



# Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club  
[www.westtorontostampclub.org](http://www.westtorontostampclub.org)

The Club meets at  
**Fairfield Seniors' Centre**  
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON  
416-394-8687

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**April 2017**

B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

This past weekend I had the pleasure, as many of you did, to view and appreciate many fine one frame and multi frame exhibits on display at the North Toronto Stamp Club's Annual Show which was held at Trajan Media's (publisher of Canadian Stamp News) National Postage Stamp and Coin Show in Mississauga.

I am extremely pleased to report that the WTSC team captured the **GTAPA challenge award!!!** Frank's exhibit "The Unification of Italy" was the big winner with a LARGE GOLD and Denzil's "Overseas Mail via Bombay 1869- 1898" and Garfield's "The Expansion of the Post Office in Toronto, 1880-1899" both won GOLD. The total points earned allowed our team to easily win this year's award. Congratulations gentlemen! Well done and most deserving!

As well in the Competitive Exhibit category, great success was achieved.

Congratulations to Don whose outstanding exhibit "Epic of Vimy - A Canadian Pilgrimage" won him a LARGE GOLD and his "A Soldier's Postcards from the Somme" earned him a VERMEIL.

Congratulations also to Garfield whose exhibit "The One Cent Rate in Canada's Small Queen Period 1870-1897" won him a LARGE VERMEIL.

Excellence in exhibiting was also on display in the Court of Honour. Frank's exhibit on "The Atom" and Mark's exhibit on "The Ukrainian Provisional Postage Stamps, 1992-1995" were both spectacular and amazing.

These superior exhibits, as well as our very fine March discussion group evening which focused on exhibiting, should be an encouragement to each of us as we consider how we might turn our draft exhibits and ideas into a one page, multi page and/or one frame exhibit. The question is: how will you, how will I, participate in our annual WTSC Exhibition to be held in May as we celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>?

I look forward to your attendance and participation this coming month.

Sid

## April Activities

Meetings are held on Tuesday evening unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 6:30, meetings start at 7.

**April 4 ~ Learning Workshop** (doors open at 7, meeting starts at 7:30)  
**A for Anything ... and Anyone**

**April 11 ~ Regular Meeting**  
Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

**April 18 ~ Discussion Group**  
Guest speaker and club member **Mark Stelmacovich** will outline his research and award-winning exhibit of the provisional stamps of the Ukraine in the 1980's.

**April 25 ~ Regular Meeting**  
Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

## Discussion Group Schedule (May - June)

**May 16, June 20 ~ TBA**

## PHSC Symposium 2017

Reminder - July 20-23 is the date of the Postal History Society of Canada's Symposium 2017, to be held in Hamilton. Details including the Symposium brochure may be found on the PHSC website.

<http://www.postalhistorycanada.net/php/Symposium/>

## 'Ides of Trump' Postcards

For details about a campaign which saw the President receive upwards of one million postcards in March, see the following article from CSN.

<http://canadianstampnews.com/ides-trump-taxing-ryan/>

# May Learning Workshop

"Slogans" are the subject of the eighth 2016-17 season Learning Workshop.

Return with us to thrilling days of yesteryear when some of the millions of envelopes processed at post offices across Canada bore slogans that promoted a wide variety of subjects.

For six years starting in 1896, the Post Office Department used machine cancels that applied either images of flags or horizontal bars to stamps, beside circular-dated postmarks. New machines in 1902 began applying wavy-line cancels. Ten years later, in 1912, slogan cancels were introduced, struck with curved cast metal plates fitted into each machine.

The texts encouraged and promoted events including horse shows and fairs, supported hospitals and various First World War fund-raisers. Later slogans encouraged use of post office services including buying stamps from posties and the new air mail system.

Hand- or electrically-operated machines pulled covers through a platform equipped with dies that also applied circular dated cancels, leaving them ready to be sorted for dispatching to their intended destination.

Slogan cancels continued until recent years, with postal code-promoting far exceeding other topics.

Few post offices now use the old-style machines. Instead, high-speed mail-handling centers have computer-driven envelope-handling systems that apply dot matrix postal codes.

Slogans can be added, but present-day event promotions tend to be applied to mail by rubber hand cancellers which can be ordered from Canada Post, for use at local post offices.

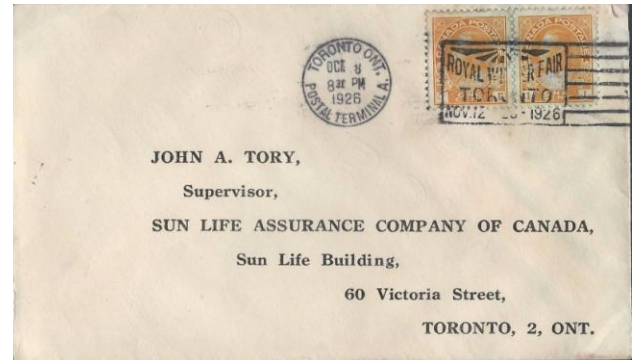
Several members are preparing to discuss this fascinating topic at our meeting on Tuesday, May 2.

Our round-table sessions offer everyone a chance to participate. Come early for a seat and bring your slogan-cancelled covers.

Ian

Several examples of slogan-cancelled covers follow on this page and next

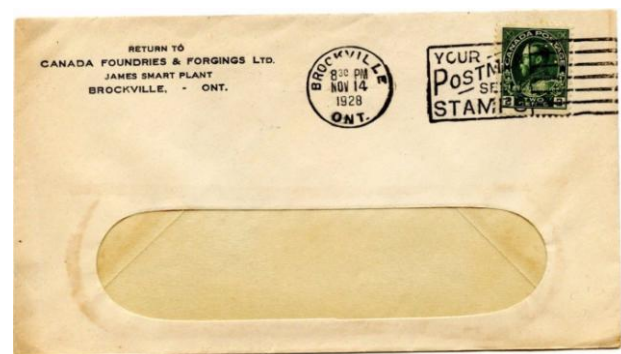
Royal Winter Fair Toronto Nov 1926



Cartier Centenary 1914



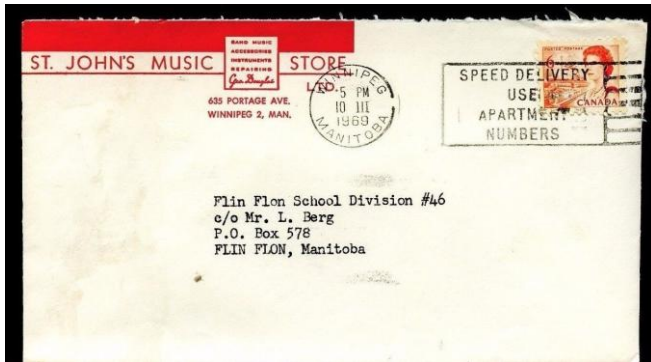
Your Postman Sells Stamps 1928



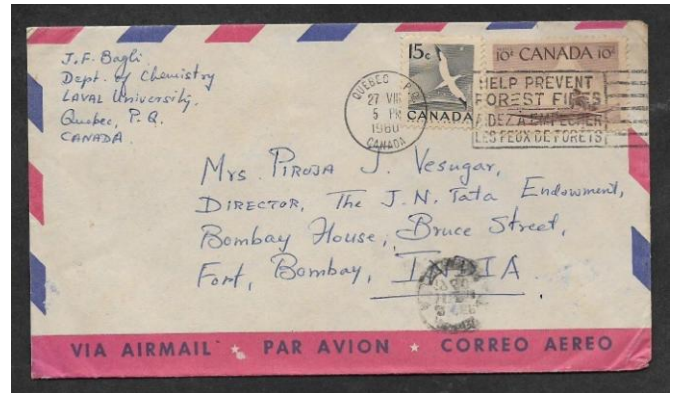
Save Time Use Air Mail 1939



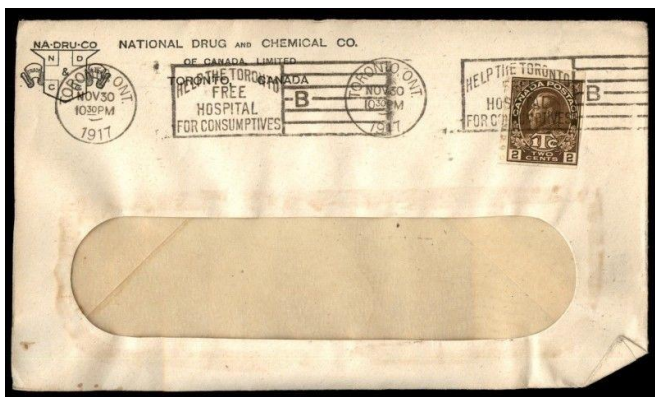
Speed Delivery Use Apartment Numbers 1969



Help Prevent Forest Fires 1960



Help the Toronto Free Hospital for Consumptives 1917

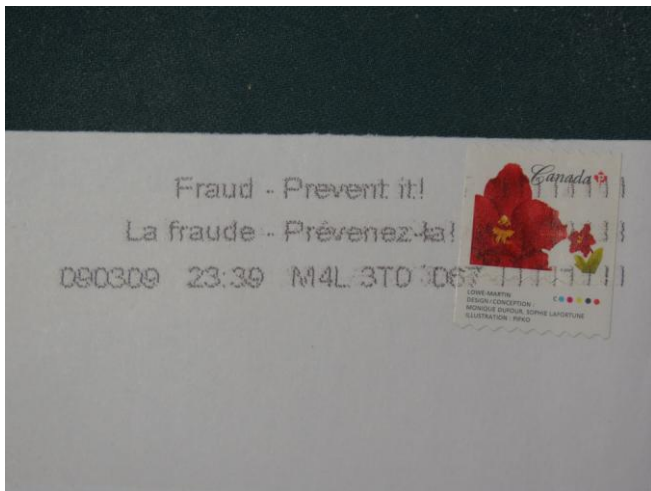


## APS Stamp March (Madness) Competition 2017

In mid-March the American Philatelic Society launched a competition to select the best stamp from 16 chosen from around the world. Like March Madness basketball, the competition pits one stamp against another. The semi-finals (the round of 4) commence March 31 and end midnight on April 5. One semi-final has a Canadian stamp against an American. The other has a stamp from Laos up against one from New Zealand. Voting is done via Facebook or Twitter and is open to anyone. Details may be found on the APS website or contact the editor at [timberg@bell.net](mailto:timberg@bell.net).

<http://blog.stamps.org/2017/03/30/stamp-madness-the-philatelic-final-four/>

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## WTSC Board 2016-2018

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