Royal Ontario Museum 100th Anniversary

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DEAR COLLECTORS
So, small really is beautiful...

On Monday, February 3, 2014, the Garibaldi Highlands (B.C.) Post Office proudly unveiled one of three Pioneers of Winter Sports stamps featuring the late freestyle skier, Sarah Burke. Clockwise: Elanor Bushfield, Sarah’s sister-in-law; Robert Savka, Canada Post Director of Operations, Delivery for Vancouver Island; Mayor of Squamish, Rob Kirkham; and Sarah’s mother, Jan Phelan.

The first edition of the new smaller (and more frequent) Details started to arrive in mailboxes and on post office counters just a few months ago. Since then, Canada Post’s Stamp Services and Marketing groups – which produce this publication – have received a lot of positive feedback on the quality and content of the new design. Thank you for your loyalty and vote of confidence.

In this third edition, you’ll find information on our stamps that celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Ontario Museum, or the ROM as we know it best, and mark the Komagata Maru incident in Vancouver harbour a century ago. We also have another vibrant and colourful issue in our ongoing flower series, featuring that most beloved of all flowers – the rose – a harbinger of spring, we hope.

Jim Phillips, Director, Stamp Services

EVENTS

April 11-13
National Postage Stamp Show,
Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place
Toronto, Ontario
Sponsor/affiliate: Canadian Stamp Dealers’ Association. www.csdanonline.com

April 25-26
EXLIP 36 – International Stamp Show
Montréal, Québec
Sponsor/affiliate: Canada Post
Information: Patrick Chalifoux, timbratheque@hotmail.com.

April 26-27
Sudbury Stamp Show
Sudbury, Ontario
Sponsors/affiliates: Canada Post and Sudbury Stamp Club

NOTICE

Stamp printing specifications
- Perforations are all 13+ or simulated perforation.
- Tagging is on four sides, unless otherwise indicated.
- Paper is Tullis Russell, unless otherwise indicated.
- Gum type is pressure sensitive, unless otherwise indicated.

Items may not be exactly as shown.

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STAMP SERVICES – DETAILS
CANADA POST
2701 RIVERSIDE DR SUITE N1070
OTTAWA ON K1A 0B1 CANADA
Printed in Canada.

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The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) opened 100 years ago in 1914, but it was born earlier in the hearts and minds of two men. Sir Byron Edmund Walker—a banker, civic activist, art collector and amateur palaeontologist—was the driving force to establish a world-class museum in Toronto. Charles Trick Currelly was an adventurer and collector whose nose for artifacts laid the foundation of the ROM’s early collections. Over the next century, the building and the collections would evolve into a world-renowned institution.

Currelly’s story reads like that of a Canadian “Indiana Jones.” His interest in archaeology led him to explore the antiquities of Egypt, Crete and Asia Minor, and record such far-flung adventures in a memoir, *I Brought the Ages Home*. He was appointed the first director of the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology. Since that time, the ROM has become a globally respected exhibition of world cultures and natural history.

Each year, around a million visitors experience the wonder of the ROM. Its fascinating galleries, covering a wide range of topics in natural sciences and world civilizations, entertain, enlighten and inspire.

With six million artifacts and specimens to choose from, Entro designer Gerald Querubin and art director Doreen Colonello had some difficult decisions to make on the issue’s designs. “Our goal was to create a set of stamps that honoured each object, allowing each piece to be venerated, as in the Museum itself,” says Colonello. “Each piece is a monument of our history and a work of art. We didn’t want our design to interfere with this beauty, so it’s secondary: simple typography and lots of white space.” Design Gerald Querubin adds, “The objects are part of the tradition and history of the ROM, while the Michael Lee-Chin Crystal architecture represents the ROM’s continuing research and visionary future.”

The iconic pieces used for the composition represent both world culture and natural history, showcasing the vast diversity and key collections of the ROM.

Gerald Querubin, designer, Entro

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The rose has captured and mended hearts for centuries and been celebrated widely in literature, music and art. A perennial member of the genus *Rosa*, from the *Rosaceae* or Rose family, there are more than 100 species of roses that grow on shrubs or climbing and trailing vines. Their stems are often armed with sharp prickles – mistakenly called thorns.

Canadians look forward to our annual flower issue in the spring, and while this one comes slightly later this year, we hope you’ll think that the sheer beauty of the stamps was well worth the wait.

The stamps feature the velvety red hybrid tea rose, ‘Konrad Henkel,’ and ‘Maid of Honour,’ a creamy white hybrid tea with warm gold undertones. Also, a peachy-pink grandiflora ‘Rainbow Sorbet’ graces the front of the Official First Day Cover.

Designer Isabelle Toussaint photographed these blooms at the Montréal Botanical Garden. "I initially took several pictures reflecting two colours of flowers – classic red and white. But the choice was so vast that I also took dozens of pictures of other varieties, each one more beautiful than the last. Some have been used for the cover and inside the booklet, and on the Official First Day Cover and the souvenir sheet."

Founded in 1931 by Brother Marie-Victorin, a highly regarded botanist, the Montréal Botanical Garden is recognized as a National Historic Site due to its major role in advancing botanical sciences. The 75-hectare site boasts a collection of 22,000 plant species and cultivars, 10 exhibition greenhouses, 20 thematic gardens, an arboretum and the Tree House. Part of the Montréal Space for Life, it also includes the Biodôme, Insectarium and Rio Tinto Alcan Planetarium, making it Canada’s largest natural science museum complex and one of the most popular tourist attractions in Quebec.
The South Asian community is proud that part of its history is being remembered.

Harbhajan Gill,
Komagata Maru Heritage Foundation

In the spring of 1914, a sad, two-month drama unfolded in Vancouver. The 376 passengers of the Japanese steamship *Komagata Maru* arrived in Burrard Inlet on May 23, but officials allowed only a handful into Canada – 20 returning residents, along with the ship’s doctor and his family. The remainder waited on board in difficult conditions for some 60 days until the ship, most of its passengers and their hopes for a better life were escorted away from the harbour by the Royal Canadian Navy.

Harbhajan Gill, President of the Komagata Maru Heritage Foundation, is proud to see the release of a stamp to raise awareness of what happened.

“The Foundation has done a good job educating people in the South Asian community, but there are still many Canadians who don’t know about the incident,” explains Gill. “We’d love this stamp to prompt questions. This is part of Canadian history.”

The arrival of the *Komagata Maru* passengers – all British subjects and mostly Sikhs from Punjab, India – presented a major challenge to regulations aimed at barring Asian immigrants from Canada. Those regulations included a “continuous journey” clause and stipulated that immigrants must have $200 in cash – an obligation most found impossible to meet. Forced to leave Vancouver on July 23, the passengers returned to India, where approximately 20 of them were shot and others imprisoned. The regulations they boldly faced would change only 33 years later.

“Even though it was a sad event, Canadians should take away a happy message. We’ve learned from those mistakes and made positive, inspiring change in 100 years,” says Gill. “We’re a new Canada, one that treats everyone as equal.”

Issued on the first day of Asian Heritage Month, this stamp commemorates the struggle of the *Komagata Maru* passengers and celebrates the contribution of the South Asian community, and indeed all Asian Canadians, to Canada’s diversity and prosperity.

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The importance of this incident goes beyond the South Asian community. It is a historic moment for our country.

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Harbhajan Gill
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244261

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244260

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244274

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244279

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244251

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244228

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 4 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244258 \textsuperscript{●} \textsuperscript{●} No GST/HST

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 5 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244259

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 6 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244260

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 7 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244261

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 8 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244262

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 9 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244263

$39\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $10 Pure Silver Coin – O Canada – Moose (No. 10 of 10)
Mintage: 40,000 coins worldwide (15.87 g)
244264

$279\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $5 Pure Gold Coin – Moose
Mintage: 4,000 coins worldwide (3.14 g)
244242 \textsuperscript{●} \textsuperscript{●} No GST/HST

$279\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 $5 Pure Gold Coin – Grizzly Bear
Mintage: 4,000 coins worldwide (3.14 g)
244243

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 50-Cent Pure Gold Coin – Canada’s Classic Beaver
Mintage: 7,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
244211 \textsuperscript{●} \textsuperscript{●} No GST/HST

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 50-Cent Pure Gold Coin – Osprey
Mintage: 4,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
244245 \textsuperscript{●} \textsuperscript{●} No GST/HST

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
2014 50-Cent Pure Gold Coin – Pintail
Mintage: 4,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
244246

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
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Mintage: 4,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
244247

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
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Mintage: 4,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
244248

$129\textsuperscript{ss}
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Mintage: 7,500 coins worldwide (1.27 g)
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