

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 173

November 2020



If you have a 1945 oval postal marking on a Calgary Stampede cover, you have a rarity. More inside on page 8 from Dave Freeman.

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The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

Articles or advertisements for Calgary Philatelist should be sent to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Display ads are \$10 per full page per issue for hardcopy, jpeg, or pdf format only. Small ads and articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or Microsoft Word format only. Mail to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand to Dale Speirs at meetings, or email to opuntia57@yahoo.ca Please do not email other club business to this address.

The CPS was founded in April 1922 by Dr. Edward George Mason. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society, and Chapter 91 of the American Topical Association.

A cumulative subject index from issue #1 to date for the CALGARY PHILATELIST can be downloaded as a free pdf from www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

MASTERPIECES OF CANADIAN ART: WALTER J. PHILLIPS

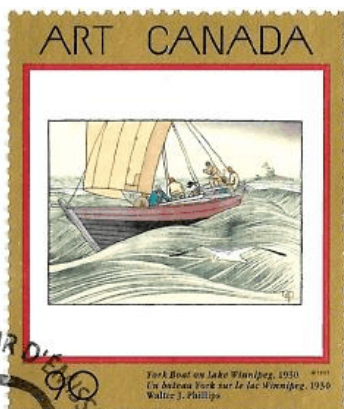
by Raymond Villeneuve

Walter Joseph Phillips' talent was diverse and respected. His artistic career spanned from the 1900s through the 1940s, during which time his work was exhibited throughout North America and Great Britain.

Born in 1884 in Lincolnshire, he took up a number of instruction classes in art in Birmingham and elsewhere. He was influenced early on by the 19th century British watercolorists who dealt with landscapes and weather. Phillips was drawn to nature and it provided him with incentives to paint.

In 1913, his family immigrated to Canada and settled in Winnipeg. Phillips taught and continued his work in graphic arts which he had started back in Manchester and London. He continued to work in watercolour and especially to develop his technique with the colour woodcut derived from the Japanese method.

In 1940, while in Calgary as an instructor at the Institute of Technology and Art, he was asked to become a resident artist at the Banff Summer School of Fine Arts. He then had a house built in Banff, along Saint Julian Street on Tunnel Mountain. Visitors to the Johnston Canyon further north in Banff National Park can still appreciate some of the waterfalls the artist painted there in the mid-1940s.



The Walter Phillips Gallery at today's Banff Centre is named after him. The Glenbow Museum in Calgary holds an extensive collection of Phillips works and a research archive. Common subjects for Phillips included the lakes of Manitoba, the prairies, and in his later years, the Rocky Mountains, where his ashes were scattered.

On 1997-02-17, Canada Post issued "York Boat on Lake Winnipeg" in the Masterpieces of Canadian Art series. The stamp was designed by Pierre-Yves Pelletier based on a woodcut "York Boat on Lake Winnipeg" (1930) by Walter Joseph Phillips in the National Gallery of Canada.

References.

- 1] Roger H. Boulet (1981) THE TRANQUILITY AND THE TURBULENCE, THE LIFE AND WORK OF WALTER J. PHILLIPS, M.B. Loathes Publishing, Markham, Ontario, 1981
- 2] www.sharecom.ca Walter J. Phillips
- 3] www.wikipedia.org Walter J. Phillips

PERFORATIONS AND POSITION DOTS FOUND ON CANADA 3¢ SMALL QUEEN STAMPS: PART 2

by Gordon Demke

The following table (Figure 2) displays my findings for some 2,400 3¢ Small Queen stamps using the Kiusalas Gauge.

In summary, 85% of the stamps measured 65x65. Another 5% measured 68x65. The remaining 10% varied slightly from these predominant measurements. With respect to position dots, 83% contained no discernable PD, about 15% a Lower Left PD, and the remaining 2% had position dots in other locations.

The findings need to be viewed cautiously and it would be risky to make generalizations. Firstly, in many cases PDs may have been obliterated by the perforating pins. Secondly, human error is possible in performing the perf measurements or spotting the position dots. Thirdly, measurements may not be precise because the pins on early line perforators were not mathematically equally spaced.

Fourthly, the accumulations used for the study are not random. They were likely sorted by previous collectors looking for unique perforations, particular colours that are highly sought, or desirable cancels (e.g., fancy, corks, official numeral obliterations, squared circles).

One page of the stamps examined is shown in Figure 3.

Perfs	No PDs	LL PD	3 O'clock PD	6 O'clock PD	9 O'clock PD	12 O'clock PD	TOTAL	Percent
64x64	6	6					12	0.49
64x65	3	4					7	0.29
65x63	1						1	0.04
65x64	90	6	2				1	0.04
65x65	1769	242	25	1	10	5	2052	84.17
65x65	UR=1, UR+LL=1, LR=1, 2LR=2, 2LL=2, UL=1, 2UL=1						9	0.37
65x66	11	1					12	0.49
66x64	2						2	0.08
66x65	32	9				1	42	1.72
66x66	27	10					37	1.52
67x65	23	12					35	1.44
67x66		2					2	0.08
68x64	3						3	0.12
68x65	38	62	UR=1				121	4.96
68x66	1	3					4	0.16
TOTAL *	2026	357	27	1	11	6	2438	100.00
Percent *	83.10	14.64	1.11	0.04	0.45	0.25	100.00	
* Total includes other miscellaneous position dots of 10 (0.41%) Abbreviations: UR=Upper Right, LR=Lower Right, LL=Lower Left, UL=Upper Left								

Figure 2



Figure 3

What Catalogues And Specialists Have To Say About Perforations And Position Dots.

Hillson observes that basic perforation measurements of Small Queens are 12, 11.75, 11.5 x 12, 11.75 x 12, and 12 x 12.25.

First Ottawa Printings shown in the catalogues as being perf 12 are more accurately just under 12 (say 11.9 on the Original Instanta Gauge) all around, or just over 11.75 (11.85 more accurately) all around.

Some of the 3 cent values are perforated exactly 12 all around.

Early Montreal Printings gauge at 11.5 x 11.75, then 11.5 x 12, later 11.75 x 12, then 12 all around, and lastly 12 x 12.25 or 12.25 x 12. Second Ottawa Printings are typically 12 all around, and occasionally 12 x 12.25 and 12 x 11.85.

Regarding position dots for the 3 cent value, Porch (in Unitrade) notes that lower left PDs are found in First Ottawa Printings (except for stamps in the left column of a sheet) and early Montreal Printings. Later Montreal Printings (after 1880) have position dots at 3 or 9 o'clock just outside the vignette oval, while Second Ottawa Printings have no PDs.

Morris provides a more detailed listing of perforations by date for the Small Queen Issue (per the Simpson Collection). They appear to be based on the New Instanta Gauge. Garfield Porch (in Unitrade) provides these perf guidelines (Standard Gauge and Kiusalas) for the 3¢ Small Queen value:

- First Ottawa (1870-73) 12 x 12 (66) and 12 ½ x 12 ½ (63)
- Montreal (1873-) 11 ½ x 12 (68x66)
- Montreal (-1888) 12 x 12 (66)
- Montreal (1888-1889) 12 x 12 ¼ (66x64)
- Ottawa (1889-1897) 12 x 12 (65)

Stanley Gibbons reports the following perfs for the 3¢ value:
 Ottawa (1870-1890) and Montreal Perf 12 or slightly under
 Montreal (1873-1879) 11 ½ x 12 or 11 ¾ x 12
 Ottawa (1889-1897) Perf 12

Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps shows the following for the 3¢ Small Queen:
 Ottawa (1870-73) and Montreal (1873-1890) Perf 12, 12 ½, 11 ½ x 12.
 Second Ottawa Perf 12, 12 x 12.25

Certainly the numbers associated with the Kiusalas Gauge look very different from the standard metric measurements seen in catalogues. This is because the former measures the distance between perforation holes measured in 1,000ths of an inch while the latter measures the number of perforations in a span of 2 cm. The following table (Figure 4) helps in transitioning between the different measures.

Perforation Gauge Equivalents (Small Queens)					
Kiusalas Canadian Specialist Gauge	Standard Gauge to Nearest ¼	Stanley Gibbons Old Instanta	Stanley Gibbons New Instanta	Canadian Specialist (Metric Equivalent)	Metric Equivalent to 2 Decimals
63	12 ½	12.5	12.58	12 ½	12.50
64	12 ¾	12.3	12.38	12 (Error) 12 ½	12.30
65	12	12.1	12.18	12	12.11
66	12	11.9	12.01	12	11.93
67	11 ¾	11.7	11.81	12	11.75
68	11 ½	11.5	11.63	11 ½	11.58
Kiusalas	Unitrade	Unitrade	Unitrade	Kiusalas	Calculated
Perfs- the number of perforations in a distance of 2 cm. Holes are measured, not teeth. Kiusalas Canadian Specialist Gauge- The actual distance between the centre of the perforation holes (i.e., centre-to-centre pin spacing) in 1,000^{ths} of an inch. There are Canada & USA Kiusalas Gauges. Unitrade- "Small Queen Identification Table" per Garfield Portch (Standard Gauge rounded to nearest ¼) & comparison to Instanta gauges per DGL Philatelics, as reproduced in Unitrade. Canadian Specialist- The Kiusalas Gauge also shows metric equivalents to the Kiusalas scale, for the purpose of assisting in identifying stamps as typically described in the standard stamp catalogues. Note that for Kiusalas 64 a corrected equivalent of perf 12 ½ is shown (per R.A. Johnson). Metric Equivalent- The Kiusalas scale converted to its metric equivalent.					

Figure 4

References.

- 1] UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS (2018)
- 2] Stanley Gibbons (2019) COMMONWEALTH AND BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS 1840-1970, 121st Edition
- 3] John Hillson (2001-08-22) THE SMALL QUEENS ISSUE: 1870-1897
- 4] John Hillson and Edward Nixon (2008) CANADA'S POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE SMALL QUEEN ERA, 1870-1897
- 5] J. Edward Nixon (2012 February) CANADA 1870-1897 SMALL QUEEN ISSUE, BNAPS Exhibit Series #64
- 6] Richard M. Morris (2001-08-01) A BASIC COLOR GUIDE SYSTEM FOR THE LARGE & SMALL QUEENS, THE WIDOW WEEDS, REGISTERED LETTER STAMPS, POST CARDS OF CANADA 1868 TO 1897
- 7] R.A. Johnson (2019) PERFORATIONS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON CANADIAN STAMPS

CIRCUIT BOOKS

Larry Tweedale will be bringing circuit books to each of our future auctions. In addition he will be available at his home on November 7 between 13h00 and 15h00 for appointments. Please call ahead to Larry at 403-282-9726 for a reservation slot.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

by Murray Bialek

This is the fourth notice in this newsletter that your 2020-21 membership renewal is now due. If you want our club to survive, I ask you to be generous and pay your dues immediately. You may pay your dues of \$25 via cheque made out to Calgary Philatelic Society and mailed to:

CPS c/o Murray Bialek
Box 71126 RPO Silver Springs
Calgary, AB T3B 5K2

or through an e-transfer directly from your bank account to the CPS Membership Director, Murray Bialek, at mbialek@shaw.ca

Your membership card will be included with the next or a subsequent issue of our newsletter once payment has been received. The CPS is still providing services such as the CALGARY PHILATELIST, live auctions (you must be a current member if you wish to sell material in our auction), circuit books, and Zoom meetings. Your support is essential more than ever.

OVAL CANCEL USAGE ON 1945 CALGARY STAMPEDE COVERS

by Dave Freeman

dfreeman@latitude.ca

Collectors familiar with Calgary Stampede postal history know the oval cancel was used at the Exhibition Post Office on the grounds during the Stampede in 1935, 1936 and 1939. These oval cancels (Figure 1) were in addition to the Stampede Post Office postmarks that started in 1928 and the Stampede cachets which started in 1937.

The oval cancels were applied to both private covers (Note 1) and later on the Exhibition supplied covers. The Exhibition supplied covers were available at the Stampede Post Office grounds commencing in 1937.

There have been several articles written in CALGARY PHILATELIST and BNA TOPICS (Note 2) on the oval cancel but they have focussed on 1935, 1936 and 1939 usage of the oval cancel on covers. What caught my eye is a couple of Stampede postal history collectors had obtained 1945 Exhibition supplied #8 covers (Figure 2a and 2b, shown on the front cover of this issue) with the oval cancel applied to the back of these covers.



Figure 1: 1935 oval cancel cover

That was enough for me to try to find out what had taken place. So, I started reading everything that had been previously written on these cancels and there was nothing that I could find that mentioned the oval cancel use on the 1945 covers. Continuing my search I decided to contact the collectors that I knew had copies of the 1945 oval cancel and found the following:

- I established that at least three collectors had copies of the 1945 oval cancel; there are likely more around but how many and where?
- All six reported copies had the oval cancel applied to the Exhibition supplied #8 covers. No private covers with the 1945 oval cancel have been reported so far (Note 1).
- All 6 copies had the oval applied to the back of the covers, probably because the #8 covers had the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Diamond Jubilee logo on the front left which left little room for stamps and mailing address on the rest of the cover front.
- The dates for the 1945 Stampede were July 9 to 14.
- All six copies had the same date of July 9, 1945, the first day of the Stampede.
- There was no Stampede cachet used on the covers at the 1945 Stampede. This happened twice during the war years 1943 and 1945.
- Only two of the covers with the oval cancel were addressed, the remaining four are unaddressed but all have the oval cancel and Stampede PO CDS.

Those are the details that we know so far. What's left? I have a feeling that the story has more to it yet. There have been several opinions suggested but the short version is that the Post Office ran the operation on the grounds with their employees at the Stampede Post Office. The oval cancel was probably in a box with other post office paraphernalia that was kept there year to year.

We know that the Post Office was protective of their cancellation hammers, but the cancel was available. There was no cachet provided for the 1945 Stampede and on the first day of the Stampede some enterprising postal employee properly thought that dressing up the covers was a good idea.

In any event we have several examples of something that is different than the norm. We don't know a lot about what happened or why or how many covers were generated with the oval cancel. But as collectors, isn't that part of the fun? There is a challenge to find out the why, the what, and the how many or how few covers there are. If it is an oddity or rare then it is another treasure to add to your collection.

One last issue is that some people are calling this an oval cancel, some think of it as a cachet, and others as a Manager's or Supervisor's cancel or postmark. The oval cancel did not seem to be used to cancel the stamps as they already had a CDS hammer for that purpose. It may be considered as a cachet as the Exhibition cachets were not introduced until 1937.

I think that the correct description is still open for debate and I look forward to your input but for ease of use I used oval cancel for this article. I am asking any collectors of Stampede postal history out there who might know more about this to contribute to this story and contact me with what information you may have. If you have an example(s) of the oval usage in 1945 and possibly other years please share to help fill in the blanks a bit for us so we can complete the story and share it further as it grows. Please contact me at my email address.

[concluded on next page]

Notes:

1: My definition of private covers are covers that were not supplied by the Exhibition Board but were brought to the Stampede Post Office by individuals wanting to have their covers cancelled at the grounds post office with the CDS cancel and in later years also with the cachet.

2: E.A. Harris (1985 Jul/Aug) "The Postal History of The Calgary Stampede" BNA TOPICS

3: Thank you to Brainard Fitzgerald for providing me with a copy of the 1945 oval cancel shown in this article.

USING ZOOM

It is now established that the CPS and its study groups will be using Zoom video conference meetings until further notice. So far, so good. Dr E.G. Mason, who founded the CPS in 1922, would be amazed at our technology today. He and other Calgary philatelists lived through the 1918 influenza pandemic, which was far worse than COVID-19, so that would be nothing new to him.

The Zoom meetings are a wonderful way to beat the isolation of the pandemic. There is no cost to CPS members to join in on their laptop or smartphone. You can download the free Zoom app from Google Play Store (for Android devices) or Apple. Dave Bartlet has been operating all the Calgary Zoom meetings. If you need advice, he can help you via email at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

Paid-up members of the CPS will receive an email for each meeting. It contains a link which you click on about 15 to 30 minutes before the meeting starts. The Zoom app will then automatically connect you to the meeting. There is a momentary delay while Zoom waits for Bartlet to verify your identity and then pass you into the meeting. This delay screens out any potential hackers who might disrupt the meeting.

The Zoom meetings use about 200 megabytes per half-hour. If you have wifi at home, be connected to it before attending the meeting. If you connect through your telephone service provider, verify that you have a large enough data allowance to handle the meeting.

New users should connect to the meetings about 30 minutes before so they can work out any glitches and get assistance from the others. The most common problems are failing to turn on your computer camera so that others can see you, and to un-mute your sound.

MONTHLY AUCTIONS

With the success of the September auction there will be a future auction on November 18 at our room in the Kerby Centre, doors open at 18h30. Room capacity is restricted to 40 people at time. Members attending must sign in, wear masks and maintain 2-metre separation. Procedures will be the same as the previous auctions. If there is interest and the CPS Board approves, it is hoped to have an auction on December 2. Many thanks for your support.

GENERAL MEETINGS ON ZOOM

The CPS had its first-ever video conference meeting on October 7 in lieu of a face-to-face general meeting. The meeting was held using Zoom software compered by Dave Bartlet. The event began with the usual business agenda. The speaker for the evening was Eldon Godfrey, who presented an online slide show about Canadian World War Two patriotic postal history. This encompassed postcards, cacheted covers, slogan cancels, and labels.

STUDY GROUPS

The Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society is hosting free Zoom meetings on second Wednesdays of the month. The members are collectors of Canada and the provinces, both old and modern. For details, email Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

The October 14 BNAPS meeting had two presenters. Jon Johnson showed a display on Canadian WW2 mail through the Mediterranean. Dave Bartlet had a slide show about Canadian mail to and from the 2019 Scouts World Jamboree in West Virginia.

VIRTUAL STAMP SHOW

With no CALTAPEX and possibly no Spring Bourse, the Show Committee are considering a virtual stamp show online. As this issue goes to press, the planning has only just begun. Such a show would probably be held in late January or February. Walter Herdzik, Dave Russum, and Dave Bartlet are discussing how such an event would proceed. Contact them if you have any ideas or wish to help.

EDITORIAL MATTERS

by Dale Speirs
opuntia57@yahoo.ca

Publication deadlines are constantly changing due to the exigencies of the pandemic but one thing remains constant. I am always looking for original articles on philately or postal history.

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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Time. Any advertiser can be reached through the CPS e-mail at calphilso@shaw.ca, but please allow time for forwarding to offline members.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede covers, letterhead and collections. Please contact Dave Freeman at 403-281-0500 or email at dfreeman@latitude.ca

WANTED: Italian or French colonies pre-independence, Western Europe pre-1940, British colonies pre-QE2, Australian States. Call Jim Senecal at 547-7681.

FOR SALE: Zillions of Stamps is a Website organized by country and catalogue number using Scott, Michel, Stanley Gibbons, or Yvert, as well as by topics such as birds, trains, Scouts, or famous people. I am one of the contributors and have listed over 35,000 worldwide items under I. Rudyk. Contact Ihor Rudyk at ivrudyk@shaw.ca or visit www.zillionsofstamps.com

WANTED: Canadian perfin covers and Canadian military covers and postcards. Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfins@hotmail.com

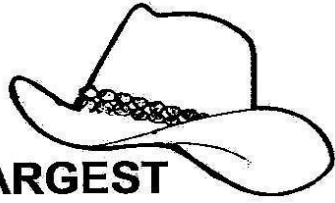
BUY, SELL, OR TRADE: Great Britain and colonies, Canada and provinces, many other countries. Let me know interest. Robin Mitchell at (250)346-3275, mitchelleb39@gmail.com, or Box 56, Brisco, British Columbia V0A 1B0.

FOR SALE: Queen Elizabeth Machins, stamps and strips of four VFNH, about \$100 face value. **WANTED TO BUY:** Early German and British Colonies stamps to George VI. Call Godfrey at 464-3252.

WANTED: Pilot-signed First Flight covers and also any signed material by Canadian notables. Contact Glenn at pgdaze@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Current Canadian stamps, very fine used. Contact Michael Teekens, 912 Olympia Crescent SE, Calgary, T2C 1G7, or michateekens@gmail.com

WANTED: We volunteer at the MCC thrift store in Calgary. They raise money for worldwide disaster relief and are looking for donations of old albums and pages, covers, and bulk stamps. Contact Greg Lang at 282-1644 or Gerry Vader at 293-0158.



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COVER SALE!



CLUB NEWS

The October bulletin was mailed from Carseland, about a 30-minute drive east-southeast of Calgary. It was mailed with the centenary of the first radio broadcast stamps.

Publications by CPS members:

Earle Covert had an article on illustrated permits in the 2020 Fourth Quarter issue of BNA TOPICS.

Walter Herdzik published a postal history article in the 2020 August issue of JOURNAL OF THE RHODESIAN STUDY CIRCLE titled "Samuel Koslowsky: Family Matters In Philately".

Jon Johnson published "WW2 Canadian Merchant Navy Mail" in the 2020 October issue of MAPLE LEAVES (Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain). His article on mail from HMCS Athabaskan appeared in the 2020 Fourth Quarter issue of BNA TOPICS.

JUNIOR CLUBS

The two Junior Clubs normally meet monthly September to November and January to May on second Saturdays (north side of city) and third Saturdays (south side of city). Details from Jim Senecal at 547-7681 (north side) or Pat Prevey at 238-3435 (south side).

The north-side Junior programme at the Edgemont Community centre has been suspended until January 2021. At the Woodcreek Community Centre, a south-side meeting will be held on November 21 at 10h30.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	opuntia57@yahoo.ca
Auctions - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
- silent	Mike McPhail	239-9730
Bulletin - Editor	Dale Speirs	opuntia57@yahoo.ca
Circuit books	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
Communications	Doug Kollar	547-3838
Juniors	Jim Senecal (north side of city)	547-7681
	Pat Prevey (south side of city)	238-3435
Library	Linda Connolly	547-0014
Life Members	Janice Brookes	251-1769
Membership	Murray Bialek	241-2006
Programmes	Danny Chow	237-5923
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2020

All events are conditional due to the pandemic. Please note cancellations, or alternatively, meetings that will be held online via Zoom. If you are unfamiliar with Zoom software, advice can be had from Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

November	4	General meeting - via Zoom
	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	18	Auction - Mandatory masks and social distancing required. Don't forget to register your vehicle licence plate if you use the Kerby parking lots.
	18	Deadline for December bulletin
	25	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
December	2	Christmas Social - CANCELLED
	2	Possible auction - check Website or phone Jim Senecal
	9	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom

2021

January	6	General meeting - via Zoom
	13	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	13	Deadline for February bulletin
	20	Auction - Mandatory masks and social distancing required. Don't forget to register your vehicle licence plate if you use the Kerby parking lots.
	27	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
February	3	General meeting - via Zoom
	10	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	17	Auction - Mandatory masks and social distancing required. Don't forget to register your vehicle licence plate if you use the Kerby parking lots.
	24	CAPE meeting - via Zoom

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, Room 205 (Lecture Room), 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow viewing.

BNAPS (Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society) meets second Wednesdays. **In-person meetings cancelled until further notice but Zoom meetings will be held.** For details, contact Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca.

CAPE (Calgary Association Of Philatelic Exhibitors) meets fourth Wednesdays except June to August and December. **In-person meetings cancelled until further notice but Zoom meetings will be held.** For details, contact Jim Taylor at miquelon@shaw.ca.