



# Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club  
www.westtorontostampclub.org

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

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**Jan 2017**

B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

I trust Santa was good to you this holiday season, that you had a terrific time with family and friends, and that you are eagerly anticipating the 2017 philatelic year at WTSC.

Considering the year ahead the following questions come to mind.

What philatelic goals or projects might I or are you embarking upon this year? Is there an unfinished philatelic project that begs for completion? What philatelic project might I or will you start that will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada's founding (the sesquicentennial)?

What might we do to celebrate the sesquicentennial? 2017 could provide many opportunities for collectors and clubs to shine and show off the many facets of the hobby. If you have specific ideas how we might celebrate, please share them with me [sidmensinga@gmail.com](mailto:sidmensinga@gmail.com) or any board member. How we might celebrate the country's 150<sup>th</sup> will be an agenda item at our upcoming board meeting. Any suggestions will be welcomed and helpful.

I look forward to your attendance and active participation at our January meetings. As a reminder, the January Learning Workshop will be held Tuesday, January 3 and the first regular meeting and auction will be held January 10. (As I am away on holidays, I will not be able to send a reminder notice as I would normally do.) Board members are reminded of our mid-year board meeting on Tuesday, January 31.

See you in 2017.

## January Activities

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

**Jan 3 ~ Learning Workshop** (doors open at 7, meeting starts at 7:30)

**All Covers Have a Story**

### Jan 10 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

### Jan 17 ~ Discussion Group

Guest speaker and club member **Ian Robertson** will tell the story of a shopkeeper from Picton, Ontario who branched into postcards before World War 1 and distributed what may be the best quality photographic postcards of Ontario scenes. His talk is called **Mr. Livingstone, I Presume.**

### Jan 24 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

### Jan 31 ~ Board Meeting

## Discussion Group Schedule (February – June)

### April 18 ~ Mark Stelmacovich

**UKRAINIAN PROVISIONAL STAMPS** – This will be a PowerPoint presentation outlining the speaker's research and award winning exhibit of the provisional stamps of the Ukraine in the 1990's.

### February 11, March 21, May 16, June 20 ~ TBA

## WTSC Board 2016-2018

President: Sid Mensinga  
Vice-President: Ian Robertson  
Past President: Frank Alusio  
Secretary: Rhonda Kavanagh  
Treasurer: Lawrence Pinkney  
Membership: Patricia Blanchard

Directors: Simon Cloughton, Fred Colbourn, Art Leduc, Jose Restrepo, Rob Taylor, Bob Timberg

Appointees: Garfield Portch (Auctions Chair, Discussion Group, and Webmaster); Denzil Fernandes (Auctions); Bob Timberg (Bulletin Editor)

# February Learning Workshop

"Extremes in my Collection" is the topic of our fifth Learning Workshop to be held February 7, 2017.

One member recently suggested "hideous" stamps could be explored and would probably bring a chuckle or two. Even more!

Such a subject covers a wide spectrum, from stamps that have been "walked on" by postmarks, roughly handled, and designs that don't exactly bring applause ... well, you get the idea!

Ugly is unlimited, if we use our imaginations. But, on the flip side of extreme subjects, there is a positive angle: there are naturally our favorite, most beautiful stamps.

The debate on both sides can be fun, folks. Members with anything that fits into the above suggestions — from anywhere — are invited to bring them to the meeting. Don't forget covers.

Our round-table session can also be expanded to cover extremes such as monster-size stamps, wee ones, colorful, colorless — generally, 'extremes'.

The meeting offers everyone a chance to participate. Come early for a place around the table.

And, by the way, I'm glad to report that participation has been increasing. We started the season with 18 members present for the first Learning Workshop last fall. In December, there were 20 members for our "tools" topic.

Finally, for viewing ease at this and future sessions, if everyone can scan images on to a thumb drive, they can be projected for all to see simultaneously.

Ian

## Illustrations

POOR THING WENT THROUGH A MAJOR BATTLE, but an online seller gushed: "This is a nice stamp to add to your collection. You will not be disappointed. High Cat Val." The \$5.61 listing attracted no bidders.



CUT OFF AT HIS PRIME. This well-centered 2-cent King George V "Admiral" coil looks nice — until you look at the bottom perforations, which are entirely chopped off. An online seller tried to get \$15.60 and offered free shipping. Didn't happen!



WRITING IS FOR LETTERS, NOT STAMPS, but that didn't stop an online seller seeking a £1 opening bid for this Great Britain 1960 Queen Elizabeth 2-pence definitive with a phosphor overprint. An anxious buyer willing to bypass bidding could have paid £12, but the seller's demand for £14.90 postage was another major turnoff for this pen-cancelled filler.



WRONG TRACKS is a 1992 \$2 McAdam Railway Station definitive with even broader strokes — likely a postie's pen. Can't recall the online asking price. Not sure why the seller even bothered!!



POOR GEORGE. An online seller wanted US\$15 for this 1861-66 5-cent definitive featuring a portrait of the first United States president. In addition to the heavy cork cancel that gave Washington a beard, the two missing upper corners, missing bottom right corner and nibbed bottom left corner are worse turn-offs.



