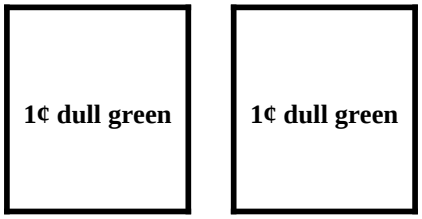
Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022



Stamps of Canada - Elizabeth II

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Elizabeth II: Princess Elizabeth
May 4, 1935, 12



Princess Elizabeth

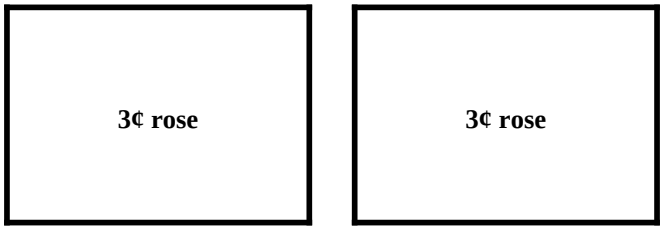
On the 1st April, 1935, the contract for the manufacture of Canadian postage stamps and postal stationery reverted to the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, Ottawa. On 6th May, 1935, King George V celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession to the throne in 1910. To commemorate this Silver Jubilee, Canada joined with the other countries of the Commonwealth to honour the sovereign, himself a keen philatelist, by the issue of six special postage stamps.

Portrait of Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth, elder daughter of the Duke and Duchess of York.

Portrait finished by Edwin H. Gunn. Portrait finished by William F. Ford. Portrait engraved by William Jung. Designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz. Printer: Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

George VI: Coronation
May 10, 1937, 12



King George VI & Queen Elizabeth

Canadians, like other peoples in the dominions and colonies within the British Commonwealth of Nations, honoured the Coronation of Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth by a special postage stamp. The stamp was released on 10th May, 1937, two days before the actual date of the Coronation.

Portrait of His Majesty King George VI by Captain Peter North, and of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth by Bertram Park, London, England. Portraits engraved by William F. Ford.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

The Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret
May 15, 1939, 12

1¢ dull green & black	**1¢ dull green & black**

Princess Elizabeth & Princess Margaret Rose

In 1939 Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited the Dominion of Canada. Thus Canada had the signal honour of being the first of the Commonwealth nations to welcome the new King and Queen in person. To honour this historic occasion and add to the warm sincerity of Canada's welcome, the Post Office Department issues three special commemorative postage stamps to coincide with the tour of Their Majesties throughout the Dominion. The stamps were printed in two colours each.

Portraits of Their Royal Highnesses, The Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, from photographs taken by Marcus Adams, Limited, London, England. Portraits engraved by Sydney F. Smith. Designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz.

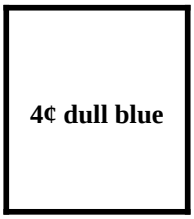
3¢ dull rose & black	**3¢ dull rose & black**

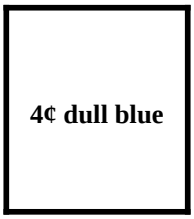
H.M. George VI & H.M. Queen Elizabeth

Portraits of Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, from photographs taken by Dorothy Wilding Portraits, Limited, London England.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Marriage of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth
February 16, 1948, 12





Princess Elizabeth

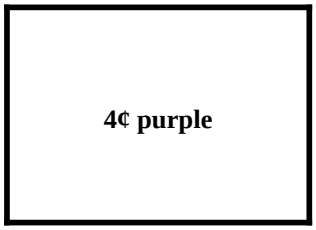
In 1947 Princess Elizabeth was married to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, who was then Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, Royal Navy.

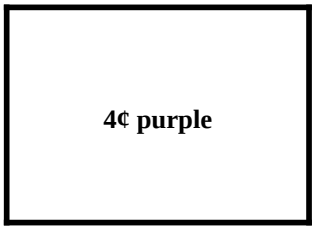
The stamp portrays Princess Elizabeth from a photograph by Dorothy Wilding, London, England.

Based on a photograph by Dorothy Wilding. Designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz. Portrait engraved by William F. Ford.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh
October 26, 1951, 12





Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh

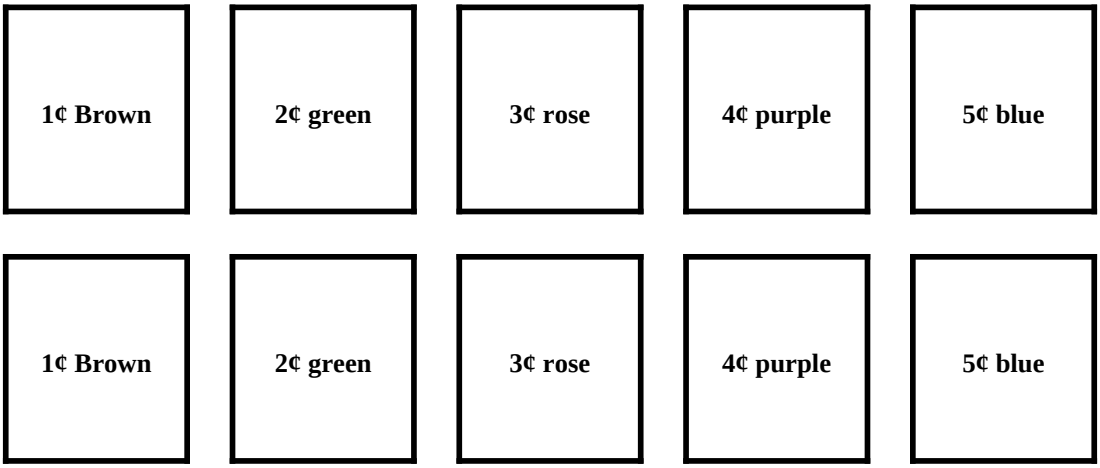
In 1951 Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Canada. To honour this historic occasion and to add to the sincerity and warmth of Canada's welcome the Post Office Department issued a special commemorative stamp to coincide with the royal tour.

Portraits of Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh from photographs supplied by Baron Studios in London, England

Designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
May 1, 1953, 12



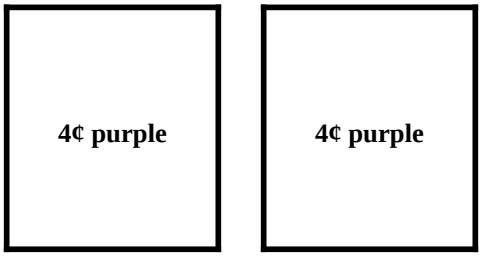
A new set of five denominations of postage stamps, 1¢ to 5¢ inclusive, will be issued by the Post Office Department that will portray Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, in an approximate full face pose as illustrated. This set of new design stamps will be an ordinary, long term issue and will gradually replace the current stamps of the same denominations that display portraits of His late Majesty, King George VI.

The five donominations of stamps will all be of the same design, differing in colour and denomination only. It is felt that the issuance of these stamps will again reflect the respect and deep devotion of the Canadian people towards their Sovereign.

The stamps illustrated are engraved and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, Ottawa. The design for the ordinary issue stamps was prepared by this company from a photograph supplied through the courtesy of Karsh, Ottawa.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II: Coronation
June 1, 1953, 12



The 4¢ postage stamp displays a sculptured profile of Her Majesty and will be issued to commemorate Her Coronation.

The design for the Coronation issue stamp was created by Emanuel Hahn, R.C.A., S.S.C., a sculptor of Toronto, Ontario.

Based on a photograph by Yousuf Karsh. Designed by Emanuel Otto Hahn. Portrait engraved by Silas Robert Allen.

The coronation of Elizabeth II took place on 2 June 1953 at Westminster Abbey in London. She acceded to the throne at the age of 25 upon the death of her father, George VI, on 6 February 1952, being proclaimed queen by her privy and executive councils shortly afterwards.

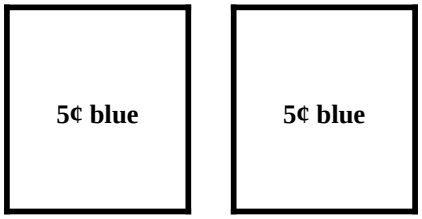
The coronation was held more than one year later because of the tradition of allowing an appropriate length of time to pass after a monarch dies before holding such festivals. It also gave the planning committees adequate time to make preparations for the ceremony. During the service, Elizabeth took an oath, was anointed with holy oil, was invested with robes and regalia, and was crowned queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka).

Celebrations took place across the Commonwealth realms and a commemorative medal was issued. It has been the only British coronation to be fully televised; television cameras had not been allowed inside the abbey during her parents' coronation in 1937.

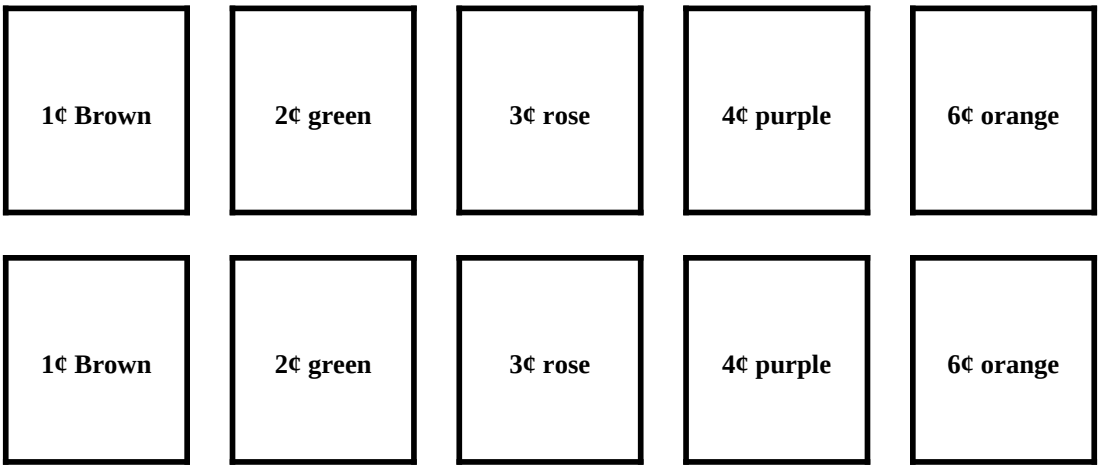
Elizabeth's was the fourth and last British coronation of the 20th century. It was estimated to have cost £1.57 million (c. £43,427,400 in 2019).

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
April 1, 1954, 12 x 9.5 v



Queen Elizabeth II
June 10, 1954, 12

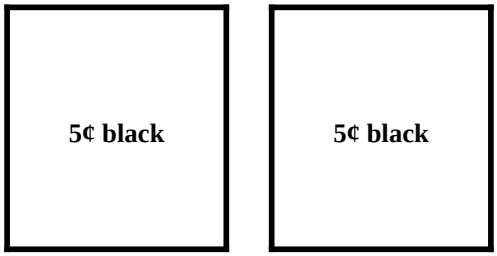


To provide 5-cent stamps for the increased first class letter rate effective 1st April, 1954, the Department rushed supplies of the new design stamps for use on that day. The remaining denominations were issued on 19th June, 1954. The colours of the stamps are the same as those of the former issue portraying Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Dorothy Wilding Portraits, Limited, supplied the photograph for reproduction.

Portrait engraved by Silas Robert Allen. Based on a photograph by Dorothy Wilding. Designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

1957 Royal Visit
October 10, 1957, 12



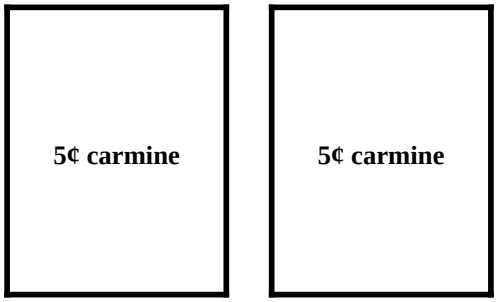
Elizabeth returned to Canada in 1957, there giving her first ever live television address, appointing her husband to her Canadian Privy Council at a meeting which she chaired, and on 14 October, opening the first session of the 23rd parliament. About 50,000 people descended on Parliament Hill to witness the arrival of the monarch.

Due to the financial austerity of the times, the pageantry was muted in comparison to what would be seen at a similar event in the United Kingdom. June Callwood said in her coverage of the tour for Maclean's: "The Queen's role in Canada, it appeared to some observers, hinged on calculated pageantry, just enough to warm the pride of Canadians who revere tradition and stateliness above state but not so much as to antagonize those who consider royalty a blindingly off-colour bauble in an age of lean fear."

In Saskatchewan, the Queen inaugurated the natural gas-fired Queen Elizabeth Power Station on the South Saskatchewan River.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

1959 Royal Tour
June 18, 1959, 12



Two years later, in 1959 the Queen returned and toured every province and territory of the country; Buckingham Palace officials and the Canadian government opted to dub this a "royal tour", as opposed to a "royal visit", to dispel any notion that the Queen was a visiting foreigner. Controversy arose in the run-up to the visit when CBC personality Joyce Davidson, while being interviewed by Dave Garroway on NBC's Today Show, said that as an "average Canadian" she was "pretty indifferent" to the Queen's forthcoming visit. Davidson was lambasted in the Canadian press and by many indignant Canadians for her comment. Regardless, the Queen toured the entire country, specifically directing that events she attended should be public, rather than closed luncheons or receptions; further, popular Canadian athletic stars were invited to royal events for the first time, so that during her tour the Queen met with Jean Béliveau, Sam Etcheverry, Maurice Richard, Punch Imlach, and Bud Grant.

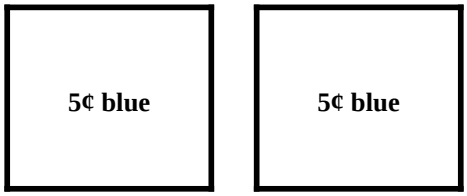
One of the most important events of this trip was the official opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway, along with President Dwight D. Eisenhower, where, in Prescott, Ontario, the Queen made her first live appearance on Canadian television. During this tour, the Queen paid numerous visits to Canadian industries, and again made a visit to the United States as Canada's head of state, stopping in Chicago and Washington, D.C., with Diefenbaker as her attending minister. The Prime Minister insisted that the Queen be accompanied at all times by a Canadian Cabinet minister, being determined to make it clear to Americans that the Queen was visiting the United States as the Canadian monarch, and that "it is the Canadian embassy and not the British Embassy officials who are in charge" of the Queen's itinerary. Her speeches in Chicago, written by her Canadian ministers, stressed steadily the fact that she had come to call as Queen of Canada. In this vein, the Queen hosted the return dinner for Eisenhower at the Canadian Embassy in Washington.

The Queen returned to New Brunswick, at the end of her pan-Canada tour. The sovereign presided over a Queen's Scout recognition ceremony in Fredericton, visited the veterans' hospital in Lancaster, and undertook a walkabout in Victoria Park, Moncton. At Pointe-du-Chêne, the royal couple visited briefly with the families of fishermen who had died the previous month in a storm off Escuminac, making a donation to the New Brunswick Fisherman's Disaster Fund that was established in honour of the deceased.

Successes were also noted, especially in the Crown's assistance in entrenching the newly emerging Canadian identity; the Queen ensured that the Red Ensign (then Canada's de facto national flag) was flown on the royal yacht, and she stood to attention for the duration of each playing of "O Canada", the country's then still unofficial national anthem, sometimes even joining in the singing.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
October 3, 1962, 12 x 9.5 h



Agriculture

The new edition of Canada's regular issue postage stamps, the first since 1954 presents a portrait of Her Majesty in a simple, almost classic style. The stamp is based on a drawing of Her Majesty by Ernst Roch of Montreal, completed during two private sittings at Buckingham Palace arranged specifically for this new stamp issue. Traditionally, regular issue stamps such as the series in use since 1954 bear the portrait of the Monarch.

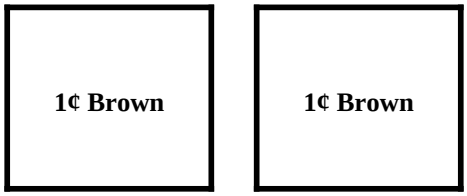
The new series continue this tradition but with the addition of various Canadian symbols appearing in the upper left corner fo each stamp. The new stamp is also a departure from recent regular issue designs in that it is a horizontal type format, rather than the more common vertical style. The designer of the stamp, Mr. Roch, studied art in Gratz, Austria, and is a member of the Typographical Designers of Canada and of the American Institute of Graphic Art. He has exhibited in Europe, the United States and Canada, and since coming to Canada in 1953, has won 13 awards from the Toronto and Montreal Art Directors Clubs and has received many other honours.

The first new stamp, the five cent denomination, portrays a head of wheat as a tribute to Canada's agriculture. The importance of agriculture in the Canadian economy is evidented by the fact that close to 300,000 square miles, or some 11 percent of the land mass of the provinces is used for the agricultural purposes. Although this area has not increased substantially in recent years agricultural production has increased greatly. This is accomplished by the use of modern methods and equipment. Another major factor in the increasing production rate is the activity of the federal and provincial departments of Agriculture. Over the years, these organizations have assisted Canadian farmers by ensuring price stability, credit provisions, crop insurance, and resource development. They have also provided information and guidance to farmers and made major contributions to the effective marketing of Canadian farm production.

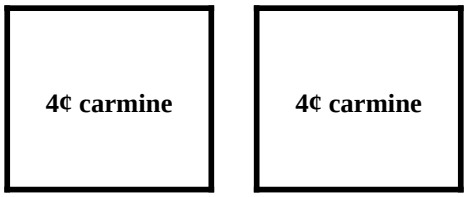
Designed by Ernst Roch. Portrait engraved by Yves Baril. Lettering and symbol engraved by John F. Mash.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
February 4, 1963, 12



Mining



Industry

1¢ : This stamp is the second in Canada's new regular issue series. The design was executed by Mr. Ernst Roch of Montreal, an internationally known artist and designer. The portrait of Her Majesty is executed in a simple almost classic style, giving a cameo appearance to the stamp. In the upper left corner of the stamp is a symbol to represent one to the primary sectors of Canadian economy. The symbol on the one-cent stamp is three crystals, representing Canada's mining industry.

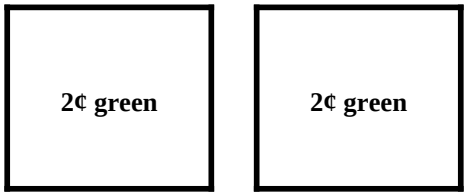
Canada has long been regarded as a great natural reservoir of mineral wealth, much of which has still to be developed. The last few years have seen tremendous expansion of mining in Canada. Long a world leader in the production of nickel and irons ores, Canada is also a leading producer of many other minirals, including gold and uranium. Presently the most important non-metallic mineral being mined in Canada is asbestos.

4¢ : This stamp is the third in Canada's new regular issue series. The design was executed by Mr. Ernst Roch of Montreal, an internationally known artist and designer. The portrait of Her Majesty is executed in a simple almost classic style giving a cameo appearance to the stamp. In the upper left corner of the stamp is a symbol to represent one of the primary sectors of the Canadian economy. The symbol on the four-cent stamp is an electric high tension tower representing Canadian industry.

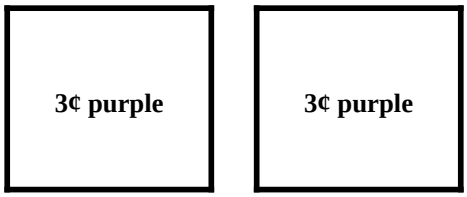
Canada has moved from a principally agricultural country at the time of Confederation in 1867 to its present position as one of the world's most important manufacturing countries. Manufacturing now accounts for more than 26% of the value of all goods and services produced in Canada annually. The growth of the construction industry in Canada has kept pace with manufacturing expansion. In 1960, 23% of the gross national product was devoted to expanding, modernizing, and renewing the nation's production facilities. An increase in urbanization which accompanied the industrial expansion had led to one of the largest home building surges in history.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
May 2, 1963, 12, 9.5h



Forestry



Fishing

2¢ : This stamp completes the low denomination regular issue series started in October 1962. The design, showing Her Majesty in a simple almost classic style was executed by Mr. Ernst Roch of Montreal. As in previous stamps in this series there is a symbol in the upper left corner representative of one of the sectors of Canada's economy. The tree on the 2-cent stamp is symbolic of forest products and forestry. The British North America Act gives responsibility for forests to the Provinces. Over 1,711,893 square miles or approximately 48% of Canada's land mass is covered by forest. In 1960 in recognition of the importance of forestry to the country the federal government established a Department of Forestry. This Department works with the Provinces to provide the most effective conservation and utilization of the country's forests.

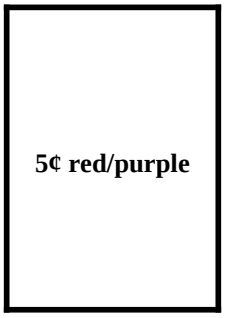
Often when we think of forests we think only of lumbering. The other products which our forests produce are forgotten. During the last few years, however, there has been a growing recognition of the use of forest products in other areas. The development and manufacturing of cellulose products have extended the use of wood and the increasing production of plastic-wood products, fibreboard and laminated wood have resulted in a greater use of our trees particularly those which up to now have been classified as inferior grades of wood. Thus Canada has been able to make more complete utilization of forest resources and the elimination of much waste.

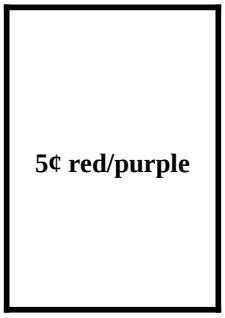
3¢ : This stamp completes the low denomination regular issue series started in October 1962. The design, showing Her Majesty in a simple almost classic style was executed by Mr. Ernst Roch of Montreal. As in previous stamps in this series there is a symbol in the upper left corner representative of one of the sectors of Canada's economy. The symbol of the fish on the 3-cent stamp is a recognition of the important part played by the fishing industry in Canada's economy. Canada is bounded on its east and west coast by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and contains within its territorial boundaries some of the largest fresh water lakes in the world. As a result over 79,000 people are employed as commercial fishermen in Canada and this country ranks third in the export of fish and fish products.

Canada is perhaps best known for its cod and its salmon. The Grand Banks, off Newfoundland are world famous for their abundance of cod, while salmon is chiefly associated with the British Columbia coast, although it is by no means restricted to this area. In addition to these two fish Canada also has many other varieties which are caught off its coasts and its inland lakes and rivers. The abundance of fish in all parts of the country has made Canada an attractive country for sports fishermen and has provided many hours of enjoyment to Canadians and to visitors to this country.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Royal Visit, 1964
October 5, 1964, 12





The latest Royal Visit stamp to be issued by the Canada Post Office honours the visit of Her Majesty to Charlottetown, P.E.I. and to Quebec City in October of this year. The stamp will go on sale October 5th. Queen Elizabeth plans to visit the two cities to commemorate the famous conferences of 1864 which led to the passing of the British North America Act of 1867, Canada's constitution. Special stamps commemorating these conferences have already been announced by the Canada Post Office.

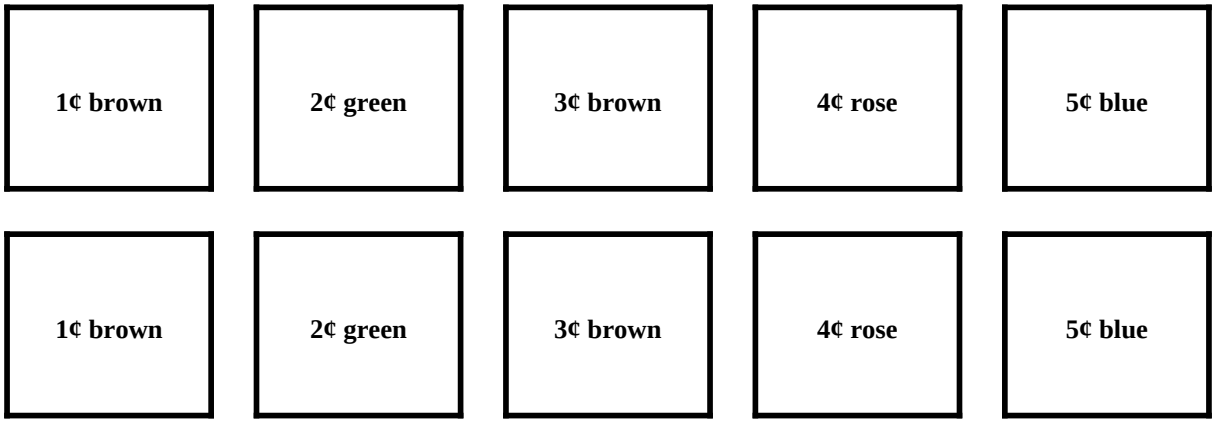
On 10 October, as she was touring the streets of Quebec City, a turbulent riot occurred and opposed anti-monarchist Quebec nationalists with the police. Since then, the event has been known as Samedi de la matraque ("Truncheon Saturday").

The new stamp will be of the large size in a vertical format. It will depict a portrait of Her Majesty from a photograph by Anthony Buckley of London, England. The words Postes-Canada-Postage and the denomination complete the design of the stamp. As is customary in special stamps issued to commemorate Royal Visits, no other wording will appear on the stamp. The issue is of the five cent denomination. The Canada Post Office customarily issues commemorative stamps to mark the visits to this country of the reigning Sovereign. This latest issue shows Her Majesty in a seated position, wearing a simple white gown and a tiara. The stamp will be printed in purple by the steel engraving intaglio process. Complementary design of the stamp is by the Canadian Bank Note Company of Ottawa.

Designed by Harvey Thomas Prosser. Portrait engraved by Yves Baril. Lettering engraved by Donald J. Mitchell.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Canada's Centennial Issue: Queen Elizabeth II
February 8, 1967, 12, 10, 12.5 x 12, 9.5 horizontal



A new portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth is featured in the design of the stamps.

1¢ issue: The Northern Regions.

2¢ issue: The Pacific Coast.

3¢ issue: A Prairie Scene.

4¢ issue: A mid-Canada Seaway View.

5¢ issue: The Atlantic Coast.

Designed by Harvey Thomas Prosser. Portrait and picture engraved by Yves Baril. Lettering engraved by Gordon Mash.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II: 1967 Royal Visit
June 30, 1967, 12





The visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to participate in Canada's Centennial celebration is honoured by this Canada Post Office commemorative stamp. Her Majesty, accompanied by her husband, His Royal Highness The Duke Of Edinburgh, will be in the national capital, Ottawa, for ceremonies on the 1st July 1967 to mark the anniversary of the day 100 years ago when Canada came into existence as a sovereign nation.

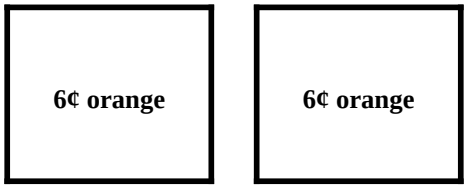
Subsequent to their visit to Ottawa, the Royal couple will sail through the St. Lawrence Seaway aboard the Royal yacht Britannia for a July 3rd visit to the Montreal site of Expo 67; on this occasion the Royal party will travel through the inland waterway, jointly built by Canada and the United States, which the Queen had ceremoniously opened with President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1959. The itinerary at the World Fair includes brief visits to the British pavilion and to those erected by the Canadian provinces. At the conclusion of the Expo 67 visit the Royal party will return aboard the Britannia for overnight anchorage near Kingston, Ontario.

Queen Elizabeth, who was born on the 21st of April 1926, succeeded to the Throne on the 6th February 1952. On the date of her succession, caused by the sudden death of her father, King George VI, in England, she was in Kenya enroute with her husband for a tour of Australia and New Zealand. Five months earlier the couple had visited Canada and the United States. The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth took place in historic Westminster Abbey on the 2nd June 1953. A son, Prince Charles, born on the 14th November 1948, later to be named Prince of Wales, and a daughter, Princess Anne, born on the 15th August 1950, were born prior to the Queen's accession to the Throne. Andrew, born on the 19th February 1960, was the first child born to a reigning British Sovereign for more than a century; a fourth child, Edward, was born on the 10th March 1964.

Canada's Centennial Year Royal Visit stamp was designed and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company Limited, Ottawa. To the right, in royal purple, it features an engraving of Her Majesty's likeness from a photograph by Anthony Buckley, of London, England; to the left, also in purple, appears Canada's Official Centennial symbol and the dates 1867 - 1967. The remaining elements of the design, including a symbolic branch of laurel leaves framing the Royal image, are printed in gold on a lighter gold background.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
November 1, 1968, 10, 12.5 x 12, 10 horizontal



Transport and Communications

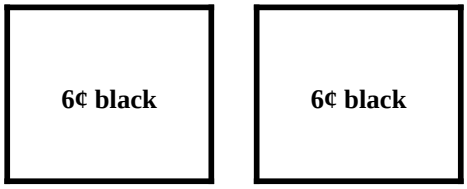
The new orange coloured 6c regular issue engraved stamp, compatible with other values now in use, emphasizes the importance of transportation and communications in unifying the five major economic regions depicted on the 1c to 5c series. Designed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa, the new issue has dimensions of 24 mm x 20 mm; there will be continuous printing by the British American Bank Note Company, Ottawa.

Foremost in the left area segment is a modern high-speed locomotive designed for inter-urban use; highway transport is symbolized by a truck and a bus; in the background is a lake vessel, and overhead flies a medium range inter-city jet aircraft. The communications aspect is epitomized by a microwave tower, typical of a continent-spanning system supplementing land-line and cable connections. As in previous denominations in this series, a recent portrait of Queen Elizabeth, engraved from a photograph by Anthony Buckley, is incorporated in the right section of the stamp.

Designed by Harvey Thomas Prosser. Portrait engraved by Yves Baril.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
January 7, 1970, 10, 12, 12.5 x 12, 10 horizontal



Transport and Communications

The re-issuance of Canada's 6¢ definitive stamp in black, a colour with superior qualities for detectance by electronic recognition systems, is an outgrowth of the increased employment of mechanical facer-cancelling equipement. This stamp, orginally issued in an orange shade on 1st November 1968, is campatible with the five lower denominations in the definitive series all of which include symbolic views of Canada's major economic regions. In each instance the image of Queen Elizabeth is inserted at the extreme right as an acknowledgement of the constitutional Head of State.

Communications and transportation, vital services in linking the vast reaches of Canada, are given recognition on the 6¢ value. The microwave tower, part of a coast-to-coast system supplementing land-line and cable connections, is symbolic of communications. Transportation is illustrated by a variety of land, air and water vehicles. Extraordinary transportation statistics become commonplace in a land approximately 5,000 miles by 3,000 miles. Canada's vital transport needs in the commercial development of a 21,000,000 population are served by an estimated 60,000 miles of railway tracks, more mileage per capita that any other country in the world. Nearly 500,000 miles of highways and streets, mostly surfaced, are available for some 6,500,000 registered motor vehicles. "Main Street" in Canada, a dream for decades, became a reality in 1962 with the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway. This vast one billion dollar project, coordinated by an Act of Parliament passed in 1949, stretches more than 4,800 miles from St. John's, in the island Province of Newfoundland, to Victoria, on British Columbia's Vancouver Island.

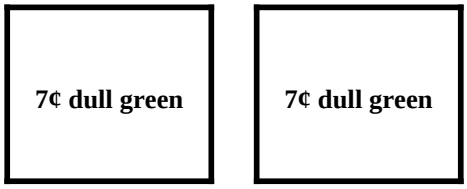
Herculean engineering feats in the construction of Canada's "Main Street" recall epic achievements in the 1880's when the nation's Pacific coast province, British Columbia, was first linked with the eastern provinces by a transcontinental rail line. Approximately 65 miles of railway track were in existence in all British North American Colonies in the year 1850; by 1960 the ribbons of steel exceeded 2,000 miles. Since Alexander Graham Bell's "Silver Dart" achieved Canada's first airplane flight in 1909, conquest of the air has made vast contributions to the nation's economy and to communications with remote areas.

Powerful jets today speed passengers and goods from Hailfax to Vancouver on scheduled flights with an elapsed time of 6 hours and 30 minutes. By contrast, in 1920, the first coast to coast flight, organized by the Canadian Air Board, required a flying time of 45 hours from October 7th to October 17th. Waterways had been the whiteman's first highways and a development of these natural routes was synonymous with the spread of commerce. Nature's barriers in the form of waterfalls and rapids have been overcome by vast engineering works, the most notable being the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway's Project. Completed in 1959, the Seaway transformed inland lake cities into seaports and enables all but the largest seagoing vessels to steam 2,000 miles inland.

Designed by Harvey Thomas Prosser. Portrait engraved by Yves Baril.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
June 30, 1971, 12.5 x 12, 10 horizontal



Transport and Communications

Canada's new 7c. definitve postage stamp, based on a "Communications and Transportation" design originally employed on 1st November 1968, will extend a series which dates back to 8th February 1967. A tone of green utilized on the new stamp has given evidence of a quality in colour which is effective in a system of mechanical facer-cancelling equipment. The stamp design, in a format similar to other values illustrating the five major economic regions of Canada, pays tribute to the importance of transportation and communications as vital services linking vast reaches of our country. The microwave tower, part of a coast-to-coast system supplementing land-line and cable connections, is symbolic of communications.

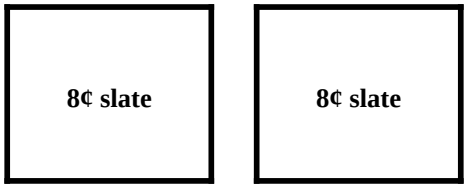
Transportation is illustrated by a variety of land, air and water vehicles. Extraordinary transportation statistics become commonplace in a land approximately 5,000 miles by 3,000 miles. Canada's vital transport needs in the commercial development of a near 22 million population are served by an estimated 60,000 miles of railway tracks, more milage per capita than any other country in the world. Nearly 500,000 miles of highways and streets, mostly surfaced, are available for some 8,500,000 registered motor vehicles. "Main Street" in Canada, a dream for decades, became a reality in 1962 with the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway. This vast one billion dollar project, coordinated by an Act of Parliament passed in 1949, stretches more than 4,800 miles from St. John's, in the island Province of Newfoundland, to Victoria, on British Columbia's Vancouver Island.

Herculean engineering feats in the construction of Canada's "Main Street" recall epic achievements in the 1880's when the nation's Pacific coast province, British Columbia, was first linked with the eastern provinces by a transcontinental rail line. Approximately 65 miles of railway track were in existence in all British North American Colonies in the year 1850; by 1860 the ribbons of steel exceeded 2,000 miles. Since alexander Graham Bell's "Silver Dart" achieved Canada's first airplane flight in 1909, conquest of the air has made vast contribution to the nation's economy and to communications with remote areas. Powerful jets today speed passengers and goods from ocean to ocean in the matter of a few hours. By contrast, on 1920, the first coast to coast flight, organized by the Canadian Air Board, required a flying time of 45 hours from October 7th to October 17th.

Waterways had been the first highways and a development of these natural routes was synonymous with the spread of commerce. Nature's barriers in the form of waterfalls and rapids have been overcome by vast engineering works, the most notable being the St. Lawrence Deep Waterway's project. Completed in 1959 at a total cost of $470,000,000, Canada's share of which was $330,000,000, the Seaway transformed inland lake cities into seaports and enables all but the largest seagoing vessels to steam 2,000 miles inland.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth IIDecember 30, 1971, 12.5 x 12, 10 horizontal



Library of Parliament

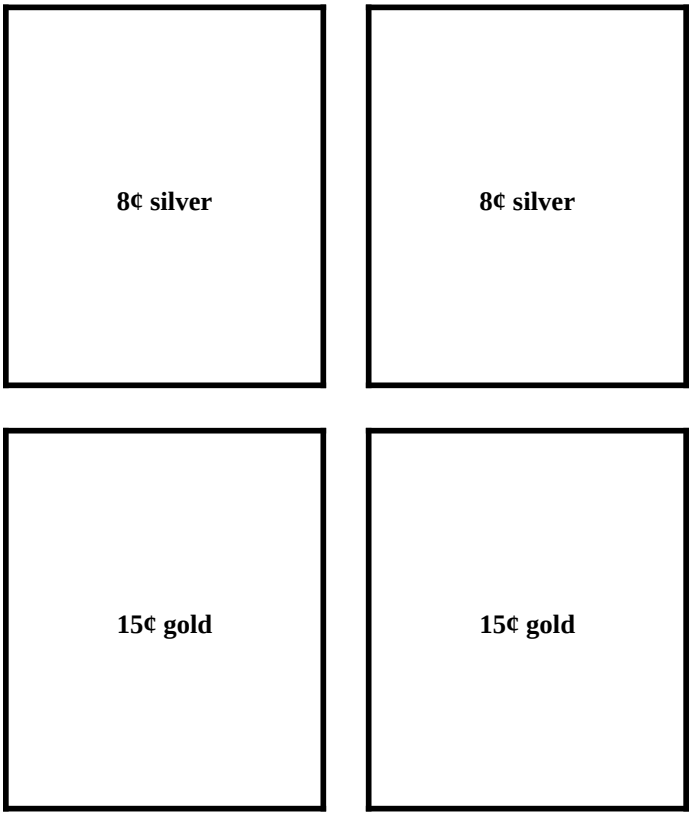
The year 1972 was proclaimed International Book year by the United Nations Ecomomic, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at the 16th session of its General Conference. In issuing this new 8c. definitive stamp, the design of which includes the Library of Parliament, Canada is paying tribute to International Book Year and recognizing the importance of the role books play in society. The UNESCO resolution that established International Book Year pointed out the importance of the written word for the progress of human civilization. Books and periodicals make an essential contribution to social life and its development and in addition have a fundamental role in the realization of UNESCO's objectives - peace, development, the promotion of human rights and the campaign against racialism and colonialism.

The resolution also invited member states to initiate programmes to encourage the writing, production and distribution of books, to carry out activities which will stimulate the habit of reading, and to celebrate International Book Year at a national level. The Library of Parliament is an appropriate national symbol of Canada's participation. The Library of Parliament was established in 1871 by An Act in relation to the Library of Parliament. It was formed initially by the amalgamation of the legislative libraries of Upper and Lower Canada after the two provinces united to become the Province of Canada in 1841. The Library is a separate building to the rear of the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings. Construction of the original building was completed in 1876. When the Centre Block was destroyed by fire on February 3, 1916, heavy iron doors in the corridor connecting the two buildings saved the Library. In 1952, however, the Library was the victim of the same enemy, and much of it had to be rebuilt. The original interior woodwork was carefully preserved, but fireproof and fire-resistant materials were used as much as possible in the reconstruction. The Library was reopened in 1956. The Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons are responsible for the direction and control of the Library. They are assisted by a joint committee appointed by the two Houses at each session. The day-to-day operations of the Library are in the hands of the Parliamentary Librarian.

The Library supplies the Senate and the House of Commons with both reference and research material. It currently houses some 300,000 volumes and receives all 103 Canadian daily newspapers, almost all the Canadian weeklies, 1,800 periodicals and all federal and provincial publications, as well as the publications of international organizations such as the United Nations. The Reference Branch answers inquiries, selects and provides source material for use in speeches and papers, prepares bibliographies, indexes and abstracts, and lends library material. Because of the quality and size of the collection, this branch also provides substantial assistance to Royal Commissions, government departments, the academic community and other non-parliamentary groups and individuals. The Research Branch was established in 1965. It complements the Reference Branch, but serves only Senators and Members of Parliament. Its lawyers, economists and other professional personnel prepare research papers and notes at the request of Senators, Members of Parliament, Parliamentary Committees and Parliamentary Associations. The Library of Parliament is the public's main information centre for parliamentary information. If International book Year is successful in stimulating the interest of Canadians in reading, especially reading Canadiana, it could well give an important boost to our publishing industry.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
August 2, 1973, 12 x 12.5l



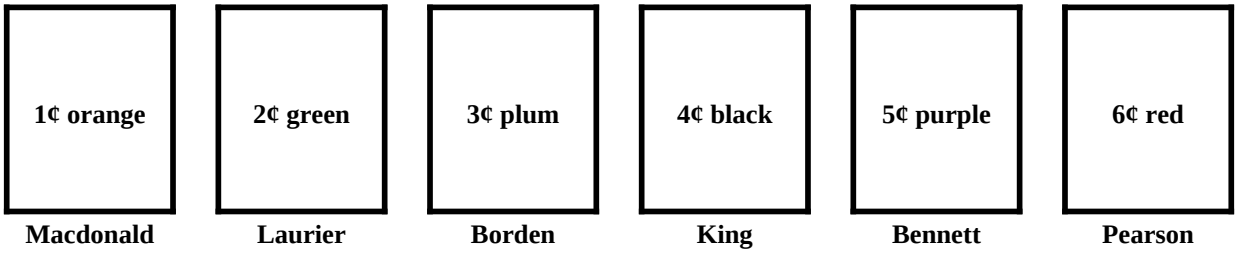
The Canada Post Office will be issuing two commemorative stamps in recognition of the visit in the National Capital from July 31 to August 3 of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, and of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Ottawa August 2 - 10, 1973. All Commonwealth countries accept Queen Elizabeth II as the symbol of the free association of the independent member nations and as such the Head of the Commonwealth. No substantive functions are attached to the title of Head of the Commonwealth and it has not strict constitutional significance but, as the symbolic link uniting all the members of the Commonwealth, it is the outward and visible mark of the special relationship which exists between them. Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting take place at intervals of about two years in the capital of a member country at the latter's invitation. They give Heads of Government the opportunity to engage in informal and frank discussions on matters of common interest to all Commonwealth members.

Most meetings have taken place in London, where the Commonwealth Secretariat was set up in 1965. However, this year's meeting in Ottawa will be the third one to be held away from London, the other two having taken place in Lagos (1966) and Singapore (1971). It will be the first meeting in which Her Majesty the Queen had participated away from London. New procedures proposed by Canada at the Singapore meeting and further developed by the Commonwealth Senior Officials Meeting in Ottawa in October, 1972, will be introduced in order to restore the intimacy of these meeting and to permit these extraordinary gatherings of Commonwealth Heads of Government to function to their full potential.

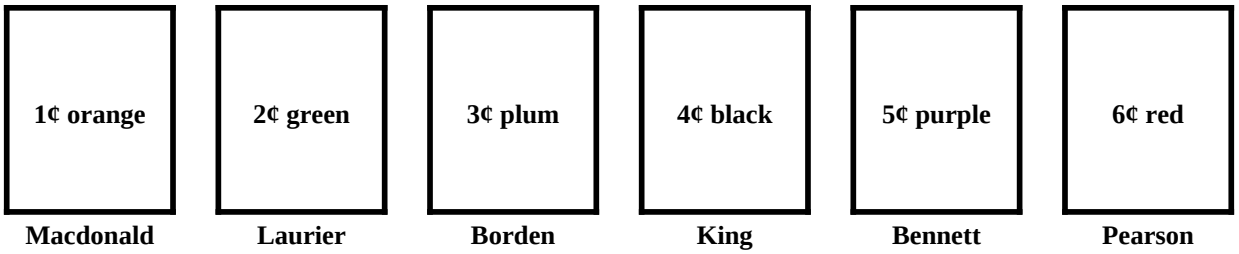
As stated in the Declaration of Commonwealth Principles, "The Commonwealth of Nations is a voluntary association of independent sovereign states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the common interests of their peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace". The Commonwealth comprises 32 independent member countries, covers roughly one fifth of the world's land area and contains about a quarter of the world's population. Fifteen member countries are monarchies and seventeen are republics. The portrait of Her Majesty the Queen is taken from a photograph by the English photographer Anthony Buckley.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Caricature Definitives
October 17, 1973, 12 x 12.5



Macdonald **Laurier** **Borden** **King** **Bennett** **Pearson**



Macdonald **Laurier** **Borden** **King** **Bennett** **Pearson**

Prime Ministers



St Laurent **Elizabeth**



Canada's new set of low value definitive postage stamps features Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 8¢ value and gives recognition to our historical heritage through the portrayal of six former prime ministers on the 1¢ to 6¢ values.

It is especially appropriate that a new stamp bearing portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II should be issued in 1973 as her two visits to Canada this year have focussed more attention than usual on our monarchy and have reminded us of our country's role in Commonwealth. It is also appropriate in that 1973 marks the 20th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's coronation on June 2, 1953.

Traditionally proofs of stamps bearing portraits of the Queen have been sent to Buckingham Palace for Her Majesty's personal approval. On this occasion, however, the Queen was asked to give her approval during the June-July visit to Canada, a request to which she graciously agreed, and for the first time in our history approval was given on Canadian soil. The seven pen and ink line drawing character sketches in this series are the work of David Annesley.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Caricature Definitives
October 17, 1973, 12 x 12.5

Depending on the period in which they lived, the six former prime ministers honoured in this series played important roles in creating, consolidating or unifying the Canadian Confederation.

1¢ : Sir John A. Macdonald was a major formative influence in the union of the original four provinces and the first prime minister of the Dominion of Canada. His declared preference was for a strong national federation rather than a weak decentralized union of powerful provinces, and he sought at all times, through the division of legislative powers and the organization of the new federal institutions, to ensure the primacy of the new Dominion. During his two terms as prime minister, 1867-1873 and 1878-1891, he worked also for territorial expansion and international recognition for the new country.

2¢ : On the crucial issue of English-French relations Sir Wilfrid Laurier, prime minister from 1896 to 1911, saw the fundamental necessity of building up an egalitarian bi-racial political party. Laurier's greatest achievement lay, perhaps, in the direction his leadership of the Canadian Government helped give to the development of the British Columbia. By thwarting all schemes for turning the Empire into a closely integrated political or economic unit, the colonies gained the time needed to grow to national maturity and the Empire developed into the loose association of nation-states we know as the Commonwealth

3¢ : Sir Robert Borden, prime minister during the First World War, was an outstanding proponent of Canada's right to be heard as an independent nation in the councils of the world. He brought to his life-work a high sens of duty, a capacity for unremitting hard work and a wide and statesmanlike view of Canada's capacities and future. Borden conceived of Canada as a mature nation playing an appropriate part in the troubled international politics of the twentieth century. He sought to make Canadians realize and accept their new international responsibilities.

4¢ : William Lyon Mackenzie King seemed to sense intuitively what would be acceptable to the majority of Canadians. During his three terms in office (1921-26, 1926-30 and 1935-48), his fundamental policy, like Macdonald and Laurier, was maintaining a political party within which English and French could work together harmoniously. King initiated with Great Britain negotiations which led to the passing of the Statute of Westminster. This statute formally gave to the Canadian Parliament the right to pass and enact legislation. In 1947 he was admitted to the Order of Merit, the first Canadian to receive this honour.

5¢ : Richard Bedford Bennett, who became prime minister early in the Depression on a platform based on Imperial preference and unemployment relief, served from 1930 to 1935. In 1934, however, he became convinced that tariff changes and direct relief could not end the Depression and announced that the days of laissez-faire were over and that the state must take an increasing part in the control of economic life. Bennett completed the work begun by King by setting the amended terms of the Statute of Westminster. His government also initiated negotiations with the United States for the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

6¢ : Lester Bowles Pearson is remembered and honoured for the work he did to advance Canadian unity. It was his government that gave Canada its first distinctive flag. In the many important positions he held in national and international organizations, for examples as president of the 7th General Assembly of the United Nations, he showed his remarkable talent for finding a formula for the conciliation of opposing interests. This talent and his powers of persuasion made him one of the great negotiators of his time and resulted in his being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Pearson was prime minister from 1963 until 1968.

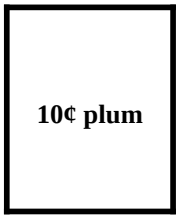
7¢ : The Right Honourable Louis Stephen St. Laurent served as the Prime Minister of Canada from November 15, 1948 to June 21, 1957. An eloquent spokesman for Canadian unity, St. Laurent, a gentleman of politics, was affectionately known as "Uncle Louis" by the Canadian people.

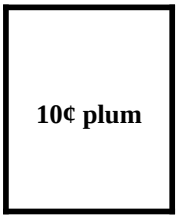
It was St. Laurent's profound sense of duty to his country which drew him out of private life and into politics in 1941. Canada was at war, and although reluctant to do so, St. Laurent, at the request of Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King, accepted the position of Minister of Justice. During the war years, he devoted himself to Canada's well-being and especially to the cause of national unity. The war over, St. Laurent turned to the international scene and, in 1946, he was appointed Secretary of State for External Affaires.

A strong supporter of the newly founded United Nations, he led the Canadian delegation to the first sessions of the General Assembly in London and New York. He was also very active in the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In August of 1948, Louis St. Laurent became the leader of the Liberal party and, in November, the Prime Minister of Canada. His chief objectives were clear: to strengthen national unity and to widen Canada's role in international affairs. Under the leadership of St. Laurent, the original plans for the Union of British North America were finally fulfilled.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Caricature Definitives
September 1, 1976, 13 x 13.5, 12 x 12.5, 10 vertical





Queen Elizabeth II

The portrait of Queen Elizabeth II first appeared on a Canadian postage stamp in May 1935 on one of six stamps issued to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V. She was then Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of York, and few people at that time foresaw that she would one day succeed to the throne. Pages of history were written before Princess Elizabeth's portrait again appeared on a Canadian stamp.

In January 1936, King George V died and the Prince of Wales ascended the throne to become King Edward VIII. In December 1936 he abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson, and his brother, the Duke of York, Elizabeth's father, became King George VI. In 1939, Canada was the first Commonwealth nation to welcome the new King and Queen in person. A set of three stamps was issued to commemorate the Royal Visit. These features King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose, and the National War Memorial in Ottawa.

Not until February 1948 did another Canadian stamp honour Princess Elizabeth. It was issued to commemorate her wedding in November 1947 to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten of the Royal Navy. The young couple, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, visited Canada in 1951 and a stamp was issued for this occasion. As it happened, this was the last Canadian commemorative stamp of the reign of King George VI.

On February 6, 1952, King George died in his sleep and Princess Elizabeth ascended the throne. The coronation of the new Queen took place on June 2, 1953. Canada commemorated the coronation with a stamp featuring a medallion sculpture portrait of Her Majesty. During the years of her reign, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip have made numerous official visits to Canada. On these occasions, Canada usually issued a "Royal Visit" commemorative stamp. The 1957 stamp marked the Queen's visit to open Canada's 23rd Parliament, the first time that a sovereign had done so. In 1959, a stamp marked their coast-to-coast Royal Tour beginning with the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The 1964 stamp was in honour of the Queen's visit to Charlottetown and Quebec City commemorating the 1864 conferences which led to the passing of the British North America Act.

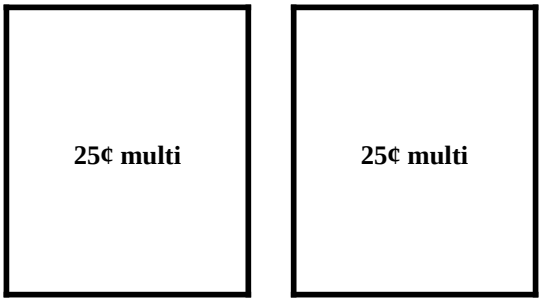
In 1967, a stamp marked the Queen's visit to participate in our Centennial celebrations and Expo '67. The 1973 Royal Visit stamp commemorated the Queen's attendance at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Ottawa.

Traditionally, the reigning Monarch is also portrayed on regular issue postage stamps. Queen Elizabeth II first appeared on a set of Canadian definitive stamps in 1953. A set bearing a new portrait of Her Majesty was introduced in 1954. This set continued in use until 1962-63 when a new series featuring a cameo-like profile of the Queen with Canadian symbols in the upper left corner of the stamp was issued. In 1967, this set was replaced with a Centennial issue featuring a portrait of the Queen on the right and scenes of Canada on the left of each stamp. In 1973, a new set of definitives was introduced portraying Queen Elizabeth on the eight-cent denominations and former Prime Ministers on the lower denominations. On September 1, 1976, a ten-cent definitive will be issued bearing the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II currently in use on the eight-cent stamp.

The portrait, a pen and ink line drawing, is the work of Ontario artist David Annesley.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Silver Jubilee
February 4, 1977,12.5 x 12



Queen Elizabeth II

The monarchy is a valid expression of Canadian society and a useful governmental institution with roots deep in our history. For these reasons and because of our great affection for the present sovereign, Canadians will long remember the Silver Jubilee of Her Most Excellent Majesty Elizabeth The Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

The Queen was born in London on 21 April 1926, the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York, subsequently King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Early in 1942 the Princess became Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, and on her sixteenth birthday carried out her first public engagement when she inspected the regiment. In a broadcast on her twenty-first birthday, she dedicated herself to serving the Commonwealth, a pledge she repeated on her accession to the throne on 6 February 1952 when her father suddenly died. It took several hours for the sad news to reach the new Queen, because she had undertaken a tour on the King's behalf and was visiting a remote part of the Kenyan forest.

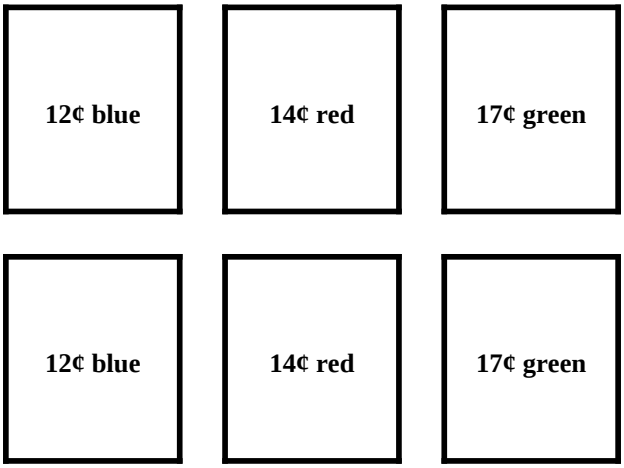
Queen Elizabeth herself defined the work of the Crown in Canada. "The role of a constitutional monarch is to personify the democratic state," she noted, later adding that "the Crown is an idea more than a person, and 1 would like the Crown in Canada to represent everything that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal." Consequently, by being above political and regional strife, the Queen nurtures national unity. The Queen, as the reigning monarch, also upholds democracy. In personifying all the people she stands higher than elected officials and is a permanent reminder to them that they are servants of the public. "The Crown has ratified the rights and presence of French Canada as no other Canadian institution has done." For example, on formal and state occasions anywhere in Canada, governors-general have continuously used French. The Crown symbolizes our "belief in the equal dignity of each individual. A king is a king not because he is rich, aggressive, well-educated or influential, but because of birth, the most common denominator in the world.

On a planetary scale, the Queen links us to our Western European heritage and to our partners in the Commonwealth. The Silver Jubilee is thus an ideal time for Canadians to reflect on the benefits of constitutional monarchism. The stamp commemorating the 25th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the throne features a photographic portrait study of the Queen by the British photographer Peter Grugeon. The photograph is reproduced with the permission of Camera Press, London, England.

In this formal portrait, Queen Elizabeth wears a mauve satin dress embroidered with pearls and rhinestones, the Garter sash and star with Family Orders, and a diamond and pearl tiara, necklace and earrings. This stamp introduces a new typeface on Canadian stamps Cartier - developed by the late Carl Dair and modified in some details to compensate for the effects of miniaturization on postage stamps. The layout for the stamp was created by Toronto designer Ken Rodmell. A special feature of this stamp, seen for the first time on a Canadian issue, is foil stamping. The denomination "25" has been silver stamped to draw attention to its double significance for this issue celebrating Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth Definitives
1977 - 1979, 13 x 13.5, 12 x 12.5



Queen Elizabeth II

Definitive stamps must portray an image of Canada for a wide variety of people inside and outside the nation. Queen Elizabeth II is just the subject to do this. The Queen symbolizes the distinctive and democratic traditions of our form of government.

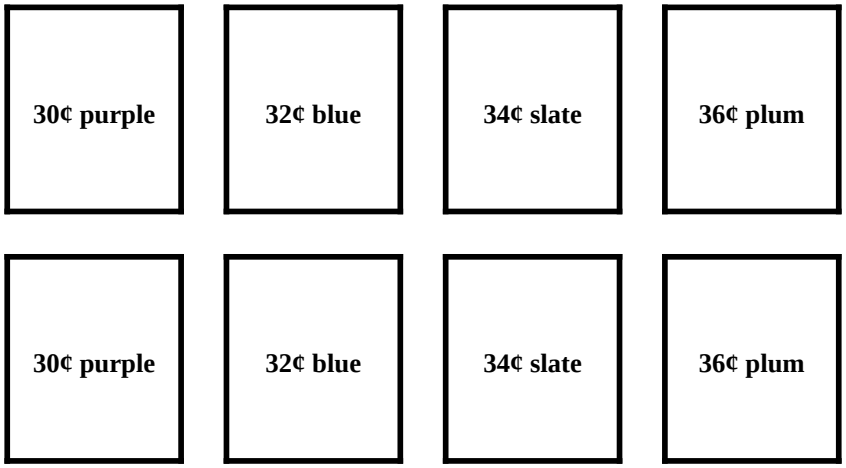
12¢ : Because 1977 is the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, it is an especially appropriate time for a new definitive stamp featuring her portrait. The Queen, who appears on the 12¢ value, ascended to the throne on 6 February 1952 upon the death of her father King George VI. Elizabeth II has become a focus of national unity and of individual loyalty, the tangible emblem of continuity in the changing political scene, the personification of the Canadian constitutional ideal of "peace, order and good government". The bas-relief profile of the Queen, featured on the 12¢ stamp is based on a black and white photographic study of Her Majesty, taken by the British photographer Peter Grugeon. The sculptor, Jaroslav Huta, completed his studies in Prague and came to Canada via Munich, where he worked for some years as a designer, sculptor and graphic artist. The layout design and typography is by Heather Cooper. This issue of definitive stamp use Cartier typeface, first cut by the Canadian typographer, the late Carl Dair. This modified version was specially prepared for the Canada Post Office for use on postage stamps.

14¢ : Definitive stamps generally display the finest that the nation has to offer. The new definitives thus present something of the beauty of Canada's environment. They also illustrate a symbol of our glorious political heritage of freedom and order. The 20th century has been unkind to monarchies. In 1900, most people lived under such governments; today, few royal houses retain their thrones and many are lucky to have retained their heads. The survival of the monarchy in Canada is therefore a tribute to the country's political stability and an acknowledgement that sovereigns and their personal representatives, the governors-general and lieutenant governors, have contributed much to our society. The demonstrations of warmth and affection by Canadians during the Silver Jubilee indicate how successfully Queen Elizabeth II is carrying on this tradition of service. The 14-cent stamp, bearing a bas-relief portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, feature the same basic designs used for the 1977 12-cent definitives, but with a change of colour.

17¢ :

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth Definitives
1982 - 1987, 13 x 13.5, 12 x 12.5



Queen Elizabeth II

Definitive stamps must portray an image of Canada for a wide variety of people inside and outside the nation. Queen Elizabeth II is just the subject to do this. The Queen symbolizes the distinctive and democratic traditions of our form of government.

30¢ : This is the latest in a long series of Canadian stamps featuring the sovereign. Although the very first Canadian stamp was the famous Threepenny Beaver of 1851, the second and third postage stamps, issued the same year, portrayed Prince Albert and Queen Victoria respectively. Queen Elizabeth II first appeared on a definitive stamp in 1953 following her accession to the throne in 1952.

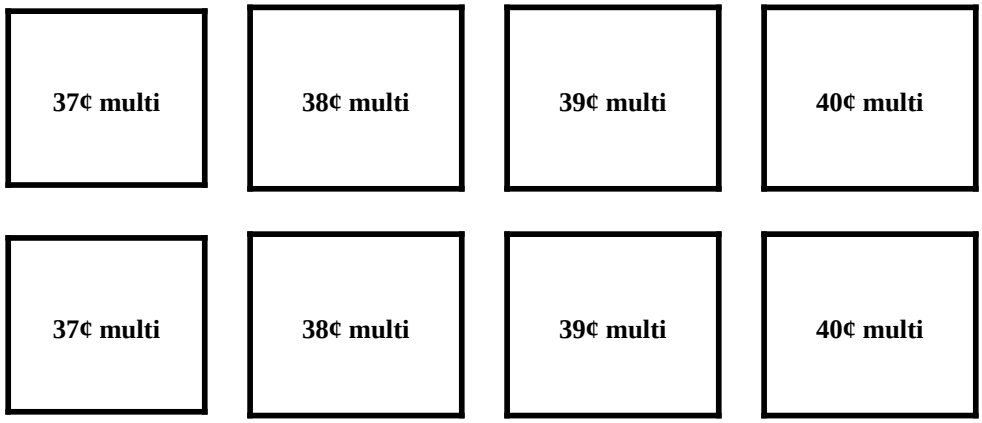
32¢ : A new 32¢ domestic letter rate definitive depicts Queen Elizabeth II, Canada's head of state. The Queen Elizabeth design now in use first appeared on March 1, 1977. That was the year of the Silver Jubilee of her accession to the throne on February 6, 1952. The popular design will be reissued for the fifth time on May 24,1983. Such longevity is a tribute not only to the simplicity and grace of the design itself but also to the great esteem and affection which is felt in Canada for Queen Elizabeth and the royal family. Heather Cooper, the internationally known Toronto designer and artist, designed the Queen Elizabeth II definitive. The design is based on a bas-relief sculpture of the Queen produced specially for the postage stamp by Jaroslav Huta, a new Canadian who completed his studies in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and then came to Canada via Munich, West Germany. Huta, in turn, worked from a black and white photograph of the Queen taken by the British photographer Peter Grugeon.

34¢ : A new 34¢ stamp issue features a profile of Queen Elizabeth II. Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary of Windsor was born on 21 April 1926. As the royal family's oldest child, she succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George VI, in 1952. Steel engraving, the traditional printing technique, has been combined with photogravure in the design of a new engraved version of the stamp bearing the Queen's portrait. Robert Couture of Ottawa engraved the portrait of Her Majesty after a bas-relief by Jaroslav Huta, a Toronto sculptor and medal maker. Raymond Bellemare of Montreal designed the stamp.

36¢ : A new 36¢ stamp issue features a profile of Queen Elizabeth II. Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary of Windsor was born on 21 April 1926. As the royal family's oldest child, she succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King George VI, in 1952. Steel engraving, the traditional printing technique, has been combined with photogravure in the design of a new engraved version of the stamp bearing the Queen's portrait. Robert Couture of Ottawa engraved the portrait of Her Majesty after a bas-relief by Jaroslav Huta, a Toronto sculptor and medal maker. Raymond Bellemare of Montreal designed the stamp.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth Definitives
1987 - 1990, 13.5 x 13, 13, , 13 x 12.75



Queen Elizabeth II

37¢ : A newly designed Queen stamp, printed by lithography, and a newly designed Parliament Buildings stamp are being issued to reflect to new 1988 postage rates.

Designed by Tom Yakobina. Based on a photograph by Yousuf Karsh.

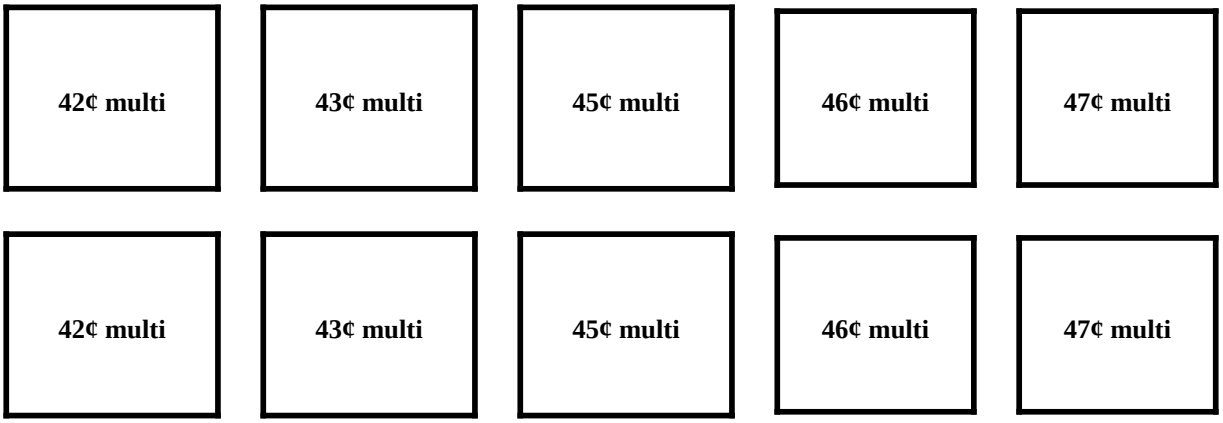
38¢ : The handsome portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by Yousuf Karsh is framed by a background of royal purple in the 1989 version of last year's popular definitive stamps. As well, this attractive stamp will be available in convenient packs of 10 stamps.

39¢ : The familiar portrait of Canada's head of state, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, by Yousuf Karsh is again reproduced on this 39-cent definitive stamp. This year, the background colour is dark majestic green. The Queen stamp is available in stamp packs of 10 and panes of 100 stamps.

40¢ : To correspond with postal rate increases effective January 1, 1991 a number of new stamps were issued on December 28, 1990. A 40-cent definitive depicting the familiar portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by internationally-renowned Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh is one of five new first class rate stamps. Originally issued as a 37-cent value on December 30, 1987, this year a rich amber tone highlights the background. Her Majesty has appeared on all first class rate definitive stamps since May 1, 1953 following Her ascension to the throne on February 6, 1952. This first Canadian definitive stamp portrait was also the work of Karsh of Ottawa. The 40-cent Queen definitive is available in panes of 100 stamps and in stamp packs of 10. It was designed by Yousuf Karsh, Tom Yakobina and Chris Candlish and printed by Ashton-Potter Limited of Toronto.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth Definitives
1991 - 2000, 13 x 13.5, 12 x 12.5



Queen Elizabeth II

42¢ : Royal portraits have been favourite stamp designs since the world's first adhesive postage stamp was issued by Great Britain on May 6, 1840 - the famous Penny Black, featuring a youthful portrait of Queen Victoria. To correspond with new postal rates effective January 1, 1992, a 42-cent definitive stamp depicting the familiar portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by internationally-renowned Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh was issued on December 27, 1991. The portrait was first seen on a 37-cent stamp issued December 30, 1987. The background of this year's issue is a rich purple. The 42-cent Queen definitive is available in panes of 100 stamps and in packs of 10 stamps. A new feature this year is that not only the stamp panes but the stamp packs as well are available in two formats: inscripted for philatelic sale and non-inscripted for normal postal outlet sales. The applies to all stamp packs and booklets. It was designed by Yousuf Karsh, Tom Yakobina and Chris Candlish, and printed by Ashton-Potter Limited of Toronto.

43¢ : During her 41 years on the throne, Queen Elizabeth II has seen the role of the monarchy change with the times. As both Head of the Commonwealth and Head of State of several sovereign nations, it became imperative for the monarch to be seen in person by her millions of subjects around the world. Canada has been especially favoured with the Queen having visited numerous times travelling from coast to coast. Her first visit as monarch was in October 1957, when she opened a new session of the Canadian Parliament. Her most recent visit occurred in 1992, when she was present at ceremonies on Parliament Hill to mark the 125th anniversary of Confederation. As the Queen said during one of her visits: "The Crown is an idea more than a person, and I want the Crown to represent everything that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal. I will continue to do my best during to give me your help in this task."

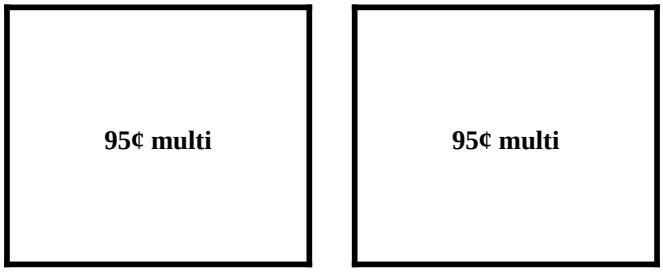
45¢ : On July 31, 1995, Canada Post Corporation will issue a 45¢ definitive stamp featuring Queen Elizabeth II. This elegant portrait was captured by internationally renowned Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh. Set against a lush, turquoise background, the Queen is distinguished as the only person who can be honoured on a Canadian stamp while she is still living. Since the 16th century, some 32 French and British kings and queens have reigned over Canada. In 1867, the Fathers of Confederation vested executive authority and many statutory responsibilities in Queen Victoria, her heirs and successors. In 1947, under Letters Patent approved by George VI, all the sovereign's powers and authorities in Canada were delegated to the Governor General.

46¢ : Nearly 65 years after she first adorned a Canadian stamp, Queen Elizabeth is once again immortalized in this year's regal definitive issue. The stamp features an elegant portrait by internationally renowned Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh. The image, employed in the 1987 Queen stamp has been updated with dramatic new colours. This issue is also a new smaller size than the previous Queen stamp issues.

47¢ : Our Familiar Queen definitive has undergone two modifications. In addition to a change in denomination, this newly-designed stamp features a blue background to replace the red. The definitive continues to use Yousuf Karsh''s portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, first seen on a definitive issue in 1987. Queen Elizabeth first appeared on a Canadian postage stamp as a young princess in 1935, and has graced several issues since.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

2000 The 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
May 23, 2000, 13 x 12.5



Queen Mother

Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon (4 August 1900 – 30 March 2002) was Queen of the United Kingdom and the Dominions of the British Commonwealth from 11 December 1936 to 6 February 1952 as the wife of King George VI. She was the last Empress of India from her husband's accession 1936 until the British Raj was dissolved in August 1947. After her husband died, she was known as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, to avoid confusion with her daughter, Queen Elizabeth II.

Born into a family of British nobility, Elizabeth came to prominence in 1923 when she married the Duke of York, the second son of King George V and Queen Mary. The couple and their daughters Elizabeth and Margaret embodied traditional ideas of family and public service. The Duchess undertook a variety of public engagements and became known for her consistently cheerful countenance.

In 1936, Elizabeth's husband unexpectedly became king when his older brother, Edward VIII, abdicated in order to marry the American divorcée Wallis Simpson. Elizabeth then became queen consort. She accompanied her husband on diplomatic tours to France and North America before the start of the Second World War. During the war, her seemingly indomitable spirit provided moral support to the British public. After the war, her husband's health deteriorated, and she was widowed at the age of 51. Her elder daughter, aged 25, became the new queen.

After the death of Queen Mary in 1953, Elizabeth was viewed as the matriarch of the British royal family. In her later years, she was a consistently popular member of the family, even at times when other royals were suffering from low levels of public approval. She continued an active public life until just a few months before her death at the age of 101, seven weeks after the death of her younger daughter, Princess Margaret.

Known for her personal and public charm, Elizabeth was one of the most popular members of the royal family, and helped to stabilise the popularity of the monarchy as a whole.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II, Golden Jubilee
January 2, 2002, 13 x 12.5



Queen Elizabeth II

Joining the ranks of Queen Victoria, Henry III and George III, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be the fifth British monarch to celebrate a golden jubilee. To mark this momentous occasion, Canada Post has issued a single domestic rate commemorative stamp.

Her Majesty the Queen was born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary on April 21, 1926 in London, England. She was the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York, who became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1936. Princess Elizabeth's sister Margaret was born four years later and the two princesses received their early education at home. Studies included art, music, and constitutional history and law. As the heiress presumptive grew older, she began to assume more of a public role, and at age 14 she gave her first broadcast message, delivered during a children's program on the BBC. Shortly after her 18th birthday, Princess Elizabeth was appointed a Counsellor of State, and it was then that she first exercised functions of the Crown.

After the war, Princess Elizabeth's public engagements grew in frequency. In 1947, she took her first official visit overseas when the Royal Family toured southern Africa. Shortly after their return, Princess Elizabeth announced her engagement to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten (now His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh), and their wedding took place in Westminster Abbey on November 20, 1947. In 1948, Princess Elizabeth bore her first child, Prince Charles (now the Prince of Wales and heir to the throne). Her second child, Princess Anne (now the Princess Royal) was born in 1950, and her third, Prince Andrew (now the Duke of York), was born in 1960. Prince Edward (Earl of Wessex), the couple's fourth child, was born in 1964.

In 1952, illness prevented King George VI from carrying out a visit to Australia and New Zealand. Princess Elizabeth took his place. It was during this visit that the Princess learned of her father's death and her own ascension to the throne. Her Majesty's coronation took place in Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953, with prime ministers from Commonwealth countries and representatives of foreign states in attendance. For the first time in history, television brought the coronation of a British monarchy into the homes of thousands around the world.

Designed by Gottschalk + Ash International, this commemorative stamp features two images - the maple leaf, a traditional symbol of Canada, and the Queen. The design is meant to symbolize Canada's support and best wishes to Her Majesty on this special occasion.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II, Coronation
June 2, 2003, 13 x 12.5



Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II was born in London, England, on April 21, 1926. She was the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York, subsequently King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (the Queen Mother). Her Majesty's Coronation took place in Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953, following her February 1952 accession. Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Golden Jubilee in 2002. Canada Post celebrates the 50th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation with a single domestic rate ($0.48) stamp, available in a pane of 16.

Our Queen first graced a Canadian stamp in 1935 as a very young princess. Her next appearance was in 1939, along with her sister, Princess Margaret, on a set commemorating her parents' Royal Visit to Canada. In 1948, a stamp was issued to honour Princess Elizabeth's 1947 marriage to Philip Mountbatten, and in 1951, a stamp marked the couple's Royal Visit. Queen Elizabeth II appeared as our Queen on stamps issued on the eve of, and shortly after, her June 2, 1953 coronation. All of these stamps are displayed on the back of the Coronation OFDC. During the intervening 50 years, many 'Queen' stamps have been issued by Canada Post; the most recent being the January 2, 2002 commemorative marking Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee.

In the United Kingdom, Queen Elizabeth II's official title is: Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

In Canada, Her Majesty's official title is: Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

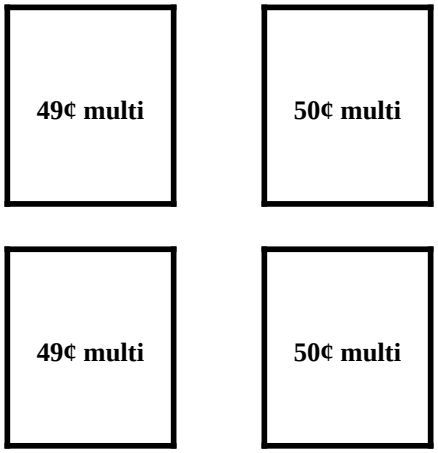
Queen Elizabeth II has visited Canada on a number of occasions and for various reasons. Her first visit as Queen was in 1957 to Ottawa and Hull to open the first session of the 23rd Parliament, and her most recent was in 2002 to Nunavut, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick and the National Capital Region for her Golden Jubilee.

About the stamp's design:

Featuring a large maple leaf, a smaller leaf pattern and a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, the Coronation stamp is very similar in design to the 2002 Golden Jubilee stamp. Designer Saskia van Kampen of Gottschalk + Ash chose a background of metallic purple for the Coronation stamp, as purple is the colour of nobility. Says van Kampen: "The leaf pattern on the background is of a slightly lighter metallic purple. The subtle tonal difference changes depending on the angle of light." A simplified version of the small gold crown in the Arms of Canada is a unique graphic element of this stamp.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth
2003 - 2004, 12.5 x 13, Kiss cut



Queen Elizabeth II

49¢ : As Canada's Head of State, Elizabeth II has appeared on many Canadian stamps during the more than fifty years of her reign. She is a symbol of our nation like no other, respected in her constitutional capacity but also widely admired for her personal qualities. Since her coronation in 1953, she has visited this country frequently, given her patronage to many Canadian organizations, and has retained a special relationship with the Canadian Forces. Her long reign has encompassed the terms of nine Canadian governors-general and nine prime ministers.

Canada Post's domestic rate (49¢) definitive stamp portraying the Queen is based on a photograph taken during her Golden Jubilee year by the Canadian rock musician Bryan Adams. Like other photographers granted the privilege for this occasion, Adams was given just five minutes to obtain a photograph that was both memorable and distinctive. In a quick session at the Garden Entrance to Buckingham Palace, he took this unusually informal, close-up image of the Queen, a portrait of a familiar, mature woman. "She's a mother and a grandmother," says Adams, "and I think my photo gives us a glimpse of the real person."

The stamp was designed by Saskia van Kampen, who remarks: "My biggest concern was not to allow her to appear ordinary." Van Kampen cropped Adams' photo to highlight the Queen's smile, and placed the image off-centre to give it an active, unexpected quality.

50¢ : HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II:

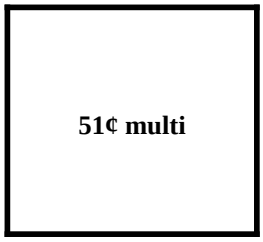
Even when printed in cool, wintry colours, her warm smile charms us still. Elizabeth II, Canada's head of state, appears on a new domestic rate (50¢) definitive in the same portrait as last year, based on a photograph taken by the Canadian rock musician Bryan Adams. In a quick, five-minute photo opportunity outside Buckingham Palace during the Queen's Golden Jubilee year, Adams took this informal portrait that captures, as he says, "a glimpse of the real person."

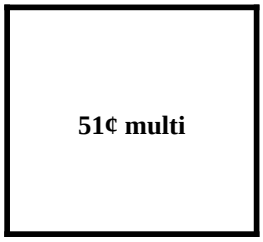
This year, the Queen appears in shades of slate blue, chosen as a deliberate contrast to last year's rose-brown, to ensure the stamps can be easily distinguished. "The challenge with this stamp was to create a colour distinction from last year, but in shades respectful of the Queen's image," says Danard. "Adams took the original photograph in black and white, so we tinted towards those tones with the blues."

Although the final image is monochromatic, it was printed with six -different colours. "This was done partly as a security measure," Danard says, "but also to produce depth and a more subtle tonal range in the image."

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - Happy Birthday 2006
Simulated perforation





Eight decades of public life and massive mounds of photographic records later, the task of finding an image to celebrate the milestone 80th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II is a task more daunting than most might think.

Pouring over heaps of research and hundreds of photographs, stamp designer Jeremy Linskill and art director Glenda Rissman of q30 design inc. honed in on an image that resonates with spirited warmth and candid informality. The image was captured by Victor Pilon, a Montreal-based photographer engaged by the Department of Canadian Heritage, which is responsible for the organization and delivery of Royal Visits to Canada by Her Majesty The Queen and Members of the Canadian Royal Family. Pilon, a veteran of 27 Royal Visits to Canada by Her Majesty The Queen and Members of the Canadian Royal Family from 1984-2002, is well-known and respected as an artistic director, photographer and set / visual art designer. His work has appeared in several galleries, the collections of the Canada Council Art Bank and the Library and Archives Canada. That image graces the new commemorative Queen domestic rate (51¢) January 12 release, as well as a special April 21 international rate ($1.49) issue celebrating Her Majesty's actual birth date.

The Queen sports a green suit and hat and carries a bouquet of flowers in the original photograph taken at RCMP headquarters in Ottawa during her 2002 visit to Canada. "We close-cropped the image," explains Linskill, "blurred the background of attending Mounties, and drew colour from the traditional red RCMP tunic to brighten the background and make the image stand out."

For extra depth and dimension, adds Rissman, "a green tint was used along with the traditional four-colour printing process to accentuate Her Majesty's outfit."nnLarger than typical domestic rate definitive formats, this celebratory image of the Queen measures 32 mm x 27 mm. The stamps are self-adhesive, printed on Fasson paper and available in booklets of 10. The booklet cover features a sequence of photos spanning the years from the Queen's youth to the present day. The booklet also includes miniature floral stickers that can be used to seal or add extra appeal to envelopes.

The 2006 Queen issue also includes a souvenir sheet of two international rate stamps to be issued April 21st to coincide with the Queen's actual birthday. All in all, these stamps and collectibles are a memorable tribute truly fit for the Queen.

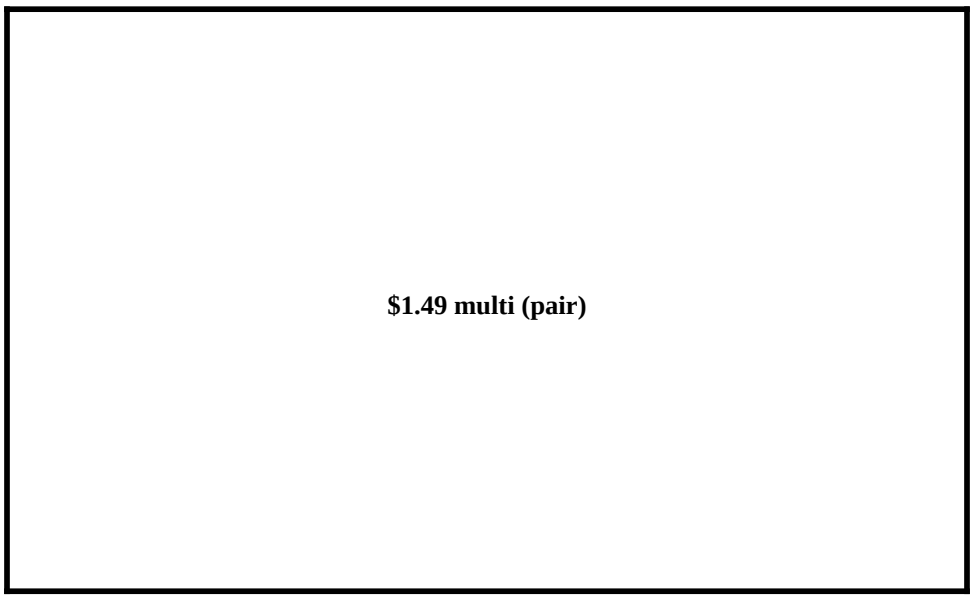
For more information about the Royal Family and the Queen's birthday celebration, visit www.royal.gov.uk.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - Happy Birthday 2006
12.5 x 13







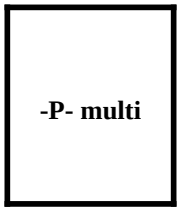
Souvenir Sheet

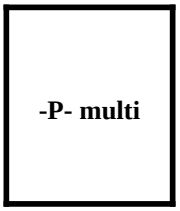
In recognition of Queen Elizabeth's actual birthdate on April 21, Canada Post will issue a souvenir sheet of two international rate ($1.49) stamps featuring the same beautiful image that graces the domestic rate issue. The image, which combines photography from the Department of Canadian Heritage and the design work of q30 design inc., depicts the Queen in a colourful and luminous informal portrait taken at the RCMP Rockcliffe Stables in Ottawa in 2002.

Complete with the words "Happy Birthday / April 21, 1926" in both official languages, this is a wonderful keepsake that will reign supreme for years to come.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - November 16, 2006
Kiss cut



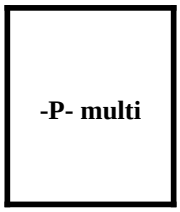


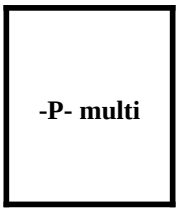
Queen Elizabeth II

Perhaps the most familiar of the Crown jewels is that dazzling royal smile. Her Majesty the Queen appears on a new domestic rate definitive in a delightful close-focus portrait that shows the great pleasure with which she still greets the public. The photo was taken during Her visit to Saskatchewan in 2005, while on Her 23rd trip to Canada. The warmth in Her face and the bright floral colours reflect the celebratory tone of that visit. "We try to find images of the Queen that are especially relevant to Canada," says Liz Wong, Manager of Stamp Design and Production. "This one is lovely, because she's really smiling."

While valued at the domestic rate, the stamp is non-denominated and bears a new icon, the letter "P" within a maple leaf. This icon indicates that the stamp is permanent™ and valid indefinitely. The stamp is available in self-adhesive booklets of 10.

Queen Elizabeth II - December 27, 2007
13





Queen Elizabeth II

In December 2007, Canada Post issued a new stamp featuring Queen Elizabeth II. The latest royal definitive is based on a photograph taken in Saskatoon during the 2005 Royal Visit to Canada.

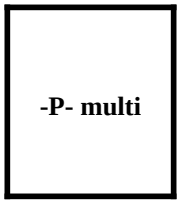
As Queen of Canada, Her Majesty has a long and proud association with this country. In 1951, as Princess Elizabeth, she made her first visit to Canada; since her coronation in 1952, Queen Elizabeth has made more than 20 official visits here.

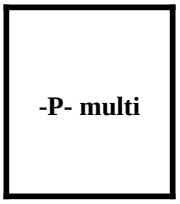
The 2005 Royal Visit covered nine days and included stops in Lumsden, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary and Fort McMurray. A group of schoolchildren from Bjorkdale, Saskatchewan, eager to travel the more than 200 kilometres to Saskatoon for the visit, came up with a novel fundraising idea to help pay for their trip: they created a quilt bearing the Royal Cypher. The quilt is featured on the back of the official first day cover.

Designs for the stamp and first day cover are the work of Doreen Colonello of Gottschalk+Ash International. "The core of the design comes from a photograph taken by Ottawa's Headlight Inc. during the Royal Visit and given to me by the Department of Canadian Heritage," says Doreen Colonello. "I worked with a neutral abstract background that subtly complements and echoes the colour in the Queen's feathered hat and lovely jacket trim."

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - November 1, 2009
Simulated perforation



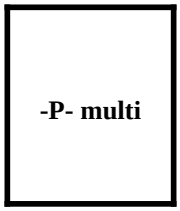


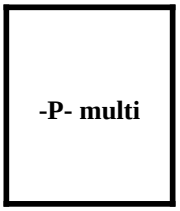
Queen Elizabeth II

Since Great Britain began the tradition more than 150 years ago, royal faces have graced stamps issued by countries around the world. This year, Canada Post carries on this tradition with one stamp featuring a recent photograph of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada.

The close-up portrait of the Queen featured on this stamp was taken on May 19, 2005, during Her Majesty's most recent royal visit to Canada. The image is complemented by a dazzling ruby red background. "The colour is a cross between the deep red of the Queen's rose, the national flower of England, and the warm red of the Canadian flag. By blending the two symbols, this issue reflects Canada's past and present relationship with the Crown," explains designer Doreen Colonello of Toronto's Gottschalk+Ash International. The issue will be cancelled in Calgary, Alberta—one of the Queen's two 2005 royal visit destinations.

Queen Elizabeth II - January 11, 2010
Simulated perforation





Queen Elizabeth II

Canada Post's definitive program wouldn't be complete without a royal touch. This year, a lively photograph of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, taken during her most recent royal visit to Canada, graces a PERMANENT™ stamp.

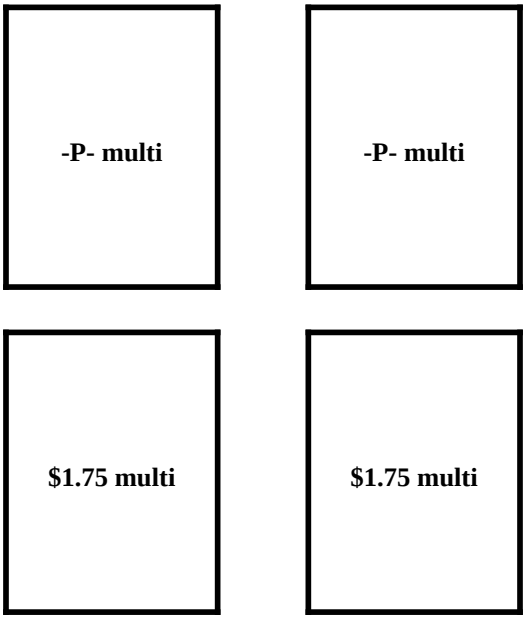
"Canadians look forward to The Queen's visits," says Doreen Colonello, Associate Creative Director at Gottschalk+Ash International. "So we were delighted to feature a photograph of Her Majesty in her classic wave pose."

The close-up photograph is shown before a vibrant sedum. "We strove to create a royal and serene backdrop for The Queen, choosing this plant for its radiating leaves and its subtle colour gradations," explains Colonello. "Two blue curved transparent forms in the foreground echo the flower's rays, and the play between the rays in the background and the transparency in the foreground surround The Queen with a sense of light and warmth."

The stamp will be cancelled in Jasper, Alberta, where the photograph featured on the stamp was taken.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Royal Wedding - Prince William & Catherine Middleton
April 29, 2011, 13+



Wedding bells will soon ring out for His Royal Highness Prince William of Wales and Miss Catherine Middleton as they exchange their vows at Westminster Abbey in regal pomp and enchanting splendour. Along with the rest of the world, Canada offers its best wishes to the newlyweds on an auspicious beginning to a long, peaceful and happy life together.

To mark this momentous occasion, Canada Post will issue two commemorative stamps on the Royal Couple's wedding day. One stamp will be released at the domestic rate (PERMANENT™), and another at the international rate. A majestic array of stamp collectibles and gift products will be available also, giving Canadians a way to commemorate the day with special keepsakes. As is fitting, the representative of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Canada, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General, will have the honour of unveiling the stamps at his residence in Ottawa just days before their release.

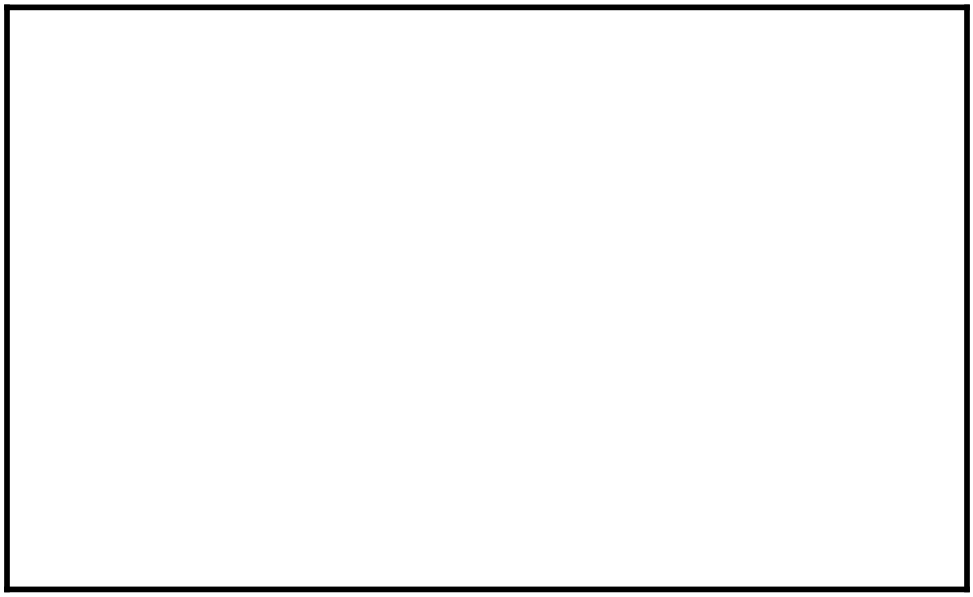
The PERMANENT™ stamp bears a picture taken when the couple announced their engagement in November 2010. The international stamp features the official engagement picture taken by Mario Testino, one of the world's most well known fashion photographers. In the latter picture, against Miss Middleton's white dress, the beautiful sapphire and diamond engagement ring first worn thirty years ago by Lady Diana Spencer, who became Princess of Wales, Prince William's mother, is highly visible.

Isabelle Toussaint, the Montreal-based graphic artist who designed the stamp products and other collectibles, used photographs of the famous Benedictine abbey's ecclesiastical architecture for the background in several of the stamp products. The abbey has been the coronation church since the year 1066 and the setting of several royal marriages over the last century, including that of Prince Williams' grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II, in 1947 to then Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, now His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Canada Post announced the addition of these latest royal stamps to its 2011 stamp line-up in February, and expedited the typical stamp approval, selection and production processes to ensure Canadians would have a memento of the occasion on the day of the wedding.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Royal Wedding - Prince William & Catherine Middleton
April 29, 2011, 13+



Souvenir Sheet

Royal Tour

Soon after the wedding, Canada will be honoured to welcome the royal newlyweds on their first overseas tour, arriving June 30. The Royal Couple will visit Alberta, the Northwest Territories, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and the National Capital Region.

Canada Post's royal stamps

Many Canadians take pride in royal tradition and have a deep-seated attachment to their British royal heritage, both culturally and historically. This issue continues Canada Post's long history of commemorating British royal events and milestones with stamps, including weddings, tours, coronations and birthdays.

The 1947 marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten was marked with a stamp issued in February 1948.
The Queen first graced a Canadian stamp in 1935 as a very young princess.

Since 1935, the image of Elizabeth II has appeared on 65 Canadian stamps, most of them definitives.

In the last decade, Canada Post has produced six definitive stamps featuring The Queen—in 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2010.

Queen Elizabeth II first appeared as our Queen on stamps issued on the eve of, and shortly after, her June 2, 1953 coronation.

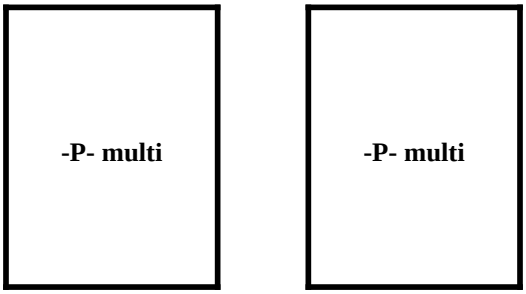
In 1964, Her Majesty appeared on a stamp issued to honour her visit to Charlottetown, P.E.I. and to Québec City on the 100th anniversary of the famous conferences that led to the passing of the British North America Act of 1867, Canada's constitution.

In 2000, Canada celebrated the 100th birthday of the Queen Mother. On January 2, 2002, Canada Post issued a stamp to commemorate The Queen's Golden Jubilee (the 50th anniversary of her coronation). Canada celebrated Her Majesty's 80th birthday in 2006.

Canada Post will issue a stamp in 2012 to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee (the 60th anniversary of her coronation).

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Royal Wedding Day
June 22, 2011, Simulated perforation



The world looked on this spring as a dashing Prince in uniform married his beautiful truelove in a romantic, fairy tale wedding. The Royal Couple left Westminster Abbey in London, England, amidst great pomp and pageantry, as Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Throngs of well-wishers cheered as they proceeded to Buckingham Palace, where they waved to the crowd and kissed on the balcony.

As the Royal Couple sets off on its first official, cross-country tour of our country, Canada Post is issuing its third and final stamp in its Royal Wedding series. A candid photograph of the newlyweds in the 1902 State Landau during the procession graces this domestic rate PERMANENT™ Royal Wedding Day stamp. Like the first two in this set, the souvenir sheet and Official First Day cover also show photographs of the famous Benedictine abbey's ecclesiastical architecture.

A special, enhanced souvenir sheet, which honours the Royal Couple's first tour of Canada in 2011, includes two of these new stamps. The sheet has a foil maple leaf and displays a close-up of Canada's Parliament Buildings. The Official First Day cover for this souvenir sheet also shows a crowd shot of the Parliament Buildings on Canada Day.

The Duchess's dress was a closely kept secret right up until she stepped out of the Rolls-Royce at the Abbey on April 29. The classic, long-sleeved lace and satin gown, as well as the veil, was created by well-known British fashion designer Sarah Burton. The dress was elegantly tailored with hand-cut English lace and French Chantilly lace. Prince William wore the full dress uniform of his honorary rank of Colonel of the Irish Guards, which was made and fitted by Kashket and Partners, with a forage cap. He also wore the blue riband, as a Knight of the Garter, affixed with his RAF wings and Golden Jubilee Medal.

The Landau is an open-topped, horse-drawn carriage, the most elegant of the several landau used by the Royal Family. It was built for Edward VII, and is used for conveying The Queen and visiting Heads of State to Buckingham Palace or Windsor House. The Landau has also been used often for Royal Weddings.

Royal Tour Canada 2011

Following a 10-day honeymoon in the Seychelles, Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge will tour Canada. The Couple will be in Canada for eight days, from June 30 until July 8. They will take part in the Canada Day Noon Show on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, and will also visit Alberta, the Northwest Territories, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.

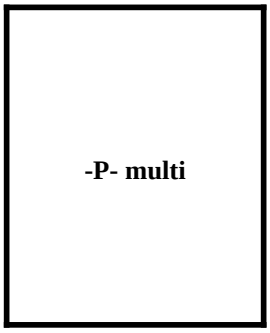
This will be The Duke's third tour to Canada. Previous visits were with his family in 1991 and 1998. It will be The Duchess's first visit to Canada, and the first tour for Their Royal Highnesses as a Royal Couple.

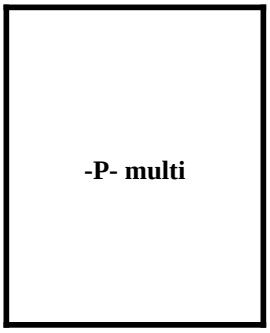
Royal Visits

The first visit to Canada by a member of the Royal family took place in 1786, when Prince William (later King Edward IV) celebrated his 16th birthday as a young naval officer on a ship off Newfoundland and Labrador. In 1860, Prince Albert of Wales visited Ottawa, the new capital of the Province of Canada, to lay the cornerstone for the Parliament Buildings. An era of regular visits began with Queen Elizabeth II, who first toured the country as a Princess prior to her coronation in 1951. Since then, The Queen and members of the Royal Family have taken many opportunities to visit and tour Canada. Traditionally, they attend official engagements, meet with politicians, greet the public, and review troops. In the last few decades, Royals also occasionally vacation in Canada to enjoy our uniquely beautiful vistas and warm hospitality.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee
January 16, 2012, 13





“The King is dead. Long live The Queen.”

Royal successions are grounded in tragedy. At just 25, Princess Elizabeth lost her father, King George VI, and became Queen (of the Empire), the Head of State of the United Kingdom and all other Commonwealth realms, including Canada, all on a single day—-February 6, 1952.

Married fewer than five years to her husband, The Duke of Edinburgh, a navy man stationed in Malta, Elizabeth’s comfortable life as a naval wife and young mother of two small children changed immediately and irreversibly on that day. From St. James’s Palace in London came the proclamation that “the high and mighty Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary” would become Queen. Abruptly ending a tour in a remote part of Kenya, the Princess flew back to Britain as Queen and was greeted by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and other officials at the airport.

Her coronation on June 2, 1953 in Westminster Abbey, was conducted by Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. It inspired huge celebrations in Ottawa and throughout Canada. On the day following her coronation, she wasted no time getting down to business and met with all the ministers of the Commonwealth, including then Canadian Prime Minister Louis St-Laurent.

On January 16, the official Diamond Jubilee Permanent™ stamp will be issued, in booklets of ten stamps, along with an official first day cover. This domestic-rate stamp features a cameo of a photograph of Her Majesty in her royal robes and tiara, waving from the window of a carriage.

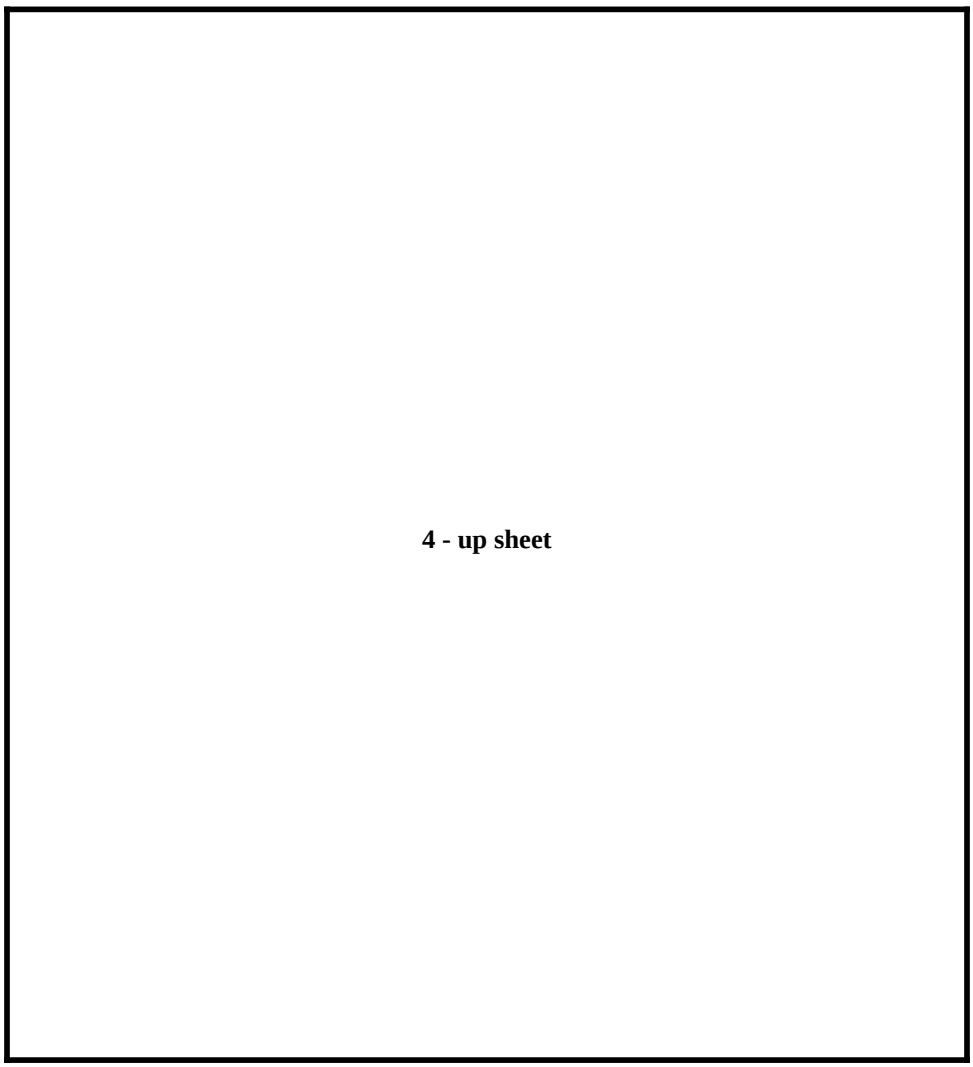
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada

Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne on February 6, 1952, following the death of her father, King George VI. Her Coronation took place on June 2, 1953, in Westminster Abbey. Canadians got to share the celebration on the same day, with a film of the event flown from Britain to Canada.

Through the 60 years of her reign, Queen Elizabeth II has made 22 visits to Canada. In 1957, she gave her first ever live address on television and opened the first session of the 23rd Parliament. Her most recent visit was in 2010, when she and The Duke of Edinburgh visited five Canadian cities in nine days. To a sodden crowd braving a rainstorm near the Halifax Citadel, she said, “My pride in this country remains undimmed. Thanks very much for your welcome. It is good to be home.”

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - The Young Queen, 1952-1962
January 16, 2012, Simulated perforation



A regal philatelic legacy for six decades.

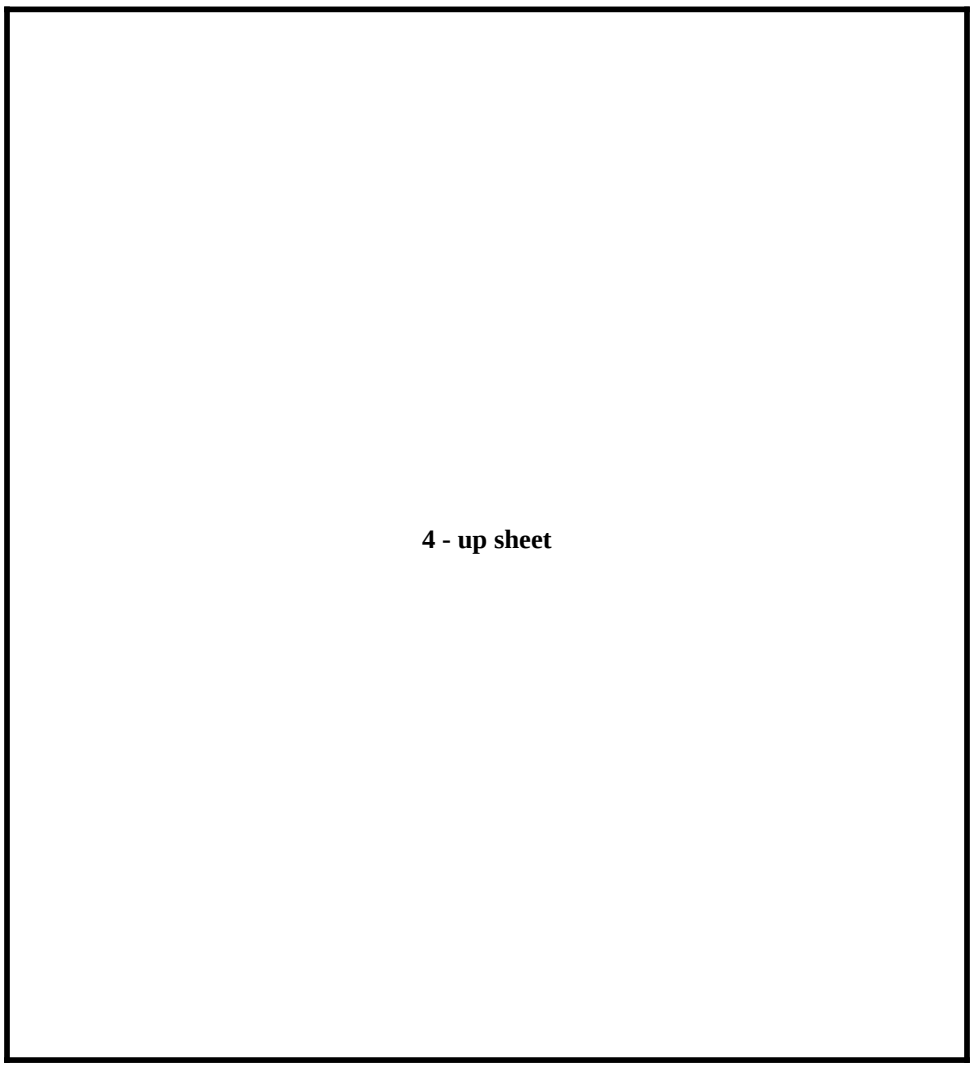
In the past 60 years, Queen Elizabeth II has made 22 state visits to Canada. Her image has been a constant in schools and other official buildings and she has graced Canada's stamp since she took the Throne.

The ubiquity of The Queen's image in the past six decades of Canadian postage was firmly on the minds of Stamp Services staff and designers as plans on how to celebrate this milestone began to form.n\nAccording to stamp design manager for the multiple Queen Elizabeth II issues, Liz Wong "There was a need to celebrate the 60 year mark and pay homage to the many years in which The Queen has appeared on our postage. No monarch since Queen Victoria has achieved the diamond milestone. Collectors still speak glowingly of the stamp issued for that event, so we were well aware that there were expectations that we do something significant and memorable. It's one of those occasions when we needed to both celebrate and make history."

In all, during the first six months of 2012, Canada Post will release a total of two stamp issues and five collectible mini-panes. Each mini-pane features a different stamp-on-stamp design using some of the most popular Queen Elizabeth II stamps.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - A Centennial to Celebrate, 1963-1972
February 6 , 2012, Simulated perforation



On the same day, the first of six Diamond Jubilee mini-panes of four stamps will be issued as part of a keepsake folder. Two other keepsake folders, one depicting the years 1963-1972 and the other, 1973-1982, will be released on February 6 and March 6 respectively.

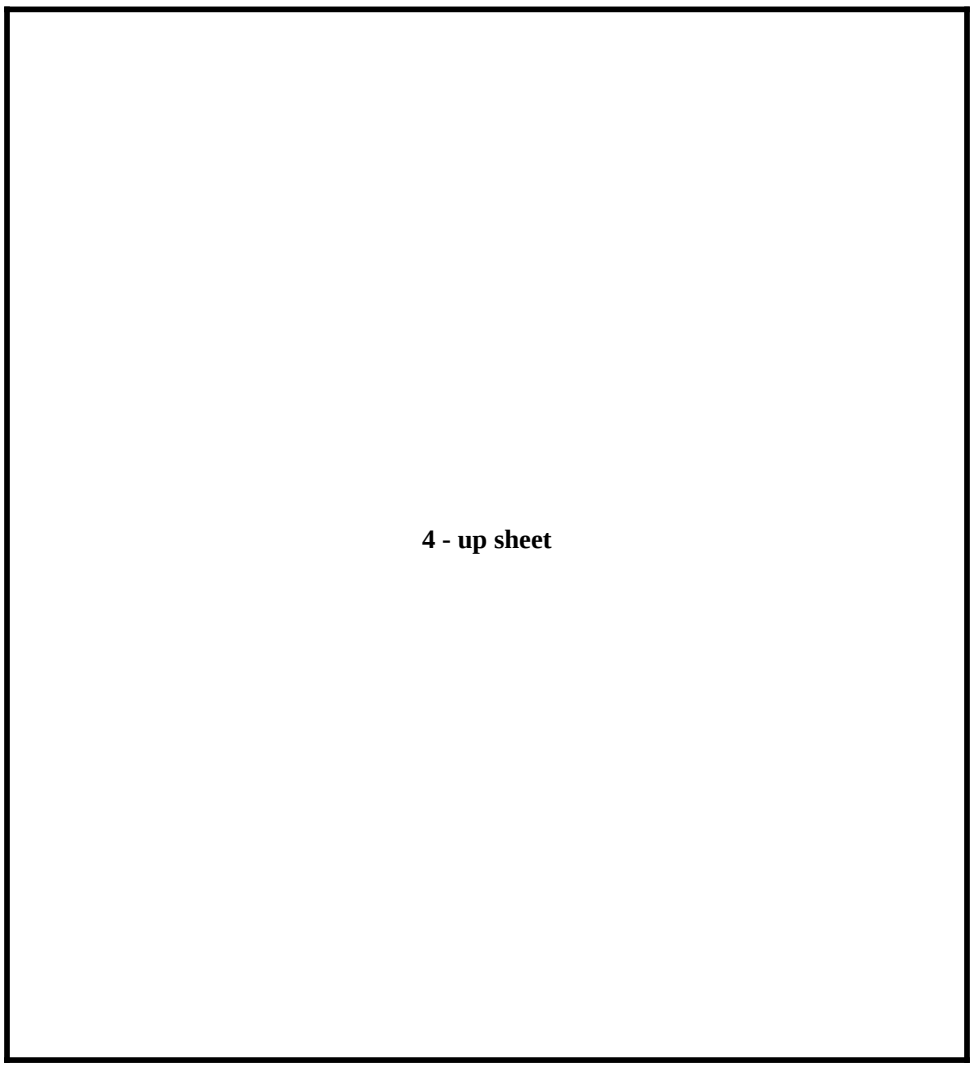
Each of keepsake folders—six in total, one for each ten-year period in The Queen's reign—houses a mini-pane of four stamps, an informative booklet pertaining to that period, plus a postcard featuring all the stamps bearing Queen Elizabeth II's image issued during each respective ten-year timeframe.

According to Liz Wong, "In order to illustrate our relationship with Queen Elizabeth II, as recorded through our postal history, we chose one representative stamp from each of the ten-year periods of The Queen's reign and used it as the basis of the design for each of these five commemoratives."

The selvedge of the mini-panes visually highlights important events during the period of time depicted by the stamp, including Royal Visits and other events in Canadian history.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - A Multitude of Milestones, 1973-1982
March 6, 2012, Simulated perforation



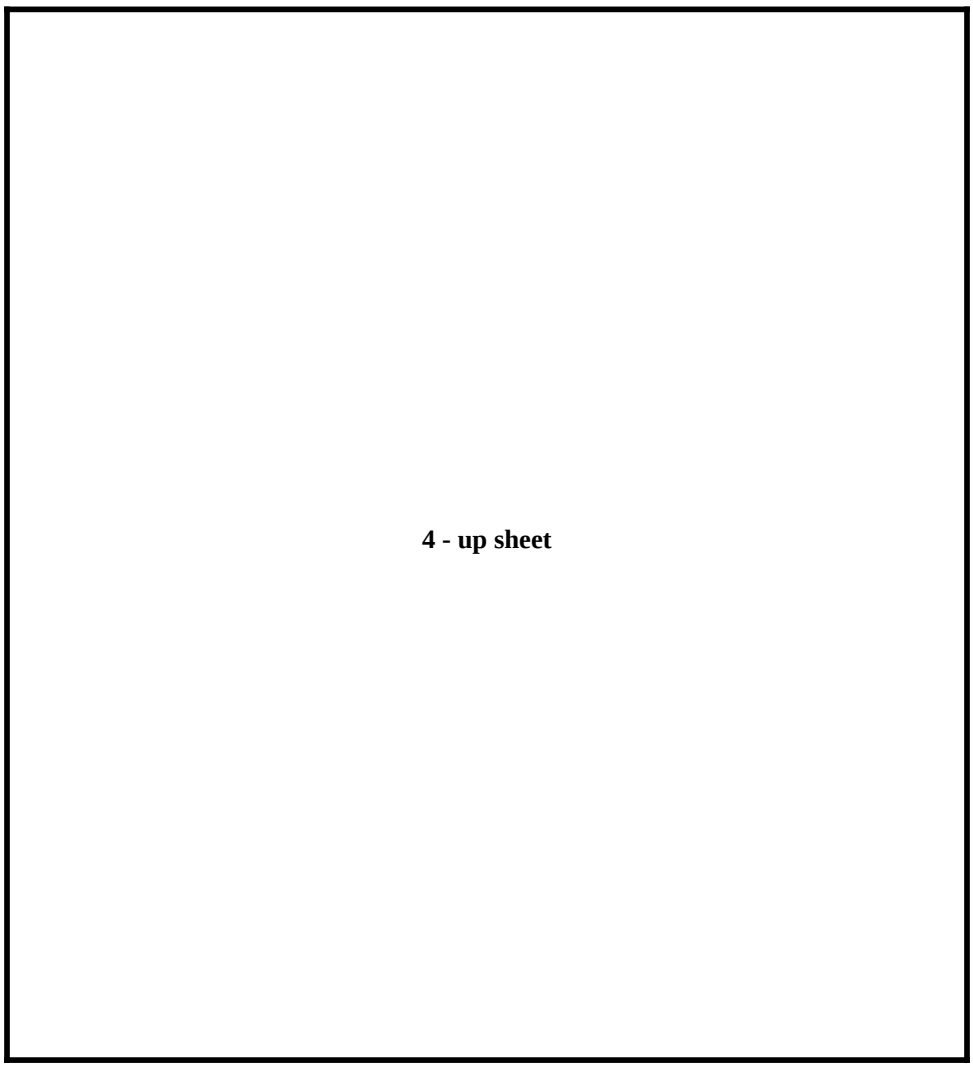
4 - up sheet

In addition to the stamps and keepsake folders, there will be a total of seven Official First Day Covers: five to showcase the stamp-on-stamp designs of the mini-pane issues, plus one for the Diamond Jubilee commemorative and one for an intaglio commemorative to be issued later in the year. The intaglio stamp, which will be featured in our next issue of Details, depicts both early and current portraits of The Queen, with a design that echoes a similar stamp created to honour Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. The Victoria stamp is much beloved and for several years, there have been requests that Canada Post issue a similar stamp for this milestone.

All Diamond Jubilee issues were designed by Gottschalk + Ash International and developed, as are all stamp materials bearing an image of The Queen, with the cooperation of both Rideau Hall, in Canada and Buckingham Palace.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

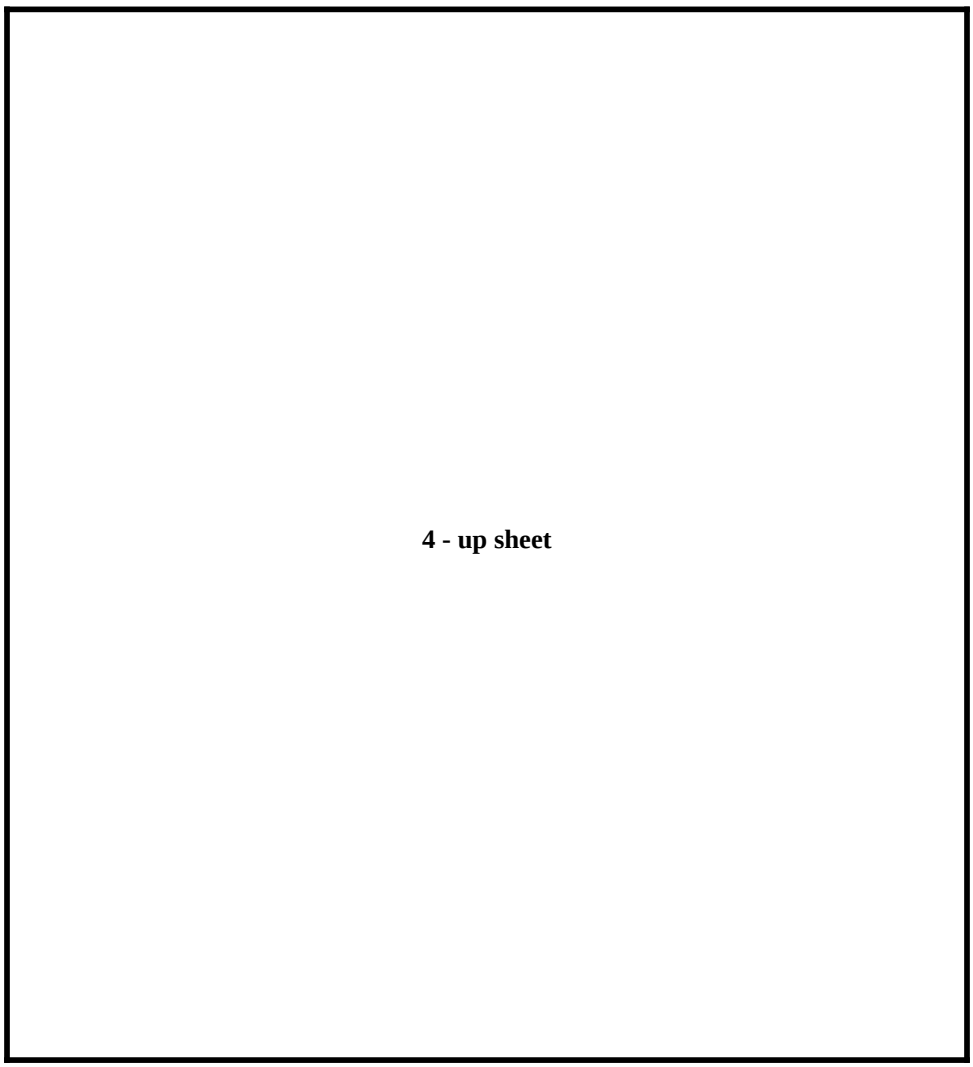
Queen Elizabeth II - Diamond Jubilee - 1990 Stamp, 1983-1992
April 10, 2012, Simulated perforation



Jim Philips, Director of Stamp Services at Canada Post adds, “Images of Royalty have been a constant in the Canadian stamp program since its beginning. There are generations of Canadians for whom Queen Elizabeth II has been the only Monarch depicted on our stamps. We hope that everyone is thrilled with both the Diamond Jubilee commemorative and the intaglio stamp, inspired by that famous Canadian stamp issued for Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee. We also hope that the keepsake folders will encourage a sense of nostalgia, looking back over past decades of postage and remind us of the way in which The Queen has been a part of our daily lives for the past 60 years.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - A Monarch for a New Millennium, 1993-2002
May 7, 2012, Simulated perforation



In the previous issue of Details (Vol XXI, No. 1), we published the first instalment of this article, focusing primarily on the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee stamps and collectibles that were issued in the first three months of 2012. In this final instalment, we'll take an in-depth look at the stamps and collectibles that will be issued from April to June in honour of The Queen's 60-year milestone.

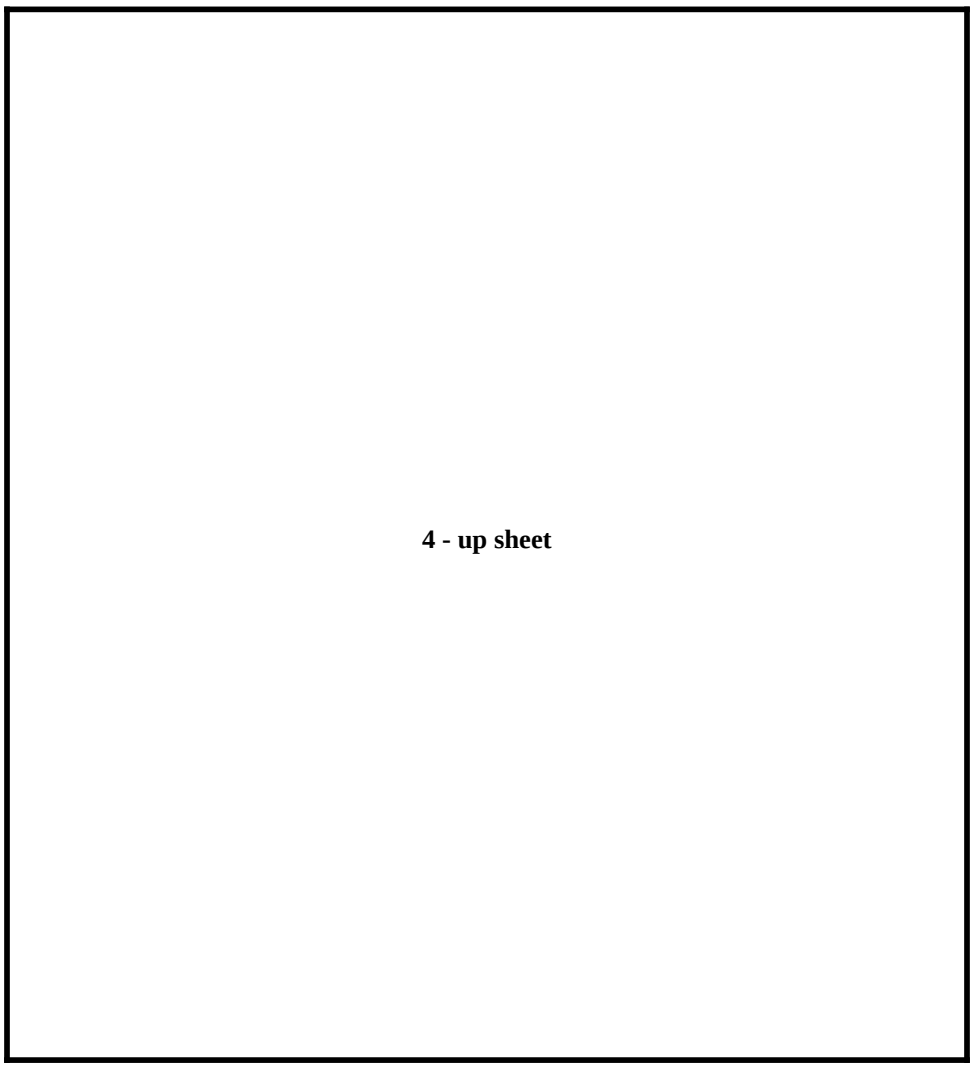
In 1897, The Post Office Department of the Government of Canada celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria—the only other Monarch of Canada to achieve the 60-year milestone—with an issue of 16 intaglio stamps. The design featured a portrait of the young Queen, as well as one created at the time of Queen Victoria's 60th anniversary. The series remains a classic for collectors.

As we continue our tribute to Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, in May, Canada Post will release a single stamp that mirrors the design of the 1897 stamp. Engraved and printed in the same purple tone as the $2 Queen Victoria commemorative, the 2012 recreation features an image of a young Queen Elizabeth II, taken early in her reign, facing a more recent photograph of Her Majesty.

The stamps are issued in a pane of eight. A souvenir sheet is available individually and included in Volume 5 of our Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folders.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - The 60th Anniversary of the Accesion of Queen Elizabeth II
May 7, 2012, Simulated perforation



According to David Craib, Owner and Creative Director of Parable Communications in Ottawa, "The design of both the souvenir sheet and the Official First Day cover was inspired by the stamp. Both feature a magnified image of the (young) Queen that highlights the craftsmanship that went into creating the intricate design of the stamp. Dramatically enlarging miniaturized elements allowed us to achieve a surprisingly dynamic and contrasting effect. Our goal was to create collectibles that would compliment and enhance this unique stamp."

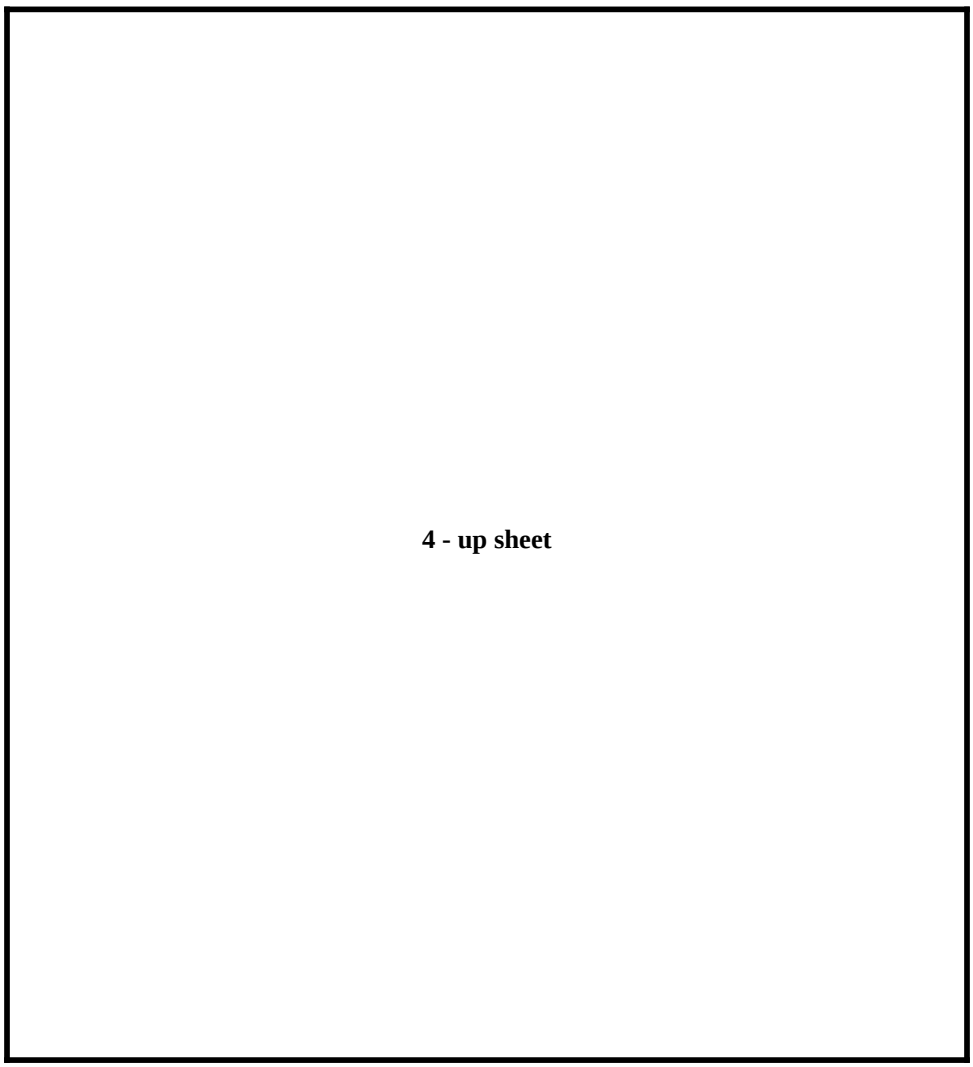
Craib concludes that, "We wanted to make use of the engraving technique wherever possible. Both the original Queen Victoria stamp and the new Queen Elizabeth II stamp are tactile, and the souvenir sheet reflects this aspect."

Despite the fact that the original Queen Victoria stamps were issued 115 years ago, they were very much in the minds of collectors, particularly as Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee loomed on the horizon.

Says Jim Phillips, Director of Stamp Services, "For years, philatelists and collectors who specialize in stamps featuring Queen Elizabeth II have told us the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee issue was the standard by which stamps celebrating this Diamond Jubilee would be measured. We listened to them and decided that since this is such a rare milestone for a reigning Monarch, since there have been only two—we would borrow inspiration from that great 1897 issue. And the result is, we think—definitely fit for a Queen. Our Queen Elizabeth II."

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - The 60th Anniversary of the Accesion of Queen Elizabeth II
June 1, 2012, 13



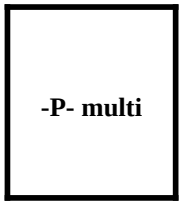
More Keepsake Folders round out celebration

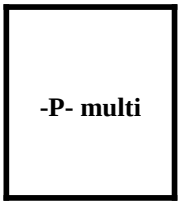
In addition to the May issue of the engraved Diamond Jubilee stamp, Canada Post will also release the final three volumes of the Diamond Jubilee Keepsake Folders, one each in April (Vol. 4, 1983-1992), May (Vol. 5, 1993-2002) and June (Vol. 6, 2003-2012). In keeping with the first three volumes, each Keepsake Folder houses a mini-pane of four stamps, an informative booklet pertaining to the period, plus a postage-paid postcard featuring all the stamps bearing Queen Elizabeth II's image issued during each 10-year time frame.

The mini panes were designed by Gottschalk+Ash International. According to designer Doreen Colonello, the designs were meant to be like a snapshot out of a history text book, a collage of images, dates and colors which flowed together. She notes that the painterly spot illustrations, which formed the collage of the timelines, were essential to creating this feeling. "Our goal was to complement the featured stamp and create a timeline of historical events through photos, dates and colours. The design process included research not only for the photography of the historical events, but also to choose the appropriate typography for each ten-year period."

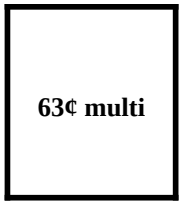
Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

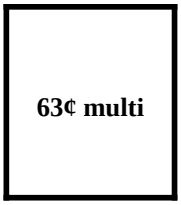
Queen Elizabeth II 2013, Simulated perforation





January 14, 2013





December 11, 2013

In 1953, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II became the first of Canada's sovereigns to be separately proclaimed as Queen of Canada. This definitive stamp issue coincides with 60 years since the Royal Style and Titles Act passed by the Canadian government established the Royal Style and Titles for Canada as "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith."

The stamp issue focuses on Her Majesty's role as Queen of Canada and incorporates a close-cropped photograph taken during the 2010 Royal Tour set against a subtle maple leaf background.

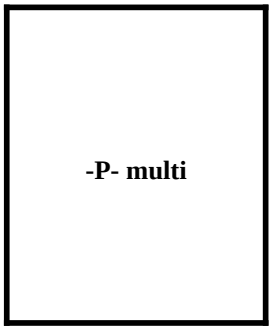
"We chose the subtle gold maple leaf pattern to bring Canada to the stamp without overwhelming Her Majesty's photograph," explains designer Doreen Colonello, adding that a great photo of the Queen is the key to designing a great stamp.

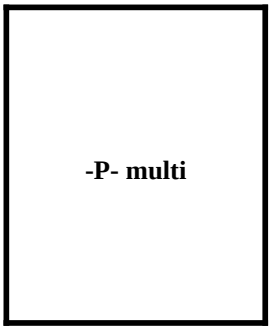
"Above all, Her Majesty's photo reflects her kindness and honest engagement with people."

The photo was taken on June 28, during the 2010 Royal Tour stop at the Halifax Common where Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II visited the Mi'kmaq Cultural Village for celebrations marking the 400th anniversary of the baptism of Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Membertou. While there, Her Majesty spoke about the enduring close relationship between the Crown and the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. Other activities that day included the Official Arrival Ceremony, which featured a 21-gun salute, a Snowbirds fly-past and cultural presentations from renowned Nova Scotian and Acadian performing artists.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II: 60th Anniversary of Her Majesty's Coronation
May 8, 2013, Simulated perforation





Princess Elizabeth became Queen on February 6, 1952, after the death of her father, King George VI, yet the Coronation didn't occur until 16 months later.

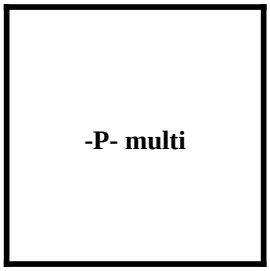
Queen Elizabeth II was crowned on June 2, 1953, at Westminster Abbey, the setting for coronations for more than 900 years. The Queen, along with The Duke of Edinburgh, rode to the Abbey in the gold State Coach pulled by eight grey geldings. Her dress, designed by Norman Hartnell, was white satin embroidered with the emblems of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. She also wore the George IV State Diadem, which appears on many earlier stamps. During the ceremony, it was replaced with the solid gold St. Edward's Crown, made in 1661.

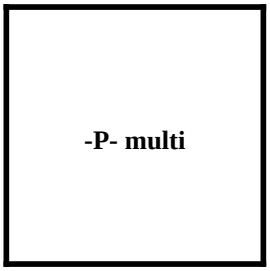
The portrait featured on this stamp was painted by noted Canadian artist Philip James Richards on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. Officially unveiled in London, U.K. on June 6, 2012, the portrait, which now hangs in Rideau Hall, contains details that represent Her Majesty's ties with Canada. The Queen is shown wearing her Canadian honours, with her hand resting near a copy of the British North America Act, 1867. The flag behind establishes a red and white colour scheme that repeats in the flowers, medals and carpet. Through the archway behind Her Majesty stands a 1838 portrait of Queen Victoria in her coronation robes, a copy of which graces the Governor General's residence.

Design: Entro, Doreen Colonello. Philip Richards, Crown Collection, Official Residences of Canada, National Capital Commission

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

The Royal Infant - October 22, 2013, Simulated perforation



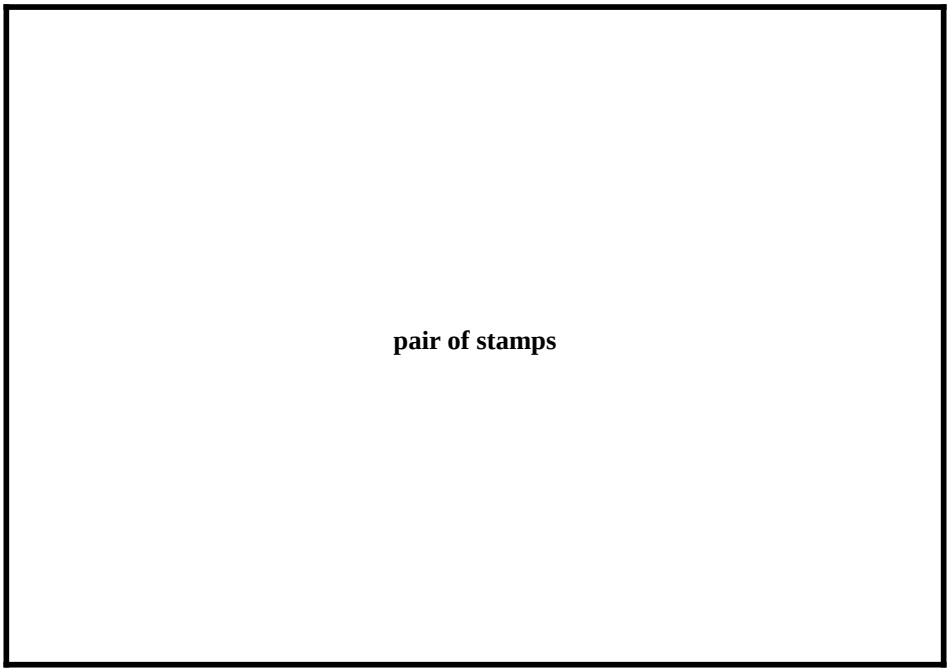


Canadians were prepared for the birth of His Royal Highness Prince George Alexander Louis of Cambridge long before his first public appearance on the steps of St. Mary's Hospital in London. The official announcement of the Duchess of Cambridge's pregnancy had set the world abuzz. Then on July 22, 2013, at roughly 4 p.m. London time, the information everyone was clamoring to know was the same as if it would have been for any birth: Healthy? Boy or girl? And what's the weight? In Britain, ringing bells at Westminster Abbey, band music and military salutes celebrated the arrival of the new heir, third in line to the throne. Canada joined in, marking the birth of the wee Prince with baby blue lights illuminating the Peace Tower in Ottawa, Horseshoe Falls in Niagara Falls and the CN Tower in Toronto.

The little Prince of Cambridge actually had his royal title before the Duke and Duchess announced that their baby boy would be christened George Alexander Louis. The name, greatly influenced by the child's royal lineage, was chosen far more quickly than it was for other members of the Royal Family: it took more than a week for the world to find out that his father would be called Prince William, and his grandfather, Prince Charles, was not officially named for close to a month.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

The Royal Infant - October 22, 2013, Simulated perforation



Souvenir Sheet

Canada Post made the decision long before the birth of the child to mark the special occasion with a commemorative stamp, and waited patiently for the official images of the baby to become available. The photograph used in the making of the stamp was taken by Prince George's proud grandfather, Michael Middleton, and shared with the world on the baby's one-month birthday.

In addition to these early views of the young family, the stamp booklets feature a silky, pale blue "baby blanket" texture. The souvenir sheet shows an image of the Peace Tower awash in blue light, as it was the night of the child's birth.

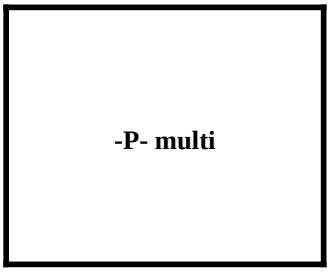
According to designer Isabelle Toussaint, "Having worked on the royal wedding stamps in 2011, I felt fortunate to be asked to design the stamp on Prince George. We started working well before the birth of the baby. I designed the stamp booklet, souvenir sheet and OFDC by creating a temporary photo montage of the royal couple with a newborn. We also planned to use a set of different colors, depending on the gender of the baby."

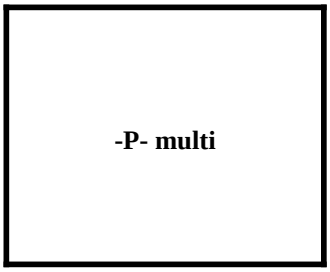
"The concept was already approved and almost finalized by the time we got the official photo. Taken in a natural setting, it needed only a few touch-ups to correct the backlighting. Otherwise, it was a perfect match for the montage," she says. "We inserted the new photo and sent everything to Buckingham Palace for final approval. The files were sent for printing a few days later."

Canada Post hopes that Canadians will use the stamp to celebrate and share in the Royal Family's joyous moment. For collectors, it will mark yet another milestone in history – the first philatelic image of the future King.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II - Longest Reigning Monarch in British History
September 9, 2015, 13.5



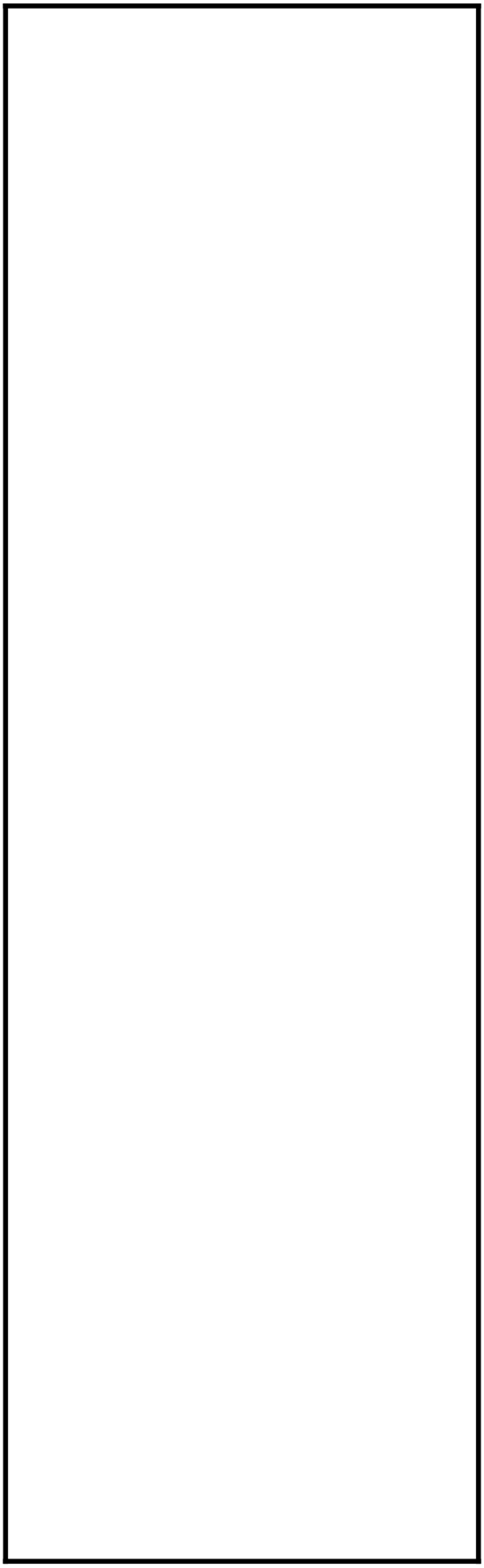


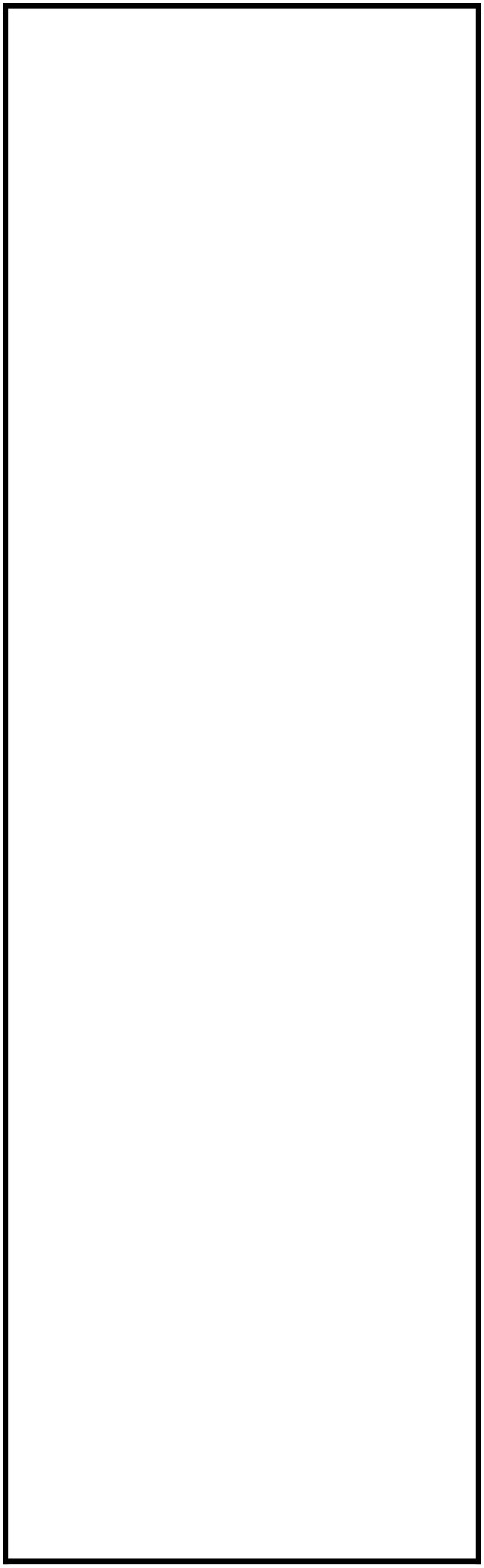
On September 9, 2015, at 12:30 p.m. eastern time, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will have reigned over the United Kingdom, Canada and all other realms of the Commonwealth for 63 years, seven months, two days and 16 and a half hours, surpassing the reign of her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria. She will become the longest reigning sovereign in modern Canadian history.

Since acceding the throne on February 6, 1952, Queen Elizabeth is, for many Canadians, the only monarch to have reigned during their lifetime. Designed by Entro's Doreen Colonello and Gerald Querubin, the stamp offers early and recent photographs of The Queen. In an image taken during the Royal Tour to Canada in 2010, Her Majesty wears a striking red dress, reminiscent of Canada's flag, and a silver maple leaf pin given to her mother, Queen Elizabeth (later the Queen Mother) by the people of Canada.

According to Querubin, "The design is a reflection of Her Majesty's past and present. The past is depicted in a timeless portrait of Her Majesty's coronation in 1953. The present photo reminds us of Her Majesty, as she makes history as the longest reigning Canadian sovereign. The red band symbolizes a ribbon, for celebration." The stamp joins the more than 60 others featuring Her Majesty that were issued by Canada Post and its predecessor, the Canadian Post Office Department

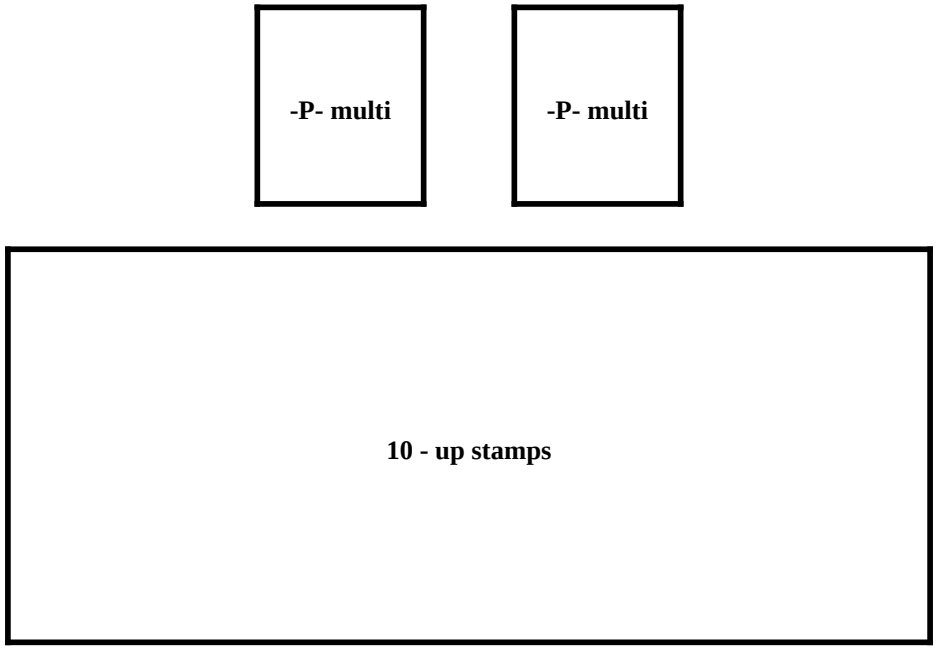
Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022





Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
January 11, 2016, 13.5



Booklet

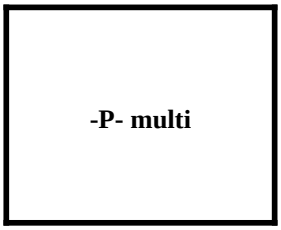
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has posed for some of the greatest photographers of the two centuries bridged by her life and reign. While images captured by such legends as Marcus Adams, Dorothy Wilding, Cecil Beaton and Yousuf Karsh have appeared on previous Canadian stamps, this year's royal issue was snapped by one of the world's pre-eminent fashion photographers, David Bailey.

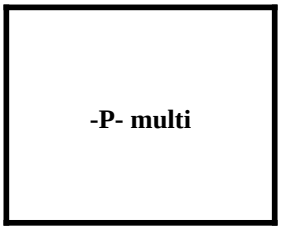
The black-and-white photograph featured on the stamp was commissioned for Her Majesty's 88th birthday.

Still working in his mid-70s, Bailey has photographed royals and other celebrities for five decades. His trademark – stark-contrast shots, creative use of lighting – and unique ability to capture the personality of his subject at the click of a button have set the standard for fashion photography in such publications as Vogue and GQ.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

2018 The 65th Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
April 20, 2018, 13





June 2 of this year marks the 65th anniversary of the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II – the longest reigning monarch in British history. Many "more mature" Canadians will recognize the Karsh photo on the cover of the stamp booklet from a series of five coronation stamps issued in the spring of 1953.

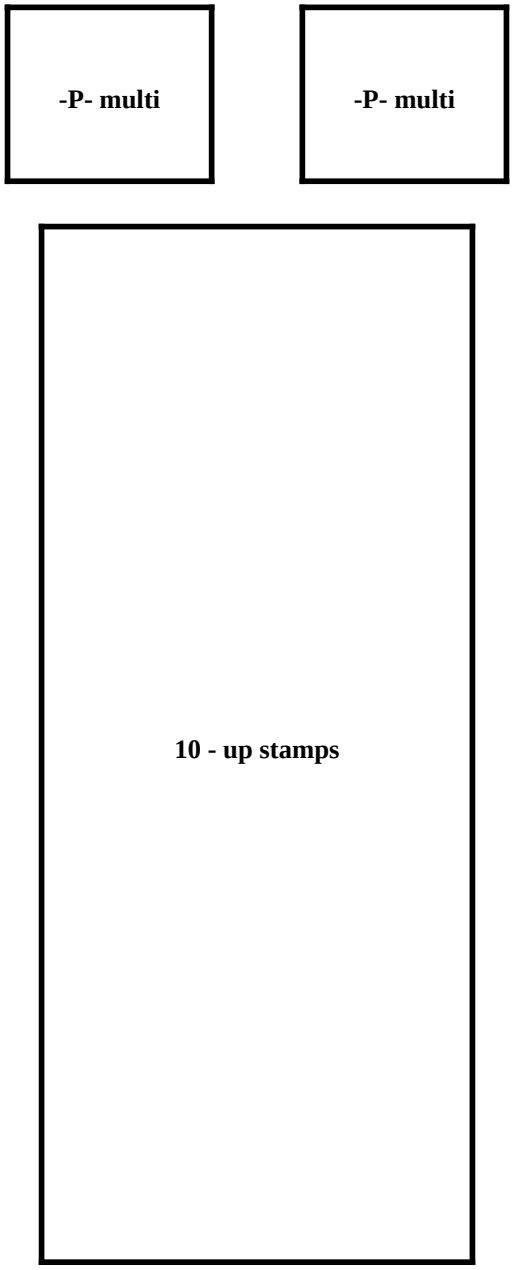
The portrait on this new stamp is from a famous sitting in July 1951, when the Queen was still known as Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth. Over a period of more than 40 years, Karsh photographed Her Majesty on five occasions, two of them before she became Queen.

One of the world's most photographed women, Queen Elizabeth has had her likeness captured by some of the world's most famous portrait photographers, including Dorothy Wilding, Lord Snowdon, Cecil Beaton and Annie Leibovitz. It is this image by Armenian-Canadian Yousuf Karsh, however, that is best known to generations of Canadians.

The double-sided uncut press sheet, the first to feature stamp booklets, showcases the front, back and inside panels of 12 self-adhesive stamp booklets celebrating the 65th anniversary of the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Queen Elizabeth II
January 14, 2019, 13



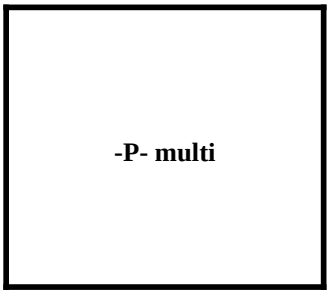
Booklet

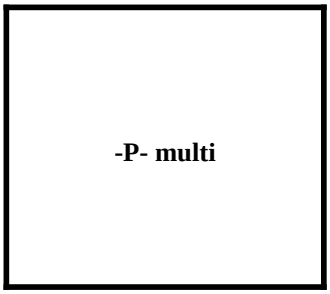
Our latest definitive honouring Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was designed by Steven Slipp, whose work has appeared on more than 20 stamps. To bring a fresh approach to the latest stamp of Her Majesty, Slipp took an in-depth look at past issues featuring royalty. "It was a real philatelic education, researching and comparing the stamps of our monarchs over more than a century and a half," he said. "It was also a time-warp for a print nerd like me to see how the techniques and technologies used to create stamps have evolved since the Queen's coronation in 1953."

Slipp focused his image research on recent photos to continue the visual narrative of Her Majesty's reign, deciding on one from 2017. An important factor, he pointed out, was that the photo had to work at the diminutive dimensions of 20 by 24 mm. "I felt we could crop tightly to her face and have the hat brim frame this engaging portrait."

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

2022 The 70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Accession to the Throne
Febrary 7, 2022, Die Cut





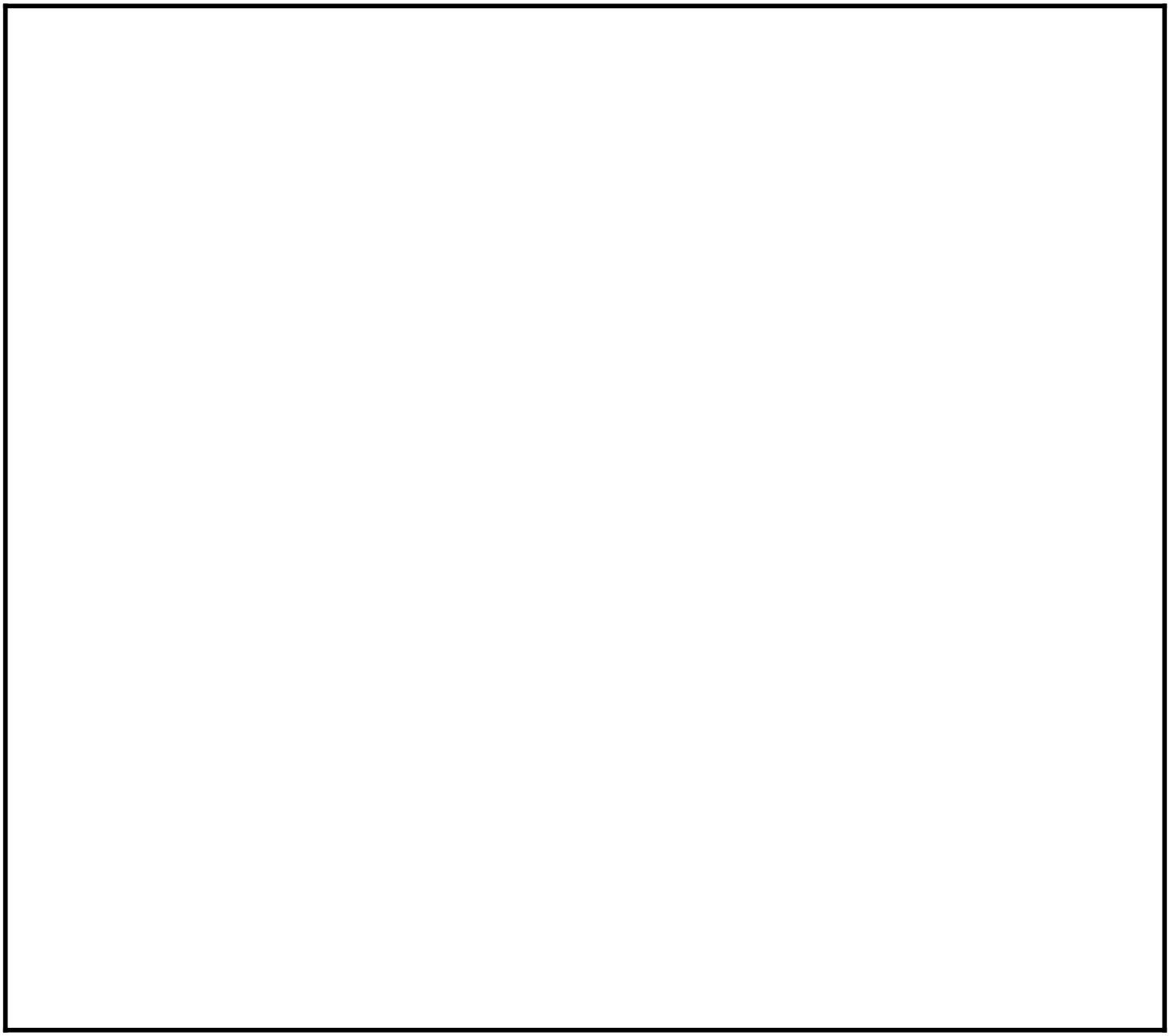
This year marks Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 70 th anniversary as sovereign – and platinum jubilee celebrations will be held in Commonwealth countries around the globe. On February 6, 1952, the then-princess was just 25 years old, and the mother of two young children with her naval husband, The Duke of Edinburgh, when she ascended the throne on the death of her father, King George VI. Queen Elizabeth II is Canada's longest reigning sovereign, a distinction she achieved in September 2015. In October 2016, she also became the world's longest-reigning living monarch.

The Queen has appeared on more than 70 Canadian stamps over the past seven decades, as well as four stamps when she was Princess Elizabeth. This year's stamp features the Royal Mail 's classic " Machin" sculpted profile of The Queen, created by Arnold Machin, o.b.e., r.a., for a definitive stamp first issued in 1967 and used on British stamps ever since. According to Robin Harris, an Elizabethan philatelist and editor of Unitrade's Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, The Canadian Philatelist and the Corgi Times (collector newsletter):

The United Kingdom's iconic Machin series of stamps is the largest definitive series ever produced, even 55 years after the first stamp was issued. New values required for postal rate increases, along with myriad colours and other printing differences, have resulted in more than 2,000 different specimens for both novice and specialist collectors. One of Machin's portraits was also used on the obverse of Canadian coins from 1965 to 1989. This is the first time Machin's profile of The Queen has appeared on a Canadian stamp.

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

2022 The 70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Accession to the Throne
Febrary 7, 2022, Die Cut



Souvenir Sheet

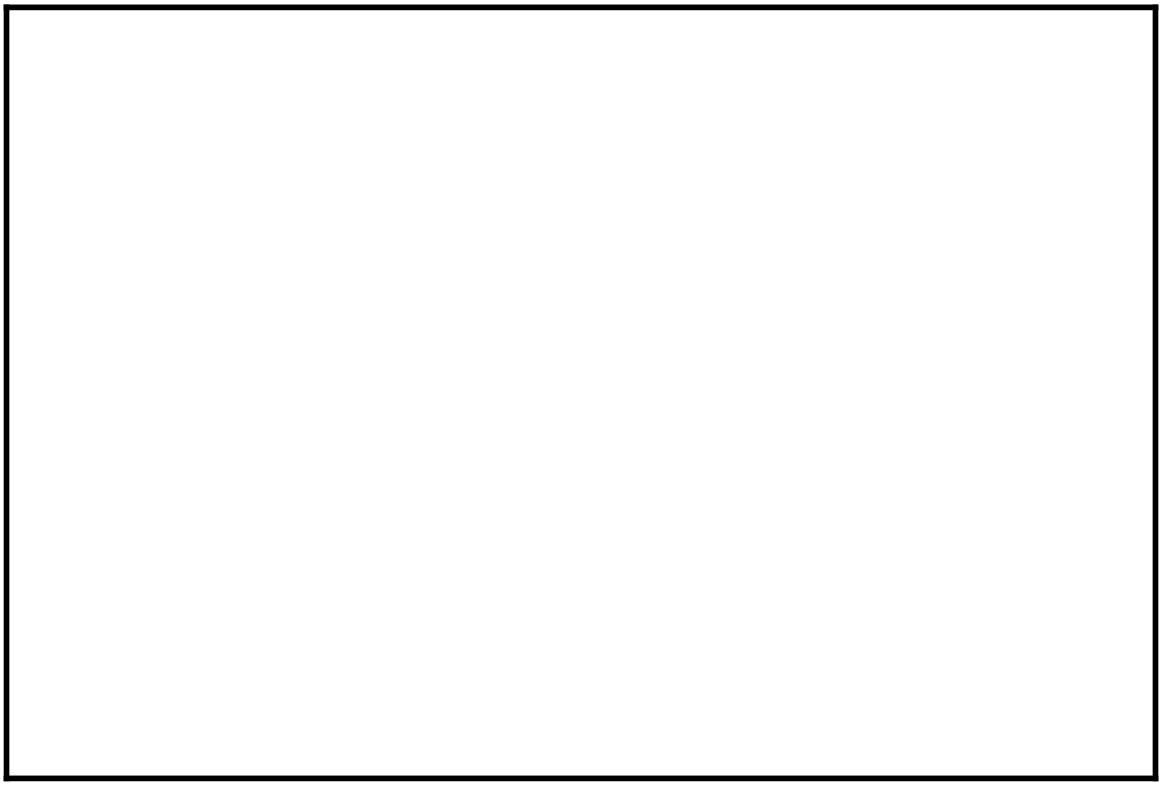
Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Booklet Cover

Booklet Cover

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

2022 The 70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Accession to the Throne
Febrary 7, 2022, Die Cut



FDC

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022