

INTRODUCTION

QUEEN VICTORIA'S FEDERAL LAW STAMPS OF CANADA

PURPOSE: A TRADITIONAL ONE-FRAME EXHIBIT EXPLORING THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA LAW STAMPS OF CANADA WITH PROOFS, SPECIMENS, PAPER AND PERFORATION VARIETIES, AND SEVERAL SUPREME COURT DOCUMENTS.

BACKGROUND: IN 1875 LEGISLATION ESTABLISHED THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA AND THE EXCHEQUER COURT. THE SUPREME COURT ACTED AS A GENERAL COURT OF LAST APPEAL WHILE THE EXCHEQUER COURT EXISTED TO JUDGE CLAIMS BY OR AGAINST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR MATTERS RELATING TO MARITIME, COPYRIGHT, PATENT AND TRADEMARK LAW AND FEDERAL TAXATION STATUTES. THE LEGISLATION AUTHORIZED SPECIAL STAMPS TO PAY THE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE FILING OF DOCUMENTS WITH THE COURTS, SUCH STAMPS TO BE ATTACHED TO THE DOCUMENTS. STAMPS WERE DISCONTINUED FOR THE EXCHEQUER COURT IN 1966 AND FOR THE SUPREME COURT IN 1970 AND THE PAYMENT OF FEES WAS MADE DIRECTLY TO THE CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND OF CANADA.

THE FIRST STAMPS WERE ISSUED IN 1876 AND SOME OF THE VALUES WERE USED IN THE SUCCEEDING REIGNS UNTIL SUPPLIES WERE DEPLETED. THE LAST RECORDED USE OF THE 20 CENT VALUE WAS IN AUGUST 1966. THE FIRST ISSUE PICTURING YOUNG QUEEN VICTORIA WAS PRINTED BY THE BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, MONTREAL, IN SHEETS OF 40, 8 X 5. THE SECOND ISSUE DEPICTING THE WIDOW QUEEN HAD THE SAME 8 X 5 FORMAT BUT PRINTED BY THE AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, OTTAWA.

FIVE DIFFERENT PAPERS AND FOUR PERFORATION TYPES WERE USED FOR THE YOUNG QUEEN STAMPS. THE WIDOW QUEEN STAMPS WERE PRINTED ON A WHITE WOVE PAPER. EARLY STAMPS WERE CANCELLED BY MANUSCRIPT WITH A SIGNATURE AND DATE OR HANDSTAMPED BUT BY 1885 THE SUPREME COURT AND BY 1890 THE EXCHEQUER COURT WERE USING PUNCH STAMPS.

WHEN MORE THAN ONE STAMP WAS REQUIRED ON A DOCUMENT THEY WERE OFTEN OVERLAPPED BUT STAGGERED TO AVOID COVERING THE DOCUMENT'S PRINTED AREAS. THIS ACCOUNTS FOR THE SCARCITY OF USED MULTIPLES. DOCUMENTS ARE ALSO SCARCE, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE EXCHEQUER COURTS EVEN THOUGH THESE COURTS ACCOUNTED FOR SOME 80% TO 90% OF THE STAMPS.

IN WORLD WAR 1 A NAVAL PRIZE COURT WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE EXCHEQUER COURTS. SMALL AMOUNTS OF STAMPS ON HAND WERE OVERPRINTED "IN PRIZE" AS NEEDED FOR USE ON PRIZE COURT DOCUMENTS.

SELECTED FEE STRUCTURE – SUPREME COURT OF CANADA	
ENTERING APPEALS, JUDGMENTS, DECREES, ORDERS	\$10.00
ENTERING EVERY OTHER APPEAL, JUDGMENT, DECREES, ORDER	\$ 2.00
TO REGISTER A SECURITY PAYMENT PRIOR TO APRIL, 1923	\$ 0.50
TO REGISTER A SECURITY PAYMENT AFTER DECEMBER, 1923	\$ 1.00
TO REGISTER A NOTICE OF APPEAL, MOTION OR SIMILAR	\$ 0.10
TO PERFORM A SEARCH PRIOR TO 1892	\$ 0.10
TO PERFORM A SEARCH AFTER 1892	\$ 0.25

EXHIBIT PLAN: THERE ARE THREE PARTS TO THIS EXHIBIT.

PAGES 1 - 11 INTRODUCTION AND YOUNG QUEEN VICTORIA STAMPS.
PAGES 12 – 15 WIDOW QUEEN STAMPS
PAGE 16 "IN PRIZE" STAMPS

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST ARE MARKED WITH A RED STAR ★.

AUGUST 2020