



# The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

January/February 2013  
Volume 42, Issue 427

## UP and COMING

**February 12** Club Meeting  
Program "What I Collect"

**February 21** Friends of Philately  
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

**March 12** Club Meeting  
Program TBA

**March 21** Friends of Philately  
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

**April 9** Club Meeting  
Program "Machins" presented by  
Bruce Wiseman

**April 18** Friends of Philately  
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

**May 4-5** ORAPEX  
RA Centre, Ottawa (see Pg 6)

**May 14** Club Meeting  
Program "What I Collect"

**May 16** Friends of Philately  
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

**Travelling?** Check out time and  
place of other shows at  
[www.rpsc.org/shows.html](http://www.rpsc.org/shows.html)

## New DLO Handstamp

by Gary Steele

**Inspection Division**

**Dead Letter Office**

JUN 12 1933

**No- 4**

**Ottawa, Canada**

*Only Reported Copy*

This particular cover has so many elements it fits into three of my collecting interests.

The boxed Dead Letter Office handstamp from Ottawa is key as it is the only reported copy of this listing. The copy in the proof books is dated April 17 1923 a full ten years before the reported item.

Of note for this handstamp is the dash in 'No- 4' instead of a period.

The story starts at Viceroy Saskatchewan on May 2 1933 as an underpaid cover with a 3 cent Medallion stamp to Tunis Africa. In Canada the circle T 20 CENTIMES postage due handstamp was applied (2 cents short-paid x double deficiency x 5 centimes per cent = 20 centimes due.

Upon arrival in Tunisia 2 x 60c Tunis postage due stamps were applied and tied to cover on May 22 1933.

The straight-line handstamp **RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR** and **Not called for / Non - reclame** in black ink were added by the Tunisia post office. The letter was sent back to Canada per large red X with arrow and circle pointing to Viceroy, Sask. It was received in Montreal on 7 June 1933. Clerk 311 forwarded it to the Canadian Dead Letter Office, received on 12 June 1933, over a period of two weeks it was opened and inspected on 30 June 1933. The Canadian Dead Letter Office forwarded the cover to the New Zealand Dead Letter Office.

Upon receipt at the New Zealand Dead Letter Office, 8 August 1933 it was sent out in a Dead Letter Return envelope with 2d to be collected from the addressee on the back flap. Note the cut-outs of the postage due and TO PAY marking from the Dead Letter Return envelope. Most were used internally.



## **Douglas J. Gray Philatelic Services**

CSDA - RSPC - BNAPS - APS

*Choice Canadian and  
British Commonwealth  
for the Serious Collector.*

Large Collections bought and sold.  
Estates appraised and liquidated.  
Complete line of supplies  
at discount prices.

Phone: (902) 461-0528  
e-mail: [DJGPS89@accesswave.ca](mailto:DJGPS89@accesswave.ca)  
PO Box 24105 Micmac Blvd.  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

## Stamp Subject Selection Policy

Over the last year this article has made it's rounds in the other club newsletters in Nova Scotia (Valley and South Shore). Some of you may have already gone through the process of suggesting a stamp design; others may want to; others, still, may be satisfied creating their own designs on Picture Postage. However, if you are interested in getting your design to a broader audience herein follows the Canada Post Policy for Stamp Selections as taken from their website. This process is not necessarily unique to Canada. The US Postal Service (USPS) has a Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee that is "tasked with evaluating the merits of all stamp proposals". Similar committees exist also in Hong Kong, Britain, Australia, to name a few...so back to Canada.... [—editor]

"Canadian stamps are recognized internationally to be among the finest in the world. The general public, special interest groups, and collectors take a keen interest in stamps because they serve as a reflection of our nation, have educational value and offer beautiful designs. Because issuing postage stamps is an integral part of its business activities, Canada Post wishes to continue to foster the development of interesting and innovative stamps that have broad appeal, while doing so in a fiscally responsible manner

The purposes of this policy are to outline how stamp subjects and designs are selected and to invite the participation of all Canadians.

This policy is relevant to anyone who may want to recommend subjects to be featured on Canadian stamps.

### The Policy

Canada Post welcomes all Canadians to participate in proposing stamp subjects.

#### **Nova Scotia Stamp Club Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada**

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) which is released on the first week of the month.

Dues are C\$15 per person (US\$20 US, US\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple payable to:

Nova Scotia Stamp Club  
102 Birch Bear Run  
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8  
[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$50 (CDN) per year.

Canadians may submit suggestions for subjects to be used on stamps. Each year, Canada Post's

### **MOODY BLUE STAMP COMPANY**

*British Commonwealth  
Canada  
Newfoundland  
Worldwide Topicals*

77 Stewart Harris Drive  
Dartmouth, N.S. B2W 3Z8  
Phone: (902) 434-8439  
e-mail: [sales@moodybluestamps.com](mailto:sales@moodybluestamps.com)  
[www.moodybluestamps.com](http://www.moodybluestamps.com)

stamp program consists of about 20 broad subjects or themes covering some 50 individual stamps. The Board of Directors approves the stamp program.

A national Stamp Advisory Committee guides Canada Post in selecting stamp subjects and designs. The Committee is made up of knowledgeable Canadians from across the country selected for their historic, design or philatelic knowledge. It reflects English-speaking and French-speaking populations, and the changing ethnic diversity of the country. The Committee evaluates all suggestions received based on their contributions to celebrating and promoting Canada - our heroes, our leading personalities, our heritage, our traditions and our achievements, as well as their potential to appeal to Canadians.

In addition, Canada Post makes every effort to maintain regional and cultural balance in selecting subjects and designs so that stamps appropriately reflect all aspects of our nation.

Canada Post commissions Canadian designers to create stamp designs for the subjects selected. Stamp designers are selected for their demonstrated skill in both graphic arts and miniaturization, and for their potential to create new and innovative (for example, holographic) stamps. Designers' imaginations are restricted only by the size of the final artwork. The Stamp Advisory Committee reviews and recommends to Canada Post approval of the design and content of individual stamps.

### **Making Suggestions for Stamp Subjects**

To allow for the time needed to review the many suggestions received, conduct the research and selection process, and design, produce and promote stamps, those who wish to propose stamp subjects should submit their suggestions a minimum of two years before the beginning of the desired year of issue. Annual stamp programs close in the summer of the year before the stamps are issued. This is an important consideration for those suggesting subjects related to anniversaries or other time-sensitive events.

Suggestions should include a brief description of the subject, its importance in the Canadian context, and any significant anniversaries or upcoming events. Canada Post treats voluntary submissions of artwork as subject suggestions only. Some time must pass before topics already covered are repeated.

### **Stamp Designer Selection Process**

Canadian stamps portray a wide range of work by many of Canada's best graphic designers, painters, illustrators, photographers and visual artists. The design of stamps requires a high degree of design expertise, artistic judgment and technical knowledge. In fact, Canada Post normally commissions more than one designer for each stamp subject to increase the potential for design innovation.

Continued on Page 3...

**Selection Policy** continued from Page 2

Canadian professional designers and artists whose work demonstrates the high standards required for stamp design may submit a professional résumé accompanied by a portfolio of their work. Portfolios should be in digital format or in the form of not more than one page of 35mm colour slides. Submitting a portfolio does not oblige Canada Post to offer a commission to the person making the submission.

**Criteria for Evaluating Suggestions for Stamp Subjects**

Suggestions are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Appeal to broad segments of the Canadian population, encouraging Canadians of all ages to buy and collect stamps.
- Relate primarily to Canada and are of national significance, for example they
  - Evoke Canadian history, traditions, accomplishments or natural heritage
  - Illustrate the social, cultural, political or economic life of Canada
  - Commemorate people (generally after their deaths) - their work, their birth or an event in their lives—to recognize outstanding contributions to Canada
- Enhance the high regard for Canadian stamps and Canada in Canadian and International philatelic circles.

All stamp subject suggestions should be directed to:

Chairperson of the Stamp Advisory Committee

Canada Post Corporation  
2701 Riverside Drive  
Suite N1070  
Ottawa ON K1A 0B1

Canada Post acknowledges all suggestions it receives. A copy of the public announcement of the subjects chosen for the annual stamp program is also sent to all those who suggested subjects related to that year's program."

**Source:**

[www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/productservices/collect/stampselection.jsf](http://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/personal/productservices/collect/stampselection.jsf)

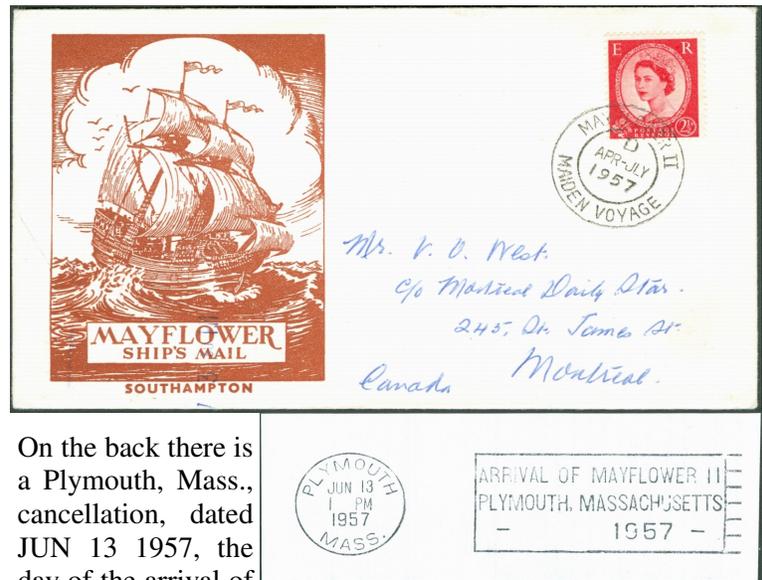
**HEIR TODAY – STAMP TOMORROW?**

It has been reported by Buckingham Palace that Prince William and Kate Middleton are expecting their first child. Considering the fact that their Royal Wedding provided Canada Post with one of its more popular (and profitable) stamp issues in history ... can a crown prince or princess stamp possibly be in the works? (*Quoted from a weekly Waite-O-Gram of Robert E. Waite, chairman of the Canadian Stamp Advisory Committee.*)

**The Mayflower II**

by Michael Peach

I recently found the cover shown of the Mayflower II with a British Wilding definitive 2½d stamp to Montréal. The cancellation has no date, except APR-JLY 1957, Maiden Voyage.



On the back there is a Plymouth, Mass., cancellation, dated JUN 13 1957, the day of the arrival of

the Mayflower II in Plymouth, Mass. She had reached Provincetown, Mass on the previous day. The cover was presumably sent on its way to Montréal. In April 1957 the overseas preferred surface rate was 2½d. The records shown that the Mayflower II sailed from Brixham, England, on 20 April 1957. There appear to be an abundance of similar covers on eBay, some have Plymouth as the city under the ship and some have no city.



The Mayflower II was built at Upham Shipyard in Brixham, England, as an almost exact replica of the original Mayflower. The original Mayflower with the Pilgrim Fathers on board,

had sailed from Plymouth, England on 16 September 1820, and arrived in Cape Cod 65 days later. The tercentenary of the landing was marked by three stamps in the USA, one showing the original Mayflower. The maiden voyage of the Mayflower II was not intended for an anniversary of the voyage of the original Mayflower, but was designed to represent the alliance and collaboration between the United Kingdom and the USA during the Second World War. It was financed by private donations and is now preserved at the Plymouth Plantation Museum in Massachusetts.



## Shearwater Spring Hobby Show

by Marcus Brauer

NSSC member Marcus Brauer has booked a kids table for stamp/stamp supplies giveaway for the Shearwater Aviation Spring Hobby Show. Dates and details are below.

Please contact Marcus if you are able to assist or donate philatelic materiel for the kids table. Materiel may be brought to any NS Stamp Club meeting for collection. Thank you in advance.

Coordinator is Marcus Brauer [i\\_win@live.ca](mailto:i_win@live.ca); 902-466-4339



The 15th annual Spring Hobby Show, which will be held at the Shearwater Aviation Museum from 10 AM - 4 PM on Saturday & Sunday the 6th & 7th of April 2013. The show is a major fundraiser for the museum, with all show proceeds being donated to the museum. General show information can be found on the museum's website

[www.shearwateraviationmuseum.ns.ca](http://www.shearwateraviationmuseum.ns.ca)

The show will be an eclectic, multi-discipline event featuring Model Aircraft, Armor, Ship, Automotive & Science Fiction subjects; at least one Model Railway layout; Dolls & Dollhouse Miniatures; Radio Control Ship & Aircraft Models; Lego displays; various Enactor groups; special interest hobbyists; a one day Model Contest; a Trade Fair; and much, much more for a total of approximately 150 sales and exhibit tables. Definitely something for everyone and an ideal opportunity to showcase your hobby.

There will be a plastic model contest held on Saturday April the 6th. It will be a peer judged contest featuring a full range of Military, Ship, Aircraft, Science Fiction and Automotive categories. Entry in the model contest is open to all subject to payment of the appropriate entry fee. The contest room will be open for general public viewing throughout Saturday. For further contest information visit the Museum website (noted above) or contact the Contest Chair, Iain Matheson, at [ikmath@accesscable.net](mailto:ikmath@accesscable.net).

Those wishing to participate in the show may do so either by booking free "display only" tables to showcase their hobby, or by renting trade fair tables at a cost of \$20.00 each to buy, sell or trade personal items. However, it should be noted that with changes and additions to the museum collection, space for tables is not unlimited. Exhibit tables are 6 ft long. All exhibitors and vendors are expected to provide table cloths or other suitable coverings to dress and drape their tables. This is a hobby show, not a flea market! Floor space and/or display and sales tables must be booked in advance. To make reservations, or if you have any questions at all, contact Doug Murray at [doug.murray@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:doug.murray@ns.sympatico.ca) 902-755-3566, or the museum at [office@shearwateraviationmuseum.ns.ca](mailto:office@shearwateraviationmuseum.ns.ca) 902-720-1083.

## The World Online Philatelic Agency

by Marty Zelenietz

<http://www.wopa-stamps.com>

I made a brief announcement at a club meeting some time back about WOPA, the World Online Philatelic Agency. Having had many successful transactions with them over the last two years, I thought I'd share a bit of information with fellow NSSC members.

Physically located in Gibraltar, and perhaps an off-shoot of the Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau, WOPA currently represents the following stamp-issuing entities: Aland, Alderney, Azores, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Greenland, Guernsey, Iceland, Isle of Man, Israel, Jersey, Luxembourg, Madeira, Malta, and Portugal. Every now and then, a new country joins the service. WOPA offers stamps of these issuing authorities at face value, with no minimum order. And often, there are no shipping fees.

As a topical collector on the constant lookout for new bird issues, I find WOPA a convenient and low-cost way to acquire the stamps I want. The website is nicely laid out: you can access individual countries, and explore their offerings by year (many countries list back issues for the past few years) or by topic. You can also go directly to the thematic section and see stamps of the topic you want from a variety of countries. The Thematic list includes: birds, Europa, fish/marine, flowers/plants/trees, insects/butterflies, landscapes, military, music, nature, Royal wedding, royalty, and sports. The shopping cart allows you to choose from a variety of formats (mint, FDCs, packs, etc.). One minor flaw with the cart is that you can't seem to request stamps CTO. As I collect my bird stamps use, I find this slightly annoying, but easily remedied: after placing an order, I immediately send an email to their customer service people with my order number, requesting that my stamps be cancelled. So far, I have had 100% compliance with my requests. The site promises that soon there will be a "CTO" option in the shopping cart- we shall see.

Requesting my material CTO has shown me that communication with the staff at WOPA is superior. They usually respond within 24 hours, and my instructions are always sent on to the issuing authority and honoured.

WOPA forwards the order and shipping instructions to the member agencies, who then fulfill the order. Although some agencies using permit imprints to ship material, others actually use stamps- my order from Guernsey came franked with two attractive definitives, including a pound value stamp. The site currently lists both Isle of Man and Luxembourg shipping free worldwide. Guernsey charged me just the actual cost of postage. I think a few orders of Gibraltar were sent free of charge. In any event, the low shipping costs make small purchases feasible.

A few times a year, WOPA issues its customers vouchers to be used on the site. I love this "customer loyalty" program: I have used my vouchers to get a significant discount on stamps

Continued on Page 5...

## bidStart is acquired by Stanley Gibbons

Last November it was announced that Stanley Gibbons was going to acquire bidStart, a US-based online collectibles trading platform, for a total consideration of \$1 million in stocks and cash, providing a base from which to leverage the Stanley Gibbons brand in the low value/high volume end of the online global collectibles market.



Successful placing and fundraising of £6 million to finance the cash portion of the consideration to acquire bidStart and to provide the finance to accelerate and enhance the development of the global online collectibles trading platform.

bidStart, a New Jersey-based business, was created by its 29 year old CEO Mark Rosenberg when he was a college student. A collector himself, Rosenberg launched StampWants in 2005 and rebranded it bidStart in the summer of 2009 along with a website relaunch. He said at the time, "My goal is to provide the best platform and marketplace to not only philatelists, but collectors of all types of items; including coins, comics, postcards, sports memorabilia, antiques, toys, and more." Rosenberg becomes president and CEO of Stanley Gibbons (US), the newly formed American subsidiary.

The auction website touted as an "online marketplace and community connecting buyers and sellers of collectibles" including stamps, postcards, sports cards, coins and comics, offering both auction and store items. bidStart stands out in the industry by offering unrivalled customer service with a personal touch and low selling fees (their words). About half of the 6.4 million lots for sale are "stamp" items.

## WOPA continued from Page 4

from the Faroes and Jersey, and just recently to order a Danish FDC at no cost to myself.

I've had perhaps 10 transactions with WOPA over the last two years, and each one has proved satisfying. I get the stamps I want, the way I want them, at face value. I don't have to order "minimum quantities" or stuff that I don't want. I get the occasional discount or freebie. What's not to like? WOPA may not be for everyone, but if you collect any of the countries or topics listed, it is worth taking a look at their website.



## Membership Survey

By Marty Zelenietz

A few members have expressed the desire to have their newsletters mailed to them using current commemorative stamps. The Executive has asked me to explain the issues and survey the general membership for their opinions. So here goes.

1. Upside of using current commemoratives. Postally used current commemoratives are hard to find. It would be nice for the club to use them: members would have nice singles to add to their collections, or (for us postal history collectors) covers showing a single usage in the correct time period. It is also quicker to affix one self-adhesive commemorative to an envelope than it is a selection of water-activated stamps.
2. Downside of using current commemoratives. We currently use a variety of older commemoratives and definitives, purchased at a substantial (25%) discount from face. Using current commemoratives would increase the cost per mailed issue of the newsletter (the additional 25%, plus another 15% for taxes). Some members like to receive a selection of older stamps on cover.
3. Anticipated outcome. If we convert to using current commemoratives, this would add a new per member cost of about \$2.50 year, probably recoverable through a dues increase.

Right now, about 70% of the club members receive their newsletters through the mail- that's a little over 70 members. The cost would be spread through the entire membership. So the entire membership gets a voice.

## Balloting

Voting is really simple.

1. All ballots will be cast by mail (appropriately enough, in a stamp club).
2. All ballots will be sent to me: Marty Zelenietz  
33 Beech Street  
Dartmouth, NS B3A 1Y6
3. All ballots will consist of nothing more than an envelope franked with postage, with your return address on the back.
  - a. If you don't care one way or the other, use a single "P" DEFINITIVE stamp.
  - b. If you want to change to current commemoratives, use a single CURRENT COMMEMORATIVE stamp.
  - c. If you want to keep the current system, use a COMBINATION OF OLDER STAMPS.

The ballots will speak for themselves.

If this notice makes it into the February Nova Scotia Post, the last day for ballots to be postmarked will be 28 February 2013. If this doesn't make it into the February issue, but does appear in March, then the last day for ballots to be postmarked is 31 March, 2013. Results will be announced in the following Nova Scotia Post.

**Everybody vote-** it will only cost you 63 cents in postage!

## Classifieds

**Amanda Lewis** has begun a business selling stamps and supplies - more details will follow in future editions. You can contact Amanda at [ARL1964@yahoo.ca](mailto:ARL1964@yahoo.ca).

**STAMP SWAP:** Available - Better worldwide and Canada for trade by want list:

[penny.auction.stamps@gmail.com](mailto:penny.auction.stamps@gmail.com)

### **Douglas J. Gray Supplies Sale**

While supplies last! (tax included)

Vario Sheets: 4 packs for \$20.00

Hinges: 2 packs for 5.00

All mounts: 20% off cat.

Call me with your order at 461-0528 and I will bring them to the next meeting.

## For Sale - Frames

I have 6 of the old club 8 page wooden frames in good condition for sale.

Price \$10 the lot, or \$2 each.

Please contact:

Michael Peach, 832-1662.

## Halifax Harbour Performance

Stamp Club members might be interested to know that Halifax Harbour, composed by Elizabeth Raum, in memory of Dr. J. J. MacDonald will have its second (and third) performance in Ottawa on April 26 and 27, 2013. The symphony was premiered by Symphony Nova Scotia in January 2008 and subsequently reviewed in the February newsletter by Rod MacLennan.

Further information on the Ottawa performance can be obtained from the web site of the Divertimento Orchestra which is performing the work, [www.divertimento.ca](http://www.divertimento.ca). Club members might enjoy the concert, if travelling, or be able to recommend it to friends and acquaintances in that city to attend.

## Orapex 2013

Dear Philatelist:

I am writing to you to provide information on ORAPEX 2013. ORAPEX is one of the four national level philatelic exhibitions recognized by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. In 2013, we will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Formalized Postal Service in Canada (1763-2013).

Three documents: a description of ORAPEX, rules for exhibitors at ORAPEX and an entry form for exhibitors are available through your club contacts. I extend an invitation to you to consider exhibiting in our show.

*Please note we have established some new rules for 2013.*

Of course, all your members will receive a warm welcome at the event whether or not they are presenting an exhibit. ORAPEX will take place at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5, 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Watson

ORAPEX Exhibits Coordinator  
Ottawa. (Oct 30 2012)

## SPM EXPO 2014

St. Pierre & Miquelon will be hosting an FIAF recognized International Exhibition on September 24 -28, 2014.

Charles Verge will be the Canadian Commissioner. There is a limit of 30 frames per country with a maximum of 5 frames per exhibitor.

Their website will be provided when available.

### Newsletter Articles Urgently Needed

Send me your articles and cover stories now. Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. Thanks for all those who have contributed in the past we look forward to hearing from you again. **The deadline for the March issue is February 28, 2013.**

## Membership Report

Well, the deadline has come and gone and we are still a few people shy on payments. There are still a three in the works that are not reported here, but two of the three live in other countries and we have communicated. However the following people have not responded or have had emails or mail returned, thus we have no choice but to terminate membership for non payment. If you are one of these people and it is in error please contact me at [webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca).

### Struck for Nonpayment

1033 Fred Fawn

1044 Cary Hatcher

1054 Will Murray

### From the Editor

You will note that this is a two month issue - January / February. The lack of material to put in "The Nova Scotia Post" at the end of the December warranted a postponement of the January edition and then some health issues of mine pushed it off for a couple of more weeks—quickly negating a January only issue, for which I apologize. A plea by the executive offered up several authors for which I am grateful. However, the material gathered is only sufficient for one more newsletter. So please dig deep and contribute. There are about 110 collectors in this club—some more of you must have something to say.

Please contribute your short articles, cover stories, images of stamps of interest, and newsworthy items of local, national or international interest.

## NICKERSON STAMPS

*Worldwide Stamps*

*Bought and Sold.*

*Service is our Specialty.  
Albums, Supplements and  
Supplies also Available.*

941 Old French Road  
Kingston Nova Scotia B0P 1R0  
Phone: (902) 760-0557  
e-mail: [aikido@eastlink.ca](mailto:aikido@eastlink.ca)  
[www.nickerson-stamps.com](http://www.nickerson-stamps.com)