



# North York Coin Club

Founded 1960

MONTHLY MEETINGS 4TH Tuesday 7:30 P.M. AT  
Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. W., North York M2N 2H8

MAIL ADDRESS: NORTH YORK COIN CLUB,  
5261 Naskapi Court, Mississauga, ON L5R 2P4

Web site: [www.northyorkcoinclub.com](http://www.northyorkcoinclub.com)

## Contact the Club :

E-mail: [info@northyorkcoinclub.com](mailto:info@northyorkcoinclub.com)  
Phone: 416-897-6684

## Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association  
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

## Executive Committee

President .....	Bill O'Brien	Director .....	David Quinlan	Auction Manager .....	Mark Argentino
1st Vice President .....	Bill O'Brien	Director .....	Roger Fox	Editor .....	Paul Petch
2nd Vice President .....		Director .....	Vince Chiappino	Receptionist .....	Franco Farronato
Secretary .....	Henry Nienhuis	Junior Director .....		Draw Prizes .....	Bill O'Brien
Treasurer .....	Ben Boelens	Auctioneer .....	David Quinlan	Social Convenor .....	Bill O'Brien
Past President .....	Nick Cowan			Librarian .....	Robert Wilson

## THE BULLETIN FOR NOVEMBER 2011

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Hello to all the members and friends of the North York Coin Club:*

I have all the news you need to plan your numismatic activities for the upcoming month and through the holiday season.

Item one on the list of events that you *must* attend is your Club's meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Scott Douglas, a well-known numismatist from the Acton area, will be a special guest speaker. He will be telling us about "Merchant Tokens and Due Bills." Hearing Scott's presentation on this type of token is a must, so please plan on attending for this informative evening.

The second *must* for the season is the first dual-sponsored coin club holiday dinner. The event will be held at the Swiss Pick Restaurant within the Comfort Hotel Airport North at 445 Rexdale Blvd. on Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>. (See the flyer sent with this bulletin for a map.) **This dinner will take the place of the North York Coin Club meeting for December.** It is being held in conjunction with the Mississauga-Etobicoke Coin Stamp and Collectibles Club and thus far we have over thirty people planning on attending. However, it is not too late if you wish to participate. Since our Treasurer is going to be vacationing by the next meeting, just see Paul Petch with your money or give me a call or e-mail the club with the indication that you would like to

*This is the last issue of The Bulletin for 2011. Remember our Christmas Dinner is on Tuesday December 6, the new Club Executive meets at Edithvale on January 10 at 7:30 p.m. and the next regular Edithvale meeting is January 24!*

attend and we will hold a spot open for you. The cost is \$35.00 per person and includes the dinner and dessert. (Taxes and gratuity are also included) We are also having an optional gift exchange the evening of the dinner so if you wish to participate please bring a gift worth approximately \$10.00 and indicate if it is for a male or female. The evening is a great opportunity for the club members to get together in a less formal environment but also enables us to get the spouses involved in our meeting. A cash bar will be available at 6:30 with the dinner to follow at 7:00. We hope we will see everyone there.

December is usually a time of giving, but just in case your name is at the top of your shopping list, what better place to part with some of your hard earned cash than at one of the local coin shows. We have three shows in December with the show in Brampton on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Woodstock on the 11<sup>th</sup> and finally the show in Ancaster on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Please get out and visit some of these smaller shows or make it a day trip with your spouse and perhaps get them involved in your hobby.

Finally, the nomination committee for the club was pleased to bring forward two members who are willing to stand for new positions within the club executive for the upcoming year. Since all positions are unopposed, the slate of officers for 2012-2013 is now set by acclamation. A warm welcome and a big thank you to those who volunteered to help the executive run your club.

... and, in case I do not get to see you at our November or December events, best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Bill O'Brien*

### NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

We start gathering at 7:00 p.m. with meeting start scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



### Merchant Tokens and Due Bills

For the November meeting we are pleased to welcome Scott Douglas who will speak on Merchant Tokens and Due Bills. In rural areas of Canada the local merchant would find a very appropriate need for the use of tokens. Tokens were not only used as a means of credit but as a way of alleviating the shortage of small change. From helping to balance credit accounts to advertising merchants' wares to preventing fraud the token did a remarkable job. Scott is an expert in this field and will be providing a most worthwhile presentation.

**We appreciate all donations to our supply of draw prize material. Please remember to bring your auction lots if you would like an auction at this meeting.**

**It's Time To Pay Your Dues for 2012**

## MEETING NEWS OF THE OCTOBER 2011 MEETING

The 570<sup>th</sup> meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in the Gibson room at the Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. West.

The meeting was hammered to order at 7:35 p.m. with our President, Bill O'Brien, in the chair. There were 25 members and 2 guests in attendance.

The on-time attendance draw was the usual first order of business. Member Jayden Chen's name was drawn but unfortunately he was not there to collect his winnings of \$2.00. The prize will increase to \$4.00 for the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Bill asked the members present if they had noticed any errors or omissions in the minutes of our September meeting as published in the October newsletter. There being no changes noted we received a motion by Terry O'Brien to accept the minutes as published and it was seconded by Dr. Marvin Kay. Motion carried.

The next order of business was to hear the Treasurer's Report delivered by our treasurer Ben Boelens.

Ben, looking forward to the release of the new Canadian \$100.00 polymer notes, took a moment during his report to distribute an American \$100.00 note to every member present. No, this was not some form of dividend from the club; it came directly from Ben—thank you Ben!

Bill O'Brien recognized and welcomed our guests this evening; Dave O'Brien and Harry Shuter. Harry isn't currently actively collecting but is thinking of re-joining the hobby now that he has more spare time. Dave O. was attending again with his friend Norman G. Gordon.

Bill then introduced the topic of our Christmas dinner banquet. Nick Cowan and Ben Boelens mentioned that they had contacted the Swiss Pick restaurant, the same venue that played host to our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet, as officials for the Mississauga-Etobicoke club. They extended an invitation for NYCC to have a joint dinner with the MECSCC. Paul Petch also had a discussion with the owner of the Swiss Pick whom he has known for some time. It was suggested that we could do an "all you can eat" buffet, with desert and coffee for \$35.00 per person (taxes and gratuity included, drinks are not included.) After some discussion about various possible venues John

Regitko motioned the chair to Swiss Pick as our venue; with further discussion the motion was seconded by Len Kuenzig and carried on the floor.

Paul Petch asked for the floor to report on the health of Roger Fox, who is doing well, and to mention that his recent conversation revealed that Roger, who joined NYCC as a junior member, would be celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a member of the club at our November meeting. A very special milestone indeed! Paul went on to reminisce that he would also celebrate a very similar anniversary in February of next year. Wow—50 years—as members of our club; it is almost unimaginable for your secretary to relate to so formidable a milestone, congratulations to the both of you!

The next order of business was an update from Paul Petch on the status of the proposed collectible show to be held jointly with the Mississauga-Etobicoke club. Paul mentioned that he has still not received feed-



*Terry O'Brien capably serves as the Nominations Chairman at the October meeting*

Bill asked Terry O'Brien who agreed to act as this year's nomination committee chairperson for a report from the committee. Terry mentioned that she had only received a few nominations prior to the meeting; in particular Len Kuenzig has agreed to stand for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Terry then asked for further nominations from the floor. Bill O'Brien stated that he would continue to serve as President for a second term, as did Ben Boelens as Treasurer and Henry Nienhuis as Secretary. Franco Farranato nominated Nick Cowan as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Nick being present thanked Franco but declined to run. David Quinlan agreed to stand as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Henry Nienhuis nominated both Phillip Simms and Andrew Silver as Directors. Philip declined, indicating that he did not have enough free time to take on the task. Andrew Silver was not present at the time of the nomination but later agreed to run. The roster of candidates will be confirmed at the November meeting prior to a December election (if required.)

back from Betty Fallis-Trow on availability of the facility for dates- March 3, 31, April 21, 28 and May 12, 2012. Member John Regitko mentioned that he had plans to hold a numismatic seminar on the March 31<sup>st</sup> date and asked that we remove that weekend from our list of potential dates.

Our special event this month was a member participation Show-and-Tell mixed with an "Identification Night." Dick Dunn suggested the later concept at the last meeting and the executive thought that it would make for a very interesting meeting. A number of members brought in items including- Dick Dunn, Len Kuenzig, Franco Farronato, Paul Petch John Regitko and Arie Yark to name a few. The members previously identified some of the items; Paul Petch spent some time discussing his experiences researching a Polish art medal of a pianist he had brought. Other items were a mystery to the owner. Overall the show and tell was quite successful with a number of

members suggesting an origin and helping to identify the mystery pieces. The executive would like to send a heart-felt thank-you to those members who participated.

At 8:33 pm, Bill called for the refreshment break. Bill, now fully back in action as our volunteer refreshment committee chair prepared the refreshments- consisting of cookies, juice and coffee -for the evening.

Resuming at 8:57 pm, the last portion of the meeting was devoted to lucky draws and auction. Lucky draw winners were- Norman G. Gordon (2), Paul Petch (2), Walter Rodriguez (2), Marvin Kay, David Bawcutt, Franco Farronato, Terry O'Brien, Len Kuenzig, Henry Nienhuis, and Richard Duquette. The club earned a generous \$33.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! The lucky draws were intermixed throughout the evening's auction, called by David Quinlan our new official auctioneer, and volunteer runner Len Kuenzig. Paul

Johnson, substituting as our auction manager, reported that receipts from the auction added \$12.50 to the club coffers. Once

again we would like to recognize David Quinlan as our new auctioneer; he is doing a very fine job!

The club executive would like to send out a special thank you to club members for supporting the club through the purchase of draw tickets and for draw prize donations. We would especially like to thank Italo Villella, Norman G. Gordon and Andrew Silver for their continued support of the club through donations this month. Keep up the good work gentlemen and to the other members- don't be shy, help the club by donating that no longer needed numismatic material etc. (Please mention your donations to the club secretary so that your support can be recognized in the minutes and newsletter.)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

As a reminder, our next club meeting is November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 in the Gibson room, on the second floor at the top of the stairs in the new Edithvale Community Centre building.

[Just a final word on the \$100.00 notes Ben distributed, he happened to find a quantity of novelty notes which he couldn't resist :- ) distributing to the members . . . very Regitko-esque of you Ben.]



Norman G. Gordon once again mounted a display from his amazing and diverse collection: for October it was some of his Masonic material



Auction team members Auctioneer David Quinlan (standing left and above), Auction Manager Paul Johnson (seated left) and Runner Len Kuenzig (standing above) kept up a quick pace for the October meeting auction.

## COMING EVENTS FOR FALL 2011 & HIGHLIGHTS OF 2012

**DEC. 4, Brampton,** Brampton Coin Show, Century Gardens Recreation Centre, 340 Vodden Rd. E. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission \$3, under 14 free. Free parking. Buy, sell, trade and appraise at more than 40 tables of dealers, featuring coins, medals, tokens, paper money, trade dollars, militaria. Children's table. Funds raised for Children's Charities. Sponsor/Affiliate: B&W Coins & Tokens and the Brampton Rotary Club. For more information contact B&W Coins & Tokens, Willard Burton telephone 905-450-2869, email [b\\_and\\_w@sympatico.ca](mailto:b_and_w@sympatico.ca).

**DEC. 11, Woodstock,** Woodstock Collectibles Show, Auditorium & Mutual/Market Buildings, Woodstock Fairgrounds, 875 Nellis Street. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Admission \$3.00 per person; Children under age 12 will be admitted for free when accompanied by an adult. Featuring over 200 vendor tables with vendors selling new and old collectible Toys, Coins, Paper Money, Records, Music Collectibles, Sports and Non Sports Cards, and much more. For more information, contact Ian Ward, 519-426-8875 (please call from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.) or email: [toyshow@kwic.com](mailto:toyshow@kwic.com). Website: <http://www.woodstocktoyshow.blogspot.com>

**APRIL 13 - 15, Kitchener,** 2012 ONA Golden Jubilee 50th Annual Coin Convention, Holiday Inn Conference Centre 30 Fairway Road S. Admission \$3. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Auction 6 p.m. Fri., Military Auction Sat., 52 table bourse. Educational seminars, banquet (with keynote speaker), exhibits, good as gold draws (including one troy ounce of Gold), and awards. There will be several numismatic groups and associations holding meetings, which provides an opportunity to learn more about the benefits and fellowship of membership. Robb McPherson General Chairman, e-mail: [robb4640@sympatico.ca](mailto:robb4640@sympatico.ca). Website: <http://ontario-numismatic.org>.

**DEC. 18, Ancaster,** Ancaster Collectibles Extravaganza, Marritt Hall, on the new Ancaster Fairgrounds, at 630 Trinity Road. Hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$4 per person; Children under age 12 will be admitted for free when accompanied by an adult. More than 140 vendor tables. Old and new collectible toys, dolls, coins, paper money, sports and non-sport cards, model trains, records, movie and T.V. memorabilia, pop culture collectibles and more. For more information, contact Ian Ward (Please call Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.). Email: [toyshow@kwic.com](mailto:toyshow@kwic.com). Website: <http://www.ancastertoyshow.blogspot.com>.

**JAN. 28 - 29, Hamilton,** CAND Annual Show, Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, 116 King St., West. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Show pass \$30 (good

for Friday dealer set-up, Saturday and Sunday). Daily admission \$3. Auctions to be conducted by Jeffrey Hoare Auctions Inc. Numismatic auction Saturday, Military auction Sunday. For more information contact Show Chairman, Tom Kennedy, telephone 519-271-8825, or email [cand@cogeco.ca](mailto:cand@cogeco.ca).

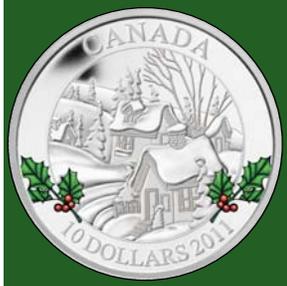
**FEB. 18 - 19, Toronto,** Torex - Canada's National Coin Show, Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel, 5875 Airport Rd. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$6. Under 16 free! Official Auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company. The Hilton Toronto Airport hotel is located directly across from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. For more information please call 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>.

*Listings are courtesy of Canadian Coin News Coming Events*

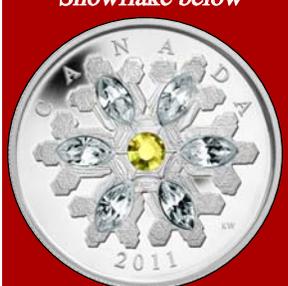
### A PEAK AT SOME RCM CHRISTMAS PRODUCTS



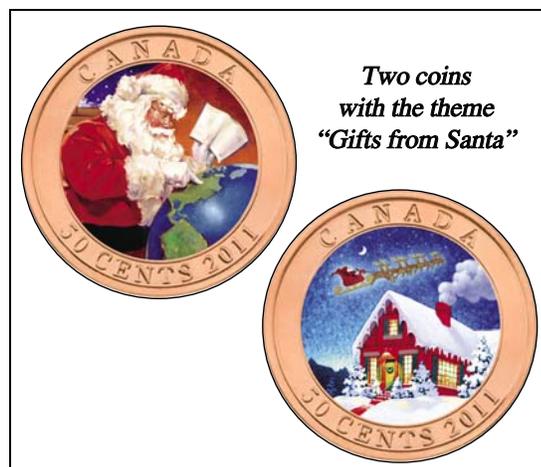
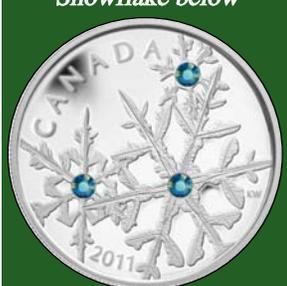
*Little Skaters above and Wintertown below*



*Emerald Crystal Snowflake above and Topaz Crystal Snowflake below*



*Hyacinth Crystal Snowflake above and Montana Crystal Snowflake below*



*Two coins with the theme "Gifts from Santa"*



*Christmas Tree in fine silver*

## COIN COLLECTING... FOR HEALTH

*This article is packed with observations you might present to anyone who asks you, "Why do you collect coins?" The answer has as much to do with physical health as with mental health. I remember the late John S. Wilkinson, a Past President of the R.C.N.A. saying, "It's good for you to go crazy over a hobby... to keep from going crazy!" The article is written from the perspective of a U.S. collector, but the points still apply.*

Imagine a hobby that enhances your appreciation of art, expands your knowledge of history, geography and politics, helps you gain and strengthen organizational skills and provides opportunities for socializing.

Would it be wise to embrace such a hobby as you head into your golden years? You bet your bottom silver dollar it would, say avid coin collectors.

### Appealing to all

Coin collecting is a terrific hobby for both older and younger people because it involves one's intellect, says Gilles Bransbourg, assistant curator of Roman coins at The American Numismatic Society in New York City, a museum and research institute devoted to the study of coins and currency. "Being intellectually active is a good thing, whether you're 30 or 70," he asserts.

David L. Ganz started collecting coins 50 years ago, when he was 10. He hasn't stopped since. "I collect coins because the hobby informs me about history, military history, government, political regimes, economies and religion," says the New York City attorney. "You can learn about how civilizations begin, expand, become empires and decline . . . It's been the hobby of a lifetime."

Mike Fuljenz, a Beaumont, Texas coin dealer, reports that coins are like "history in your hands. Coins in ancient times were like

a newspaper, telling about who was in power, and whether the ruler was peaceful or a warmonger based on the design symbolism. For example, arrows (on coins) indicated war, while olive branches were a sign of a desire for peace."

Long-time Chicago broadcaster Donn Pearlman, now a spokesman for the Professional Numismatists Guild, a non-profit organization comprised of the country's top rare coin and paper money dealers, reports that every coin ever stamped has a fascinating story to tell about people, places and events.

"When collectors look into the historical significance of any coin, rare or common, they learn about the reasons certain individuals or symbols are depicted on the money, the economy of the times and even geography and art," he adds.

"You're never too old to learn, and coin collecting is an enjoyable way to learn about the history of the United States and the world," he adds.

### Benefits of collecting

Coin collectors also experience both pride of ownership and personal accomplishment, says Pearlman. Acquiring a desired coin, whether by purchasing the coin or finding it in circulation, can foster a strong sense of pride.

And completing a set of coins, whether a modest Lincoln cents set or the 12 Caesars of ancient Rome, can be truly rewarding, Pearlman reports.

There is also a social component to coin collecting that can be highly beneficial for older adults. "Older people may enjoy the camaraderie of a club," Fuljenz says. "I'm a former coin club president, and many older members enjoyed sharing experiences and stories at those monthly meetings."

For his part, Pearlman reports as a result of long-time attendance at local coin club meetings and national coin conventions, he has forged decades-long friendships with people not just in the U.S., but also from Great Britain to Australia.

For older adults, hobbies such as coin collecting can contribute to healthy aging, says Julie Bach, assistant professor of social

work and chair of the gerontology certificate program at Dominican University in River Forest.

Bach says those who age successfully maintain high cognitive functioning that is enhanced by collecting, studying and organizing, she says. "The other model of successful aging is continuing engagement with life. If they're going to places where coin collectors gather, that's getting older people out and sharing ideas."

### Getting started

You needn't be wealthy to start a coin collection, Pearlman reports. It's possible to start simply by assembling a set of popular 50-state commemorative quarter dollar designs issued for circulation from 1998 or 2008, or the current "America the Beautiful" designs.

"Some people who first started collecting coins from circulation expanded their collections by purchasing from dealers examples of earlier U.S. coin designs dating back to the 1790s," he adds.

"Depending on your budget, you can also enjoy assembling a set of different designs and denominations of U.S. coins struck during the 20th century, from Indian head cents to Eisenhower dollars to Double Eagle \$20 denomination gold coins."

Although the rise in precious metal prices has spurred some to join the hobby, Bransbourg cautions there is very little relationship between the value of rare coins and their metallic content. For instance, rare Roman gold coins contain seven or eight grams of gold, whose value would translate to \$400 or \$500 on today's market. But each coin itself might fetch \$15,000.

"Metals prices are but one of several factors," he says. "The price of a rare coin is based on rarity, beauty, quality, condition and sometimes the message on the coin."

If you don't know coins well, it's important to know your dealer, Pearlman urges. Ask how long the dealer has been in business, and whether he or she is a member of the Professional Numismatists Guild, who must adhere to a code of ethics in buying and selling numismatic merchandise.

## PERTH MINT UNVEILS THE LARGEST GOLD COIN EVER

The biggest, heaviest, inherently the most valuable gold bullion coin in the world has been unveiled by The Perth Mint. Weighing a massive one ton of 99.99% pure gold, the monumental coin measures nearly 80cms wide and more than 12cms deep. The stunning coin is the pinnacle of ingenuity and innovation for which The Perth Mint is renowned.

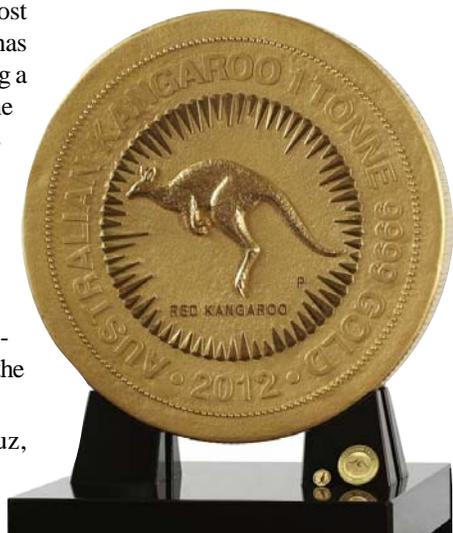
Perth Mint Chief Executive Officer, Ed Harbuz, presents the worlds biggest, heaviest, and most valuable gold bullion coin in the world.

Chief Executive Officer, Ed Harbuz, reveals that the Mint's dedicated team of talented artists and technical staff worked tirelessly for months to create a coin of this magnitude. "To cast and handcraft a coin of this size and weight was an incredible challenge, one which few other mints would not even consider," he said.

As the showpiece of the Australian Kangaroo Gold Bullion Coin Program, its classic design by Dr Stuart Devlin AO CMG, goldsmith and jeweler to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, has featured on each annual 1 kilo release in the series for more than 20 years.

The one ton masterpiece features a bounding red kangaroo surrounded by stylized rays of sunlight and bordered by the inscription AUSTRALIAN KANGAROO 1 TONNE 9999 GOLD and the year-date 2012.

Issued as Australian legal tender, the obverse of the coin features the Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, accompanied by the inscriptions ELIZABETH II, AUSTRALIA and the monetary denomination of 1 MILLION DOLLARS.



The popular Australian Kangaroo Gold Bullion Coin Program offers a stunning choice of gold bullion coins in a range of sizes, with various mintage limits and annual design changes.

The one tonne gold coin dwarfs the 1 kilo and 1 oz coins from the 2012 Australian Kangaroo Gold Bullion Coin Program.

While the design of the 2012 1 kilo release will mirror its super-sized companion, the 1/100z, 1/40z, 1/20z and 10z coins will feature a standing kangaroo set against an outback scene. The weight and purity of each issue is guaranteed by the Government of Western Australia making Australian Kangaroo coins a secure way to diversify any investment portfolio.

The Perth Mint has dedicated a whole website to this largest coin ever. You will find much information, an exclusive behind-the-scenes footage and other media here: <http://www.1tonnegoldcoin.com/>



### Australia Unveils World's Largest Gold Coin in Perth

**BBC, 27 October 2011**

**Perth Mint set out to make a coin that would hold the world's biggest record for some time**

Australia has unveiled the world's largest gold coin, weighing in at a massive 1,000kg.

The Perth Mint produced it in time for Queen Elizabeth's visit to the city in Western Australia for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting.

The coin has a kangaroo on one side and the Queen's profile on the other. It is nearly 80cm in diameter and 12cm thick.

Perth Mint CEO Ed Harbuz said making it was "an incredible challenge, one which few other mints would even consider."

The Australian coin is 10 times heavier than the world's previous largest gold coin, made by the Royal Canadian Mint.

"We thought well, we'd better make it so much bigger that it'll stay the biggest coin in the world for a long time," Mr Harbuz said.

Australia's coin is 99.99% pure and has a nominal value of A\$1,000,000 (\$1,061,000; £663,000). The gold itself is worth more than A\$50m.

## RCM ISSUES A TEN-KILO PURE GOLD COIN

Press release from the Royal Canadian Mint

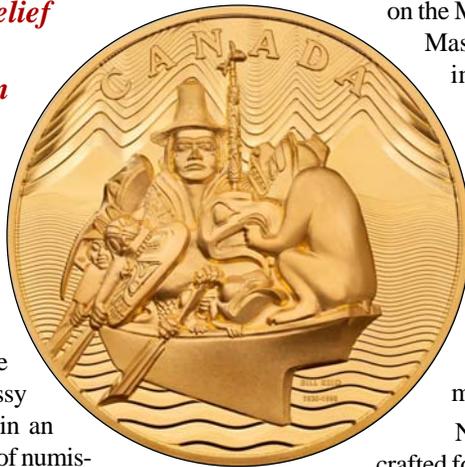
### *Royal Canadian Mint's ultra-high relief creation showing Bill Reid's Haida Gwaii is the world's first 10-kilo coin crafted of 99.999% pure gold*

On October 21, 2011 the Royal Canadian Mint announced it has crafted the world's first 10-kilo 99.999% pure gold coin and that this exquisite numismatic creation has been dedicated to Bill Reid's *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*; one of the most celebrated masterpieces of Canadian art. The bold contours of the sculpture commissioned in 1985 for the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., are precisely captured in an ultra-high relief engraving, unique in the world of numismatic art for its sculptural quality. This first-ever Canadian coin to bear a \$100,000 face value was unveiled at the Bill Reid Gallery for Northwest Coast Art in Vancouver, British Columbia by Mr. James B. Love, Chair of the Royal Canadian Mint's Board of Directors and Dr. Martine Reid, Ph.D., Director of Research and Content at the Bill Reid Gallery.

"For more than 20 years, Bill Reid's *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* has epitomized Canadian First Nations art and the Royal Canadian Mint is proud to have chosen this icon of Canadian culture as the subject of its first 10-kilo pure gold collector coin," said Ian E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Royal Canadian Mint. "As the Mint continues to elevate the art and science of coin manufacturing, it will continue to engineer and handcraft coins which set new benchmarks for our industry while celebrating the best of Canadian culture, heritage, and values."

"Of all the materials Bill Reid worked with to create his imaginary bestiary, red cedar and gold were his favourite and he particularly loved to work with 22-karat gold for its properties: color, malleability, softness, warmth and lustre," said Dr. Martine Reid, Ph.D., Director of Research and Content at the Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art. "All those who knew and worked with him think he would have been delighted by the Royal Canadian Mint's bold tribute to *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* on a stunning 10-kilogram coin made of the purest gold in the world."

The powerful image of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* was captured



on the Mint's first 10-kilo gold coin by now retired Mint Master Engraver Cosme Saffioti. Inspired by the imposing scale of Bill Reid's masterpiece, he manually engraved a faithful recreation, using traditional techniques, to an ultra-high relief rarely achieved in the world of coin making. The result is a meticulously detailed sculpture of 99.999% pure gold, honouring the original in a spectacular new form. This extraordinary coin was struck at the Mint's Ottawa facility, using the same 2,500 tonne press from which the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games athlete medals were produced.

No more than 15 of these exclusive coins will be crafted for collectors of both fine art and of the finest gold in the world. Its price is a combination of the gold market rate at the time of purchase, plus a premium for its manufacturing and very limited mintage.

The engraving of Bill Reid's masterpiece appearing on the reverse of this coin is beautifully highlighted in a proof finish, contrasting the sculpture's image in a satin finish set against a brilliant, mirror-like background. The obverse of the coin, also finished in proof quality, features the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II created by portrait artist Susanna Blunt in 2003.

In 1985, Vancouver architect Arthur Erickson commissioned Bill Reid to produce a sculpture for the new Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. The result was *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii: The Black Canoe*, which is cast in bronze and represents Reid's largest and most complex sculpture standing almost four metres in height and weighing 4,900 kilos. A second casting, named *The Jade Canoe*, graces the terminal of the Vancouver International Airport, while the original plaster pattern of the monument is displayed at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec.

The coin was on public display at the Mint's downtown Vancouver boutique on October 22 and 23 2011. Interested buyers may inquire about this coin at the Royal Canadian Mint's boutiques in Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver. The coin is made to order with a maximum production of fifteen specimens. For more information, visit the RCM web site at <http://www.mint.ca/10kilo>



*James B. Love, Chair of the Royal Canadian Mint's Board of Directors and Dr. Martine Reid, Ph.D., Director of Research and Content at the Bill Reid Gallery unveil the Mint's 2011 10-Kilo 99.999% Pure Gold Coin featuring The Spirit Of Haida Gwaii in Vancouver, BC.*

## POLYMER TROUBLE

by Erin De Cotse, CTV News, November 6, 2011

The new \$100 polymer bills released this month are purported to be more durable and secure, but the plastic currency is already garnering criticism just weeks before circulation due to the cost they may cause small businesses.

The Bank of Canada announced new polymer bank notes in June 2011. The first bill, the \$100 note, will be released Nov. 14. In March, the \$50 bills will be circulated, followed by the rest of the plastic money by the end of 2013.

The bills are being touted as a more convenient currency because the added security features makes it much more difficult to counterfeit. However, Ted Brosnan, president of John Poulet Cheque Writer Service, said that the new bills would not initially make life any easier, especially for small businesses. “It’s because of the design of the bills,” Brosnan, whose company sells currency counters, told CTV Toronto.

The new bills have a large transparent window that makes the currency undetectable in counters and even some ATMs, he said. “Probably 99 per cent of the market uses money counters with optics,” Brosnan explained, adding that the machines won’t register a bill in the counter if the sensor doesn’t pick it up. “Because the one side is clear, the machine doesn’t see anything and registers an error.” He said that this means almost every bill counter used by bank tellers and many businesses will need to be replaced. “Some smaller financial institutions are in the position where they have to replace their ATMs as well as their money counting machines, in that case it can be a large expense that they haven’t counted on,” he said.

But Bank of Canada spokesperson Julie Girard said that the bank has been aware that there would be a transition period with the new notes. “When we change from series to series, whether it’s from paper to paper, or paper to polymer, there’s always going to be a transition,” she said. Girard said that the bank has been working with banknote equipment manufacturers for more than two years to address any problems that may arise with the new currency. “We knew the transition was going to be a little more involved with polymer but the security and all the benefits were really important,” she said. “Polymer is

what makes those benefits possible.”

The bills, which the Bank of Canada says is 2.5 times more durable than paper bills, were created to combat bogus bill production, though the practice has been declining in Canada since 2004. Girard said that the likelihood of getting a counterfeit bill is a low 35 parts per million—meaning that for every million genuine notes, there are 35 fakes. In 2004, that number was 470 parts per million. Girard credits a security upgrade in the mid-2000s and increased education on spotting counterfeit money. “When we put out a bank note the first thing that we think about is security because we want to be sure that Canadians can use their money with confidence,” she said.

The \$100 bill features two portraits of Prime Minister Robert Borden and the image of researchers at a microscope. A depiction of the double-helix structure of DNA is also on the bill.

Girard said that one of the reasons the bank chose to start with \$100 bills was because



it’s a low volume note. “By the time the \$20 comes out we will have been working with these banknote equipment manufacturers for years,” she said. “The \$100 is not in ATMs and we wanted to make sure to give the industry the time for a smooth transition.” Brosnan said that while he agrees that the issue isn’t too critical at the moment, the new bills do pose financial issues for some. “I think there’s an adequate amount of time for people to prepare themselves for it, but it’s still not a good scenario for the expense it’s going to cost Canadian businesses and financial institutions.”

### NOVEMBER 14: THE BILLS HIT THE STREET

by John Goddard, The Toronto Star

Paying with plastic takes on a new meaning today as the Bank of Canada rolls out new \$100 bills to replace the cotton-paper blend note.

The \$100 is Canada’s first polymer bank note and features a wealth of anti-counterfeiting features such as partially hidden numbers. The bill also includes a large, transparent window, transparent text, a metallic portrait, raised ink and a frosted maple leaf window. The \$100s feature two portraits of Prime Minister Robert Borden and an image of a researcher at a microscope and a depiction of DNA.

The \$50 polymer note will follow next March. The rest of the plastic money will be in circulation by the end of 2013.

A focus group took a close look at the \$100 bill earlier this year and saw several offbeat images the designers didn’t count on. Some in the group mistook a strand of DNA on the \$100 bill for a sex toy. Most people also thought the see-through window on the new polymer notes were shaped like the contours of a woman’s body. Others looked into the portholes of a famed Canadian icebreaker and saw a skull and crossbones staring back at them.



# North York Coin Club

and

# Mississauga-Etobicoke Coin Stamp and Collectibles Club



**TUESDAY DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> – Cash Bar at 6:30 p.m., Buffet Dinner at 7:00 p.m.  
at the SWISS PICK RESTAURANT, 445 Rexdale Blvd., Etobicoke ON M9W 6K5  
Tickets now on sale – \$35 per person – Limited Capacity**

**\* \* \* Come for an evening of good food, fun, gift exchange, bingo and draw prizes \* \* \***

The Mississauga-Etobicoke Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Club and North York Coin Club have decided to co-host this year's club Christmas dinner at the Swiss Pick Restaurant located at HWY 27 and Rexdale Blvd. in north Etobicoke. North York members will recall this location from our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner held in June 2010.

The price is \$35 per person including a full all-you-can-eat buffet with salads, beef and turkey, side dishes, dessert and tea/coffee. Additional beverages will be your own responsibility. The \$35 price includes taxes and gratuity.

Following the dinner, festivities will continue with the usual draw prizes, gift exchange and bingo familiar at both of the clubs.

### Guests are Welcome

To register, please notify Paul Petch by e-mail at [p.petch@rogers.com](mailto:p.petch@rogers.com) or telephone 416-303-4417



### Map to the

### Swiss Pick Restaurant at the Comfort Hotel Airport North

445 Rexdale Blvd., Etobicoke ON M9W 6K5  
GPS: 43.71800, -79.592828

Entrance driveway is on  
Queen's Plate Drive;  
turn south on Queen's Plate Drive  
from Rexdale Blvd.

- Notice that HWY 427 is to the west and the Swiss Pick is near HWY 27 to the east.
- Woodbine Centre is on the northwest corner of Rexdale Blvd. and HWY 27 and Woodbine Race Track is on the southwest corner of Rexdale Blvd. and HWY 27
- From eastbound 401: watch for the exit signs to take HWY 427 north and exit at Dixon Road. Go east (right turn) on Dixon to the HWY 27 north ramp and then continue north on HWY 27 to Rexdale Blvd. and then east (right turn) on Rexdale
- From westbound 401: watch for the exit signs and take Belfield Road to HWY 27. Turn north (right turn) and continue to Rexdale Blvd. and then east (right turn) on Rexdale
- From southbound HWY 427: exit at Derry Road/Rexdale Blvd. and go east (left turn)

