



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

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Contact the Club :

E-mail: info@northyorkcoinclub.com
Phone: 416-897-6684

Member :

Ontario Numismatic Association
Royal Canadian Numismatic Association

Executive Committee

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|
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THE BULLETIN FOR MAY 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome again to all fellow numismatists and everyone receiving this monthly bulletin. A rainy morning is upon us and the temperature is well below normal so it is a perfect morning to write my President's Message.

The time is almost here for our annual coin show, which is being held later this month on Saturday May 28th. The show is being held in the same place as all previous years, in the Banquet Room, at Edithvale Community Centre on Finch Ave. in North York. Doors for the show open at 9:00 am and close at 3:00 pm. This a very important event for the club as it provides a large portion of the revenue the club needs each year for expenses, the costliest being the rental of space for our monthly meetings at Edithvale. With this in mind it is important that all club members drop by and support the club and add to their collection by purchasing something from the many fine dealers that are participating in our Coin Show this year.

Now, fast forward though June to July 19-24 and it will be time for you to make the trip to Ottawa to attend Canada's oldest continuously run numismatic event, the R.C.N.A. 2016 Convention. Check out the event's listing in Coming Events and visit the web site for all the details and to register.

Next up, I want to restate an issue that keeps trying to destroy, or at the very least destabilize, our hobby. It's the production of replica or facsimile coins and paper money that has been going on since coinage was first stuck. Unfortunately, the people reproducing these items now have equipment and technology equal to that of the original creator of the items. The "replicas" are ever increasingly becoming harder to detect, with third party coin holders even being duplicated as well. We should try and stop this manufacturing and distribution of such items by buying or selling

items based on the code of ethics adopted by our national association, the R.C.N.A.

Their by-law 2.04 (b) addresses the subject and gives direction to its dealer members by stating that, "*I agree not to sell, exhibit, produce, nor advertise counterfeits, copies, restrikes, or reproductions of any numismatic items, even if bearing such stampings.*" If all dealers lived up to this high standard we would not have a problem right now. Online is where the collector is most vulnerable. Purchasing from a reputable dealer, preferably a CAND member, and educating oneself are two of the easiest ways to prevent yourself from becoming a victim.

Each and every one of us as numismatists is affected by the very presence of counterfeit or replica material: 1) directly by financial loss, when unknowingly purchasing counterfeit material; 2) the embarrassment and anger of being duped by a lack of knowledge at the hands of an unscrupulous seller; 3) the loss of confidence in the market place or one's own ability to recognize counterfeit material; 4) indirectly by having to pay higher prices for material as dealers recoup losses on counterfeits; and 5) loss in value/sales due to people leaving the hobby due to fear of the counterfeits.

As mentioned earlier, the best way to fight this problem is by not participating in underground markets and by becoming an educated consumer. That's being a smart collector!

If time permits and you're looking to attend a coin show before the R.C.N.A. convention then here are some local shows that may interest you. Woodstock and Brantford have excellent shows that are happening in the upcoming weeks followed by TOREX at the end of June here in Toronto. These are all places

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 24

We start gathering in the Banquet Room on the first floor of the Edithvale Community Centre, at 7:00 p.m. with meeting start scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Our feature speaker at this meeting will be Professor Hitesh Dosh, who works at Ryerson University where he teaches Architectural Science. His talk is entitled, "Art and Bank Notes."

This talk will show the many ways in which bank notes are a platform for art. Hitesh's presentation will use images to show ways in which bank notes have been used to create art, ways in which art has been introduced into circulating bank notes and art resulting from reinterpretation of artifacts in circulating bank notes.

Don't forget to bring along your recent finds or special treasures to share with us during the show and tell!

Please remember to bring your auction lots so we can have a really fine auction at this meeting. Also, we appreciate all donations to our supply of draw prize material.

where you may find that one item that has been eluding your collection for so long or meet an old friend or acquaintance. You never know until you get out and enjoy.

So until we meet again on the 24th get out enjoy yourself (May 2-4 is next weekend) and participate in the hobby by trying to put a stop to the distribution of "replica" or "copy" coins and notes. Help save the uneducated purchaser because it may well turn them off of the hobby we all care about so deeply.

Bill O'Brien

NEWS OF THE APRIL 2016 MEETING

The 621st meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in the 1st floor Banquet Room at the Edithvale Community Centre. It was hammered to order at 7:30 P.M. with our President, Bill O'Brien, in the chair and 27 members and 3 guests in attendance.

Member Italo Villella was present when his name was drawn to receive the on-time attendance draw prize of \$2.00. The draw will reset to \$2.00 for the May 24th meeting. We would like to thank Italo for donating his winnings to the Club.

Bill asked members present if they had noticed any errors or omissions in the minutes of the March meeting as published in the April newsletter. With no corrections noted Arnie Goldstein made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Phillip Simms. Motion carried. Following this, club Treasurer Ben Boelens reported the club finances.

Bill O'Brien reported briefly on the status of our Coin Show on May 28th. The vendor tables are now sold out and plans are being finalized to make the show a success for both the club and our customers.

Bill also took a moment to thank member Norman G. Gordon for his kind donation of the R.C.N.A. correspondence course and other numismatic material to the club.

Phillip Simms asked for the floor to update everyone on the "Numismatic Buddy" initiative. He mentioned that he had placed a sign-up sheet at the front of the room and asked anyone interested in having a numismatic buddy that they place their name and area of interest on the sheet. Philip would then match people up with their buddy.

Henry Nienhuis, in his role as our club's delegate to the O.N.A. convention that had taken place in Kitchener from April 8 to 10, gave a brief report. He mentioned that if there was interest he could report in more detail at a later time.

Because a guest speaker was delivering this evening's talk, any further business was deferred until after the talk. Our guest speaker for the evening was Ron Cheek who had travelled from the Collingwood area to be with us. Ron is no stranger to our Club having served as guest

Why collect coins of South Viet Nam?

- It is a very limited series. Only 17 coins.
- Includes 1953 French puppet State of Viet Nam coins.
- Also includes Republic of Viet Nam (South Viet Nam) coins issued 1960 – 1975.
- Most coins are readily available in high grade.
- **I have the rare, unissued 1975 50 dong coin (only 36 are known to have survived.)**



speaker on three previous occasions. Ron's topic for this evening was "Coins of South Viet Nam."

Ron's presentation, although somewhat different than his usual area of interest, was characteristically well researched and supplemented with interesting historical images, which he used to augment the numismatic elements by tying them to the traumatic world events of the day that defined the coinage.



The entire series of only seventeen coins began with the issue of aluminum pieces of 10-, 20- and 50-su (or xu) by the French Union (Indochina) in 1953 and concluded with an extremely rare 50-dong piece struck for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in nickel-clad steel dated 1975. Because of the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, the mintage was never released and was subsequently melted. Ron believes that his example, which he was lucky enough to find in a large lot of foreign coins he had purchased by the pound, is one of only a hand-full that were rescued from the melting pot by the workers assigned to melt them.

There were a number of questions that Ron answered easily, a true indication of his excellent knowledge of the subject area. At the conclusion Bill thanked Ron and presented him with a certificate of our appreciation. [Ron is looking at writing an article based on his talk and we hope to receive a copy and his permission to run it in *The Bulletin* at a later time ... Ed.]

Bill then called for our customary refreshment break from 8:30-8:45 P.M.

With no further business to discuss we moved to our regular club auction and lucky draw. Dick Dunn served as our Auctioneer and Andrew Silver as the Runner for the evening. Lucky draw numbers were called at various times while the auction took place. Lucky draw winners for the evening were- Vince Chiappino (2), Bill O'Brien, Terry Maksymjuk (2), Arnie Goldstein (2), Richard Duquette (2), John Bratton (2), Shawn Hamilton, Henry Nienhuis (2), Len Kuenzig, Phillip Simms, and Tony Hine. The club earned \$23.00 through the sale of the draw tickets! Our auction manager, Paul Johnson, reported that receipts from the auction added \$37.55 to the club coffers which included receipts from donated items.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

The club executive would like to thank members for supporting the club through the purchase of draw tickets and draw prize donations. Please consider supporting your club through a donation of numismatic material or other items. (Don't forget to mention your donations to the club secretary so that your support can be recognized in the minutes and newsletter.)

Our next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, in the 1st floor Banquet room of the Edithvale Community Centre.



Ron's specimen of the rare 1975 50-dong piece



President Bill O'Brien, left, thanks Ron Cheek for his talk on the coins of South Viet Nam and presents a certificate of appreciation

CLASSIFIEDS

WANT TO TRADE WORLD COINS?
I am looking to exchange duplicate world coins with other collectors. So far I have had some good experiences trading coins. Please contact me at my e-mail address boelens40@gmail.com or at 905-890-9484.

WANTED: A North York Coin Club formation medal in bronze dated 1960 with Lady Justice and North York coat of arms on the reverse. Please contact Paul Petch at p.petch@rogers.com or phone 416-303-4417.

WANTED: for my personal collection tokens from the Knapman Beach, or later called Burlington Beach, or Canal Amusement Park (1903-1978). Other related items would also be considered. Contact me at wsobcoins@hotmail.com – Thanks, Bill

North York Coin Club Annual Coin Show

Saturday May 28th

9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Banquet Room at the
Edithvale Community Centre
[131 Finch Avenue West](http://131FinchAvenueWest.com)

FREE Admission and plenty of
FREE parking, all types of collectibles and
featuring coins, paper money, tokens, both to buy and sell.

Everyone is welcome and for further information
please contact:

Paul Petch at: p.petch@rogers.com OR

Phone 416-303-4417 OR

go to www.northyorkcoinclub.ca



600 KG OF ROMAN COINS FOUND IN AMPHORAE

by Björn Schöpe, translated by Annika Backe May 12, 2016

From the Coins Weekly web site



Nineteen smaller amphorae were discovered, filled to the brim with coins.

On April 27, 2016 a huge coin hoard was discovered in Tomares in southern Spain: construction workers found almost 600kg of Roman coins. They reported their find to the relevant authorities. The work has been suspended.

The coins were stored inside 19 amphorae, of which ten were broken during the work, according to media reports.

Dating back to the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D., the coins are reportedly folles of which some still exhibit the complete silver sweating.

Ana Navarro, archaeologist in charge and head of Seville's Archaeology Museum, emphasized that the economic value may amount to several millions whereas it would be impossible to estimate the historical value. She called the find unique for Spain, and only very few similar discoveries were made in the entire Roman Empire so far.



There have as yet been no identification and analysis.



Apparently, the newly minted coins were packed right away, to be used to pay larger sums of money, perhaps to soldiers.

This might be a bit over the top – perfectly understandable considering the excitement about the discovery. Several finds have provided us with much information about the exact dates and the mint structure used to produce late Roman coins. However, perhaps

hitherto unknown variants might enrich the already complete picture with new facets.

Depending on date and condition, the material value of folles of the usual type ranges between 20 and 200 euros. With an average weight of 8g, each kilo most likely consists of 125 folles, adding up to 75,000 folles in the entire hoard. The total economic value of the hoard, therefore, might well be about 750,000 euros.

The coins are said to be in a very good condition since they appear to have been packed immediately after being minted. Archaeologists believe that the coins were intended to be used to pay levies to the army or for administrative purposes.

The find was brought to the Archaeological Museum of Seville where the coins will be inventoried, cleaned and catalogued. In a second step, numismatists and historians can interpret the material and put it into their historical context. According to the Ministry of Culture of the Regional Government of Andalusia, the material will be presented to the general public once further results could have been established. In the meantime, an archaeological investigation will be conducted on the site.



They consist of folles that date back to the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D.



The find is currently kept in Seville's Archaeological Museum where the coins will be inventoried, cleaned and catalogued.

All photographs by
Consejería de Cultura /
Junta de Andalucía.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN MINT ISSUES ITS 2015 REPORT

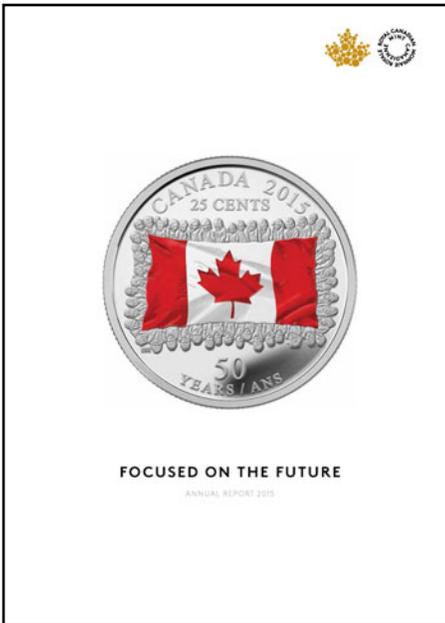
A compilation of news and opinion by Paul R. Petch

One of the highlights of my numismatic year is the arrival of the annual report from the Royal Canadian Mint. I became conscious of the wealth of material in these reports as a young collector back in the early 1960s. Over time, the amount of information of interest to a numismatist has slowly disappeared. Scanning my collection of annual reports that go back to the 1930s I can see a clear shift from information about coins and medals over to financial facts created by accountants for their managers. The change has been a slow one. Coincidentally, it seems to align with the end of the term “Mint Master” and the appearance of “Chief Executive Officer” or CEO to refer to the head of the mint.

To me, the 2015 report marks the total end of any kind of really useful numismatic information and its replacement with colourful, slick, almost self-congratulatory management reporting. This is not to say that I think the Mint is doing anything wrong, only keeping up with the times and setting new directions to serve the Government, serve the public and guarantee its survival. It’s just that I don’t think there is anything very “numismatic” about the mint report any more.

Let’s start with the title of the press release, “Business Profitability In 2015 Continues To Reinforce Royal Canadian Mint’s Future.” This title raises the question with me, “what is the mint’s future?” It has never, until now, crossed my mind that we might be able to get along without a mint. Being a revenue stream for the Canadian Government through well-managed manufacturing lines is replacing production of Canadian circulation coinage as the main mission.

This is evident in the way the press release begins, “The Royal Canadian Mint once again demonstrated strong business performance in 2015 thanks to excellent bullion and numismatics sales. Though a \$65.5 million non-cash impairment charge resulting from lower than anticipated future cash flows from the Mint’s circulation businesses offset profits, the Mint broke even in 2015. Strong cash generation from operations also allowed the Mint to pay its shareholder, the Government of Canada, record dividends of \$53 million. ‘Overall, our 2015 financial results clearly show that the Mint is a robust and growing organization, with the strength to weather challenges and generate good value for Canadians,’ said Sandra L. Hanington, President and CEO of the Royal Canadian Mint.”



ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

LAYS OFF 39 EMPLOYEES IN WINNIPEG

BY MIA RABSON, WINNIPEG FREE PRESS,
OCTOBER 29, 2015

The Royal Canadian Mint laid off more than a tenth of its Winnipeg workforce after coin production at the facility plummeted in recent years. In all, 39 people were laid off Tuesday from the Mint’s facility on Lagimodiere at Fermor Avenue, leaving 296 employees. Another 16 people lost their jobs at the Crown Corporation’s Ottawa facility, leaving 931 employed there.

“The markets have changed so demand for coin is down,” said spokeswoman Christine Aquino. She said the economic downturn, leading to an excess of coins in circulation both domestically and abroad, means the Mint is producing fewer coins, necessitating the layoffs.

Twenty-three of the Winnipeg jobs were unionized manufacturing positions. There were also losses in finance, research and development and engineering.

The number of domestic coins produced by the mint has fallen 75 per cent in the last three years, from 1.5 billion coins in 2011 to 361 million in 2014. Coin production is the major program at the Winnipeg facility.

In the first half of 2015, the number of coins produced for Canada has rebounded but foreign contract revenues are down almost 56 per cent over the previous year.

Despite this, the Mint was actually far more profitable in 2014, with \$41.3 million in after-tax revenues compared with \$36.2 million in 2013 and \$14.1 million in 2012. Aquino says this is largely due to the sales and production of collector coins and bullion, both of which are produced in Ottawa.

A town hall meeting was held with remaining employees in Winnipeg Wednesday to update them on results, which would include the second-quarter results. Although foreign contracts are down, the Mint’s plan is to produce 15 per cent of the world’s coins by 2020.

Aquino said the Mint is not looking at the future for the Winnipeg plant with gloom. “We’re optimistic about the business,” she said. “We are doing things a little bit differently but we are still winning contracts.”

The Winnipeg facility underwent a \$60-million expansion in 2013 to increase the size of the plating facility and create a research centre of excellence. Aquino said neither of those programs was affected by these layoffs.

The board of directors of the Mint was in trouble earlier this year for paying for 11 Mint officials to attend a three-day post-conference vacation tour at a five-star resort in Mexico. The trip cost likely \$1,450 per person and was an add-on after an international minting conference in Mexico City. A spokesman for the union representing Mint employees did not respond to a request for comment.

The mint report itself, titled “Focused on the Future,” identifies the four parts of the Mint’s mission.

Core Program

1. *Canadian Circulation Program:* Our Canadian Circulation Program delivers secure, high quality and cost effective coinage in support of Canadian trade and commerce. We manage a sophisticated forecasting and distribution system that ensures the availability of coins across the country. We celebrate Canada’s history, culture and values through our commemorative coin program. This sector of the Mint is now expected to operate on a break even basis.

For-Profit Businesses

- 2. *Circulation Products and Solutions:* We are a leading provider of finished coins and coin blanks to customers around the world, including central banks, mints, monetary authorities and finance ministries. We leverage our expertise in products and processes to support our customers to meet their objectives.
- 3. *Bullion Products and Services:* We produce and market high-purity gold, silver, platinum and palladium Maple Leaf bullion coins, bars and wafers, in collaboration with our strong network of dealers and distributors. Our integrated refinery, precious metals storage services, and exchange traded receipts (ETRs) support our Bullion business and contribute to our market-leading position.
- 4. *Numismatics:* Our Numismatics business produces and sells exceptional collectible coins and medals to customers in Canada and around the world. A sophisticated marketing business; we are sharply focused on developing excellent products that resonate strongly with customers.

This final business mission has an unfortunate and inaccurate name. Buying non-circulating legal tender coins does *not* make one a numismatist and I for one would be pleased to see it renamed *Collector Products*.

The press release highlights that in addition to honouring Canadian history, culture and values, the *Canadian Circulation Program* is responsible for managing the coinage system. Throughout 2015 the supply of new circulation coins remained relatively unchanged from 2014, with 392 million issued compared to 389 million in the prior year. The mint report, for the first time, does not contain any information on the number of coins in each denomination that were struck. This is a real loss! It does comment that the 392 million coins represent only 10% of the coinage supply. It says that 75% of the demand was met through the management of inventories held by major Canadian financial institutions and an additional 15% through the coin recycling program. Interestingly, coin recycling has increased by 50% over the past 5 years.

While on the subject of Canadian circulating coinage, this is a good place to mention that the labour force at the Mint’s Winnipeg production facility was cut by 10%. What better indication can there be that our digital-based society with credit and debit cards, ApplePay and other transfer mechanisms are having a noticeable effect on our circulating coinage? See the sidebar story about the layoff of 39 mint employees in October.

Circulation Products and Solutions revenues were off at \$67.3 million in 2015 compared to \$92.6 million the year before due to some major multi-year contracts coming to an end and delays in the issuing

MANAGING THE COINAGE SYSTEM

The Mint’s role as manager of Canada’s coinage system is unique in the world. We are the only mint that oversees the manufacture, supply, circulation and redistribution of coins to meet national currency needs; this integrated role drives great efficiency for Canada.

Forecasting demand
Annually, we forecast national demand based on historical and macroeconomic data and provide regional forecasts and monthly outlooks throughout the year.

Maintaining supply
We ensure supply by efficiently producing the volume of new coins required to meet demand not satisfied through other channels.

Managing distribution
We work closely with Canada’s financial institutions and the National Coin Committee to distribute Canadian coins where demand requires them—in support of trade and commerce.

Recycling
We collect and redistribute coins recycled from kiosks across Canada in collaboration with recycling companies, minimizing manufacturing requirements.

1. Recycled coins do not include 1-cent volumes since they are not re-circulated.
2. Manufactured volumes do not include coins produced for the Alloy Recovery Program (ARP) or foreign countries.

of several international coin tenders. The decline in foreign sales was partially offset by an increase in Alloy Recovery Program revenues, which grew to \$22.6 million in 2015, from \$19.8 million in 2014. Noteworthy 2015 business included a large supply of blanks to the Philippines, as well as the Mint’s first-ever contract with Indonesia, which purchased a large volume of multi-ply plated steel blanks.

The Mint also introduced a new pad-printing technology for coin colouring through the successful launch of the New Zealand 50-cent Anzac 100th anniversary commemorative circulation coin. This award-winning technology made its Canadian debut on a 25-cent circulation coin celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Canadian flag, followed by a 2015 coloured Poppy circulation coin launched in conjunction with a \$2 circulation commemorating the 100th anniversary of John McCrae’s *In Flanders Fields*. *The Bulletin* looked at this and other Mint innovations in our May issue.

Bullion Products and Services revenues rose to \$2.6 billion in 2015, compared to \$2.1 billion a year earlier, as the Mint responded to renewed demand for its industry leading bullion products. This translated into the sale of 953,000 ounces of gold and a record 34.3 million ounces of silver, establishing the third year in a row of record silver sales. The Mint also stood out for its leadership in the field of coin security, as it launched the commercial application of its Bullion DNA (Digital Non-destructive Activation) reader technology for

facilitating the authentication of Gold and Silver Maple Leaf bullion coins. *The Bulletin* covered this story in its August 2015 issue.

The Collector Products (*Numismatics*) business revenues grew by over 12% in 2015, to a new record of \$199 million, while 72 out of 243 collector coins sold out by year end. Increased demand for custom gold collector products helped the Mint sell almost 30% more numismatic ounces of gold in 2015, compared to 2014. Notable products issued in 2015 included the world's first maple leaf-shaped coin, produced in fine silver, along with other coins celebrating FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015™, the TORONTO 2015 Pan Am and Parapan American Games, LOONEY TUNES™ characters and the 100th anniversary of the publication of John McCrae's war poem *In Flanders Fields*.

Other 2015 highlights included:

- The Mint was instructed through an Order in Council (OIC) issued on July 16, 2015 to comply with Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS) guidelines on travel and hospitality expenditures. It was already in partial compliance prior to the OIC being issued through changes in February and May 2015 to align many primary provisions with TBS guidelines. It completed its compliance at the end of February 2016 and the new corporate plan reflects the implementation of the guidelines. A noticeable

consequence of the new policy is an end to the Annual Mint Reception at the R.C.N.A. Convention.

- The press release included the text: "Supporting the Mint's strategy, a new corporate vision focused on excellence, serving our customers, delivering value to Canada and Canadians, and providing a supportive work environment for our talented people;" was included. The bottom line is a recognition that the Mint's old business model is running out of steam and new methods of profitable growth have to be found.
- The sale of all assets related to MintChip™ was complete by the end of 2015, paving the way for its move to commercialization in the private sector.
- The launch of the *My Canada, My Inspiration* program calling on Canadians to submit designs for every coin denomination circulating in 2017 during Canada's 150th anniversary. Over 10,000 entries were received and more than one million Canadians voted online to select the winning designs which will be revealed in 2017.

For those interested in more detail on the topics covered, and much more information on other topics, go to <http://www.mint.ca/store/dyn/PDFs/2015-Royal-Canadian-Mint-Annual-Report-English-FINAL-May-4.pdf> and download your own copy.

Dutch Mint Will Be Sold

by Ursula Kampmann,

translated by Annika Backe

from the Coins Weekly web site May 12, 2016

As reported by the Dutch newspapers "Volkskrant" and "Telegraaf," on April 29, 2016, Dutch Junior Finance Minister Eric Wiebes announced Cabinet's decision to sell the Royal Dutch Mint. "The company being limited to the manufacture of coins, many opportunities are missed," said the State Secretary. Besides, the market had become structurally difficult. With its present structure as a state-owned public limited company it would be impossible to make it thrive.

As a matter of fact, competition between mints is fierce. It is assumed that there is a high overcapacity on the international market. The companies are thus forced to accept orders that are (too) risky. To the Royal Dutch Mint, which has operated on the foreign market successfully for years, an order from Chile proved fatal. Because of a breach of contractual terms—a shipment of pesos developed dark oxidation stains—the Chileans demanded a high contract penalty. That got the Royal Dutch Mint into the red. Although highly respected by the international numismatic community, the Mint's CEO Maarten Brouwer had to step down. Since, at the end of the day, it is the Dutch state that covers the company's debts, the Minister of Finance has now pulled the communication cord. The Netherlands will no longer have their own mint. According to the Minister, there is also a chance that Dutch coins will be produced in another country from now on.

This is the end of a tradition that dates back centuries. In 1567, Philipp II of Spain established a mint in Utrecht. Since 1579, this mint produced coins on behalf of the province of Utrecht. Utrecht



became the national mint in 1814, because a planned central mint of the Netherlands, to be located in Amsterdam, could not be established for lack of money. In 1994, the mint was privatized, but actual ownership remained with the state.

How light-heartedly century-old institutions are treated in the Netherlands is illustrated by the fate of the Geldmuseum Utrecht. The mint museum, the coin collection of the Netherland Bank and the Royal coin cabinet had been merged to form one large money museum which, as a private institution located in Utrecht, was planned to operate economically "neutral." Once the politicians realized with surprise that a money museum cannot generate a big enough profit to pay the number of researchers, these researchers were sacked first, and the museum closed thereafter.

It seems that the Royal Dutch Mint will be spared this fate because it is easier to find buyers for a company than for a money museum. Once the parliament has given its approval, the sale can be initiated.

No Artist's Model on Canadian Coins

Reported in *The Numismatist* of February, 1916

In the daily press in the early part of January there appeared the following "news" item:

"When the new Canadian coins, now ordered, make their appearance they will bear on their face a reproduction of the profile of Mrs. Reba Porter of Island Heights, N. J., a well-known model in the New York studios. Numismatists claim that the new issue of Canadian coins will be the most artistic ever issued."

In some of the papers it was accompanied by a large illustration showing Mrs. Porter seated before a dressing-table with her very attractive features reflected in the mirror. The attention of Mr. R. W. McLachlan of Montreal was called to the "news" item, who immediately branded it as another of the fake stories that frequently appear in the daily press. He forwarded one of the clippings and illustrations to the Deputy Master of the Canadian Mint at Ottawa, who wrote Mr. McLachlan as follows:

"Dear Mr. McLachlan—The cutting came this morning, and is hereby returned. It has caused amusement here. I think you are right in regarding the whole as a joke. It is a joke at the expense of our coinage, which deserves more respectful treatment.

"J. BONAR, Deputy Master."

In a letter to *The Numismatist* Mr. McLachlan says, in part:

"In the first place, all the dies for the Canadian Mint are designed in the Mint at London, and the hubs sent out all ready engraved with which to impress as many new dies as may be required.

"In the second place, it is altogether unlikely that the Mint would find it necessary to send to the United States for a model and an artist when they have plenty near at hand.

"In the third place, there has been no call for the substitution of the King's bust by an ordinary artist's model, no matter how prepossessing in appearance.

"One of the Montreal papers reproduces the cut with the remark that it is a joke regarding which the authorities cannot give any account of its origin."

COMING EVENTS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER 2016

May 28, North York, North York Coin Club Annual Coin Show, Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. W. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Free admission, free parking, all sorts of collectibles and featuring coins, paper money, tokens, etc.* For more information contact Paul Petch, email coinshow@northyorkcoinclub.com, telephone 416-303-4417. Website: www.northyorkcoinclub.com

June 4, Kingston, Kingston Coin / Stamp / Militaria Collectors Show, Military Communications and Electronics Museum, 95 Craftsman Blvd. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4

p.m. *Free admission and parking. Come buy, sell, trade and learn. While you are there enjoy the museum.* For more information contact Sandy Lipin, email sandylipin@gmail.com, telephone 613-542-6923.

June 12, Brantford, Brantford 55th Annual Coin Show, Branlyn Community Centre/School, 238 Brantwood Park Road. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Free admission, free parking. Over 80 dealer tables. Free evaluations. Breakfast and lunch available from outdoor food truck. Kid's table for those under 18. Wheelchair accessible.* For more information contact Cassidy Stroud, email

brantfordcoinclub@hotmail.com, telephone 519-427-6158.

June 25 – 26, Toronto, TOREX – Canada's National Coin Show, Hyatt Regency Toronto on King, 370 King St. W. Featuring Canada's finest dealers in Canadian, ancient, and foreign coins, paper money, coin and paper money supplies and reference books. TOREX, Canada's longest running collectors' show (since 1962), is the best place to buy, sell, trade and evaluate your coins! For more information contact Brian Smith, email brian@torex.net, telephone 416-705-5348. Website: <http://www.torex.net>

July 19 – 24, Ottawa, 2016 Ottawa RCNA Convention, Delta Ottawa City Centre, 101 Lyon Street North (between Queen St and Albert St) hosted by the Ottawa Numismatic Society www.ons-sno.ca. The annual convention will feature a number of events including a show and bourse, auction by Geoffrey Bell Auctions, seminars, meetings, sight-seeing tours etc. Convention hotel rooms are going fast. For more information contact Paul Johnson, email info@rcna.ca, telephone 647-401-4014 or for Program of Events details or on line registration visit the RCNA Website: <http://www.rcna.ca/2016>

Listings are courtesy of Canadian Coin News Coming Events