

# Centennial Presentation Talking Points

by Neil Elson, OPS presentation given 11 March 2021

Slide 1 – Title Page

Slide 2 – Complete **basic** set of the centennial issue. Begin by sorting stamps into denominations

Slide 3 – The first sorting I did after picking the denomination to work on is the format. Sort stamps with perfs all around stamp (pane stamps) stamps with straight edges (Mini panes and booklets) and coils.

Slide 4 – The next step was to sort stamps by their paper fluorescence. This was the step that is the most difficult to get consistency in.

Slide 5 – I got a huge supply of centennial stamps and placed them face down on a table. I mixed all denominations and as many as I could get on the table.

Slide 6 – I used a 120-volt U.V. light with both low and high wave lengths. Battery-operated lights don't generate the power needed to do a good job over a sustained period of time.

Slide 7 – When the light is turned on the table looks like this. I then started sorting the stamps into piles according to their fluorescence. After sorting into piles of like fluorescence I combined any duplicate piles that occurred. I then organized them in order from darkest to brightest.

Slide 8 – I ended up with groupings that looked like this and I numbered them from 1 the darkest to 12 the brightest.

Slide 9 – In order to get some consistency with stamp catalogues I used the catalogue terminology of very dull, dull, plain, fluorescent, high fluorescent and Hibrite combining 2 numbered grades in each catalogue category. In my collection it appears like the picture in slide 9.

Slide 10 – Sorting by tagging. At the same time as sorting for

fluorescence I sorted for tagging as well. The centennials come in two types of tagging, Ottawa or general tagging and Winnipeg tagging. The Winnipeg tagging comes in three forms, 2-bar (W2B) centre-bar (WCB) and W side-bar. The side bar occurs only on the 4 cent.

Slide 11 – This is how the tagging appears under a U.V. light. The general tagging is much brighter than the Winnipeg tagging. The Winnipeg tagging will fade if left in bright sunlight over time, so it is best to store them in an album or stock book to keep them from fading. Excessive soaking in warm or hot water will have the same fading effect.

Slide 12 – This shows what the tagging looks like after the U.V. light is turned off. The general tagging disappears completely, and the Winnipeg tagging continues to glow.

Slide 13 – This is an example of the sorting sheet I used. It is a manilla stock sheet divided into three columns with numbers 1-12 running down the side and two right columns for general tagged in the middle column and for W2B and WCB or W side bar in the far right column.

Slide 14 - Sort by gum type. There are two main types; PVA which is very dull and dextrin which is shiny. When the first PVA gums came out I wondered if there was any gum on the stamps at all because it looked so different from the dextrine gum.

Slide 15 – These are examples of PVA on the left and dextrin on the right

Slide 16 – Sort by perforation. There are 5 different coil variations in the centennials; perf 12 X12 by Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN), perf 12 1/2 X12 by British American Bank Note Company (BABN) perf 10X 10 (both companies used this perf), perf 10 horizontal coils and per 9 1/2 coils both by CBN.

Slide 17 – Examples of perforated stamps.

Slide 18 – Sort by paper types. There are two types of paper, plain paper and ribbed paper. Ribbed paper can be found on both pane stamps and mini-pane stamps (ribbed horizontally) and booklets

(ribbed vertically). It should be understood that stamps from mini-panes cannot be distinguished from regular pane stamps unless they have a straight edge attached. Ribbed paper is usually easier to view from the backside of the stamp, but is sometimes more prominent on the front.

Slides 19-20 – Examples of plain and ribbed paper, close-up on slide 20.

Slide 21-22 – Sort by shades. The one cent has the most shades as they were used exclusively as a make up stamp when the rates increased and hence they were used extensively throughout the duration of the issue. Most denominations have more than one shade.

Slide 23 - 6 cent orange and 6 cent black additions.

Slide 24 – 6 cent black has three dies. Die 1a is similar to Die II but used only by CBN (perf 12). Here are examples.

Slide 25-26 – Both these issues have straight edges on the right side on pane stamps, hence booklets can only be distinguished if they have a label attached, are in combination with other denominations or have the straight edge on the left side.

Slide 27 – After sorting the centennial stamps by this method it is possible to write up a summary page for each denomination that may look like this example of the 5 cent blue issue.

Slide 28-32 – Discussion of rates. The rate is determined by adding different charges on top of the basic rate.