

Richard M. Lamb, G. Robert Hambleton, Richard K. Malott, Graham Thomson, Y. Eugene Barna; Donald Greenleaf Joss, Robert Kenneth Eadie, and Murray Heifetz. The last three just reached the 50-year plateau this year.

Michael Madesker, Bruce A. Ovens, Alex A. McDonald, Eric Rushton, Richard M. Lamb, G. Robert Hambleton, Richard K. Malott, Graham Thompson, Y. Eugene Barna, Donald Greenleaf Joss, Robert Kenneth Eadie et Murray Heifetz. Les trois derniers membres cités viennent d'atteindre leur 50^{ème} année d'adhésion.

VANCOUVER 2010 OVERPRINT

On July 11, only nine days after Canada was awarded the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, Canada Post overprinted 100,000 of its current 48-cent definitive flag stamp booklets. The timing of the overprint was perfect as Canada Post was in the process of ordering a new printing of the self-adhesive booklets. Instead of the normal overprinting process, staff at Canada Post inserted the red inscription "Vancouver 2010" directly onto the printing plate to produce the new stamps. Because the 30-stamp booklets can be separated for counter sales into three individual booklets of ten stamps each, the identical inscription appears on each booklet cover.

As these are definitives stamps they could be reprinted should stocks of these booklets run out before the new 49-cent domestic rate flag stamp is issued next January. However, a reprint is unlikely

because the CP memorandum that accompanied the booklets stated: "Your outlet has been selected to receive an automatic allocation of the definitive flag stamps available in a booklet of 10 or 30 stamps. The



stamps and booklet cover are overprinted with 'Vancouver 2010'. This product is not available for reorder as they are a limited quantity intended to commemorate Vancouver and Whistler, the two communities selected to host the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympic Games".

Of the 100,000 "Vancouver 2010" overprints, 60% were allocated to post offices in British Columbia and the remainder were sent to the larger offices throughout Canada. Seven thousand booklets of 10 stamps each are available through Canada Post's National Philatelic Centre (75 St. Ninian St., Antigonish, NS, B2G 2R8. Toll free: 1 (800) 565-4362). No official Canada Post First Day Cover was prepared. While quantities last, the stamps are also available at the post offices at Canada Post headquarters, 2701 Riverside Drive and Station "D" at 340 Laurier St. West. They may also be available at other Ottawa post offices.

The quantity of 3,000,000 "Vancouver 2010" stamps issued compares favourably to many other commemoratives over the last five years. I believe it is important that Canadians tell the world that we are proud of our achievements. Issuing a stamp is one of the many ways we can do this.

Canada Post is Canada's fourth largest employer and at a \$6 billion bottom line it is one of Canada's major corporate citizens. As such, it has a social responsibility to participate in, and promote, the achievements of Canadians. Canada Post has been an early supporter of the Vancouver bid and has been along for the ride since the beginning. I am told by a Canada Post employee that Canada Post will be there for the long haul to 2010.

Charles Verge

