

# Born in America, honored by Canada

CHARLES J.G. VERGE

On May 1, Canada Post issued a 52¢ stamp to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the sinking and start of operation of the first commercial oil well in Canada.

The stamp pictures James Miller Williams, a businessman from Hamilton, Ontario, who hired Charles Nelson Tripp to help refine petroleum. Tripp, who is dressed like an adventurer on the stamp, was a native of New York.

Many Americans are pictured on Canadian stamps. American is defined here as those men and women born in the United States, not Canadians who became naturalized United States citizens.

Some people shown on Canadian stamps are obviously American. Others may be a surprise.

Figure 1 shows several politicians from America who are pictured on Canadian stamps. In the political arena, the quintessential American on a Canadian stamp is Benjamin Franklin (1706-90), who was born in Boston, Massachusetts. A 10¢ stamp issued by Canada in 1976 shows a bust of Franklin by Jean-Jacques Caffiéri (Scott 691). The stamp commemorates the bicentennial of the United States. Franklin served as deputy postmaster general of all British North America colonies from 1753 to 1774.

Of Canada's Fathers of Confederation, only one was American-born. Sir William Pearce Howland (1811-1907) was born in Pawling, New York. His Quaker ancestors moved to New England in the early 17th century, and he

immigrated to Upper Canada in 1830 with his brother. The brothers worked as clerks in a general store that they later purchased.

By the mid-1850s, Howland was one of the wealthiest millers in Canada. He entered the legislature in 1857. From 1864 to 1866, he served as postmaster general of Canada. He was one of the three delegates from Upper Canada to the 1866 London Conference that created the Canadian Confederation.

Howland is shown among the other Fathers of Confederation on a 3¢ brown stamp issued in 1917 (Scott 135), on a 2¢ green stamp issued in 1927 (Scott 142) and on a 13¢ violet stamp issued in 1935 (Scott 224). He also may be one of the men shown on Scott 448.

Martha Louise Black (née Munger, 1866-1957) was born in Chicago, Illinois, and is shown on Scott 1661, one of four 45¢ stamps issued in 1997 to honor famous politicians. She left her hometown in 1898 to join the Klondike Gold Rush.

Black returned to the Yukon in 1901, where she established a gold refinery, staked goldfields and opened a milling business to support her three sons by a previous marriage. In 1904, she married George Black, who later became a member of Canada's Parliament. Her husband became ill and was forced to resign his seat in 1935. She ran for his seat, won and served as the member of Parliament from the Yukon until 1940.

American Indians consider the border between Canada and the United States to be relatively open, so it is not surpris-

ing that a number of American-born natives made contributions to Canada that gave them the prominence required to receive stamp honors. Several American Indians who were born in the United States are shown on the four stamps pictured in Figure 2.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-80) was born in Auriesville, New York, in an Iroquois village located along the banks of the Mohawk River. When she was four years old, a smallpox epidemic swept through the village, leaving her an orphan and partially blind.

She had fond memories of her mother, who was a member of the Mohawk tribe, and the Catholic faith that she shared with her mother during her childhood. After she was baptized, she was ostracized by her family. She left them in 1677 and went to live just south of Montreal. She often went to the woods alone to pray and to enjoy nature. She became a Catholic nun and devoted her life to God.

Known as the Lily of the Mohawks, Kateri was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1980. Canada issued a 17¢ stamp in 1981 to honor her beatification (Scott 885).

Molly Brant (*circa* 1736-96) was born in the Mohawk Valley in New York. She was the sister of Chief Joseph Brant and the wife of General Sir William Johnson, British superintendent for Northern Indi-

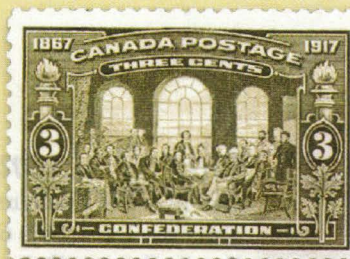
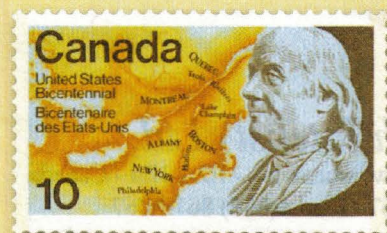


Figure 1. Canadian politicians born in the United States include Benjamin Franklin (Scott 691); Sir William Pearce Howland, one of the Fathers of Canadian Confederation shown on the 1917 3¢ stamp (Scott 135); and Martha Louise Black (Scott 1661), who was a member of Parliament.





Figure 2. American Indians shown on Canadian stamps (from left to right): Kateri Tekakwitha, Molly Brant, Jerry Potts and Chief Pontiac.

an affairs. During the American Revolutionary War, she worked to keep the Mohawk tribe faithful to the British Crown.

In 1779, Daniel Claus, a superintendent of Indian affairs and a Loyalist, wrote a letter to Frederick Haldimand, governor of the Province of Quebec during the war, in which he referred to Molly Brant as "being at the head of a society of Six Nation Matrons."

Molly Brant is honored as an Iroquois leader and Loyalist on a 34¢ stamp (Scott 1091) issued by Canada in 1986.

Jerry Potts is pictured on a 42¢ stamp (Scott 1432) in the 1992 Canadian Folklore set. Potts (c. 1840-96) was born in Fort McKenzie, Montana, although some sources say he was born in the Saskatchewan Territory that was then part of the lands belonging to the Hudson Bay Company.

His father was Scottish, and his mother was from the Káinawa, or

Blood, Tribe. He considered himself a member of the Piegan after he married two sisters from this Blackfoot tribe. He had four wives.

Potts was an adventurer who spent most of his life in Canada. He was a horse trader, guide and translator. After his mother was shot, he started a vendetta against whiskey runners. He later extended the vendetta to any white hunters who killed wolves.

Chief Pontiac (c. 1720-69) is pictured on a stamp (Scott 1826a) from one of Canada's Millennium souvenir sheets issued during 1999-2000. It's likely Chief Pontiac was born in Michigan on the Detroit or Maumee rivers. He is famous for the war that bears his name. Although he never lived in Canada, he is recognized as an important historical figure in Canada because of his support of the French during the French and Indian Wars.

In the world of science, several Americans have received stamp recognition by Canada (Figure 3). One of the most important figures is Charles H. Best (1899-1978). He, along with Dr.

Frederick Banting, discovered insulin.

Best was born in West Pembroke, Maine, to Canadian parents. During World War II, he was influential in establishing a Canadian program for preserving blood serum. Later, he acted as adviser to the medical research committee of the United Nations World Health Organization.

Although two stamps commemorate the discovery of insulin, Scott 533 and 1822a, only Scott 1822a from the Millennium souvenir sheet pictures Best.

William Hamilton Merritt (1793-1862) conceived and supervised the building of the Welland Canal to facilitate shipping between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie.

Merritt was born in Bedford, New York. He came from a United Empire Loyalist family who settled in New Brunswick after the American Revolutionary War and later returned to the United States. In 1795, the family immigrated to the Niagara peninsula of Upper Canada.

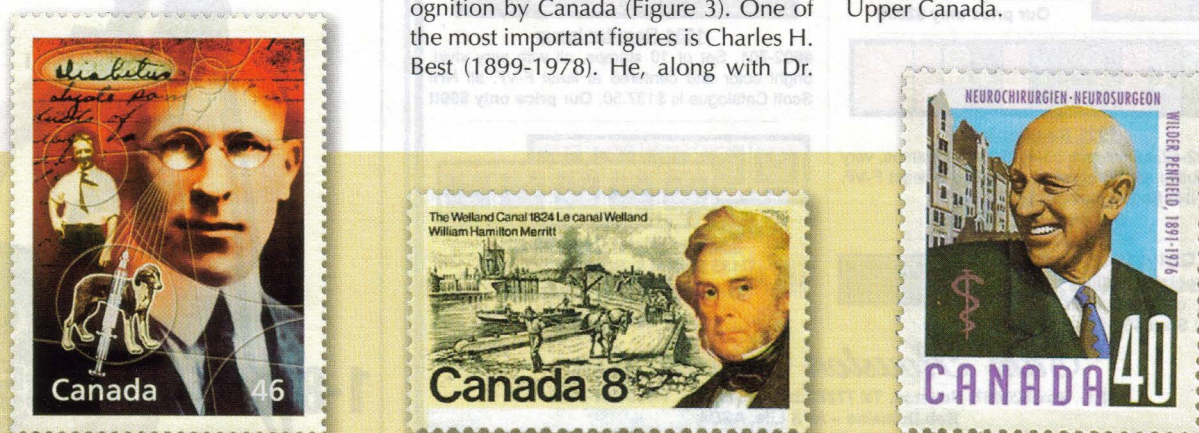


Figure 3. American-born scientists Charles H. Best, William Hamilton Merritt and Wilder G. Penfield received postal recognition from Canada.



Merritt led a troop of militia cavalry in the War of 1812 and was elected to the Canadian legislature, where he served from 1835 to 1860.

An 8¢ stamp was issued in 1974 to mark the sesquicentennial of the start of construction of the canal (Scott 655). The stamp shows Merritt in the foreground and the canal in the background.

Wilder G. Penfield (1891-1976) was born in Spokane, Washington. He was a Princeton graduate, a Rhodes scholar and a neurosurgeon. His claim to fame is the "Montreal procedure," a technique used to treat patients with severe epilepsy. During surgery, Penfield removed brain tissue and nerve cells where seizures originated.

In 1934, he founded and became the first director of the world-famous Montreal Neurological Institute. The insti-

tute can be seen behind his portrait on a 40¢ stamp issued by Canada in 1991 (Scott 1303).

Figure 4 pictures stamps that honor entertainers who were born in the United States.

Actor Richard Dreyfuss, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, is shown on a 45¢ stamp (Scott 1616b) in one of two sheetlets of five issued by Canada in 1996 to honor the centenary of motion pictures. The stamp shows a still shot from the film *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, starring Dreyfuss as Duddy.

The iconic pioneering and highly respected broadcaster Barbara Frum (née Rosberg, 1937-92) appears on a stamp that celebrates the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Scott 1821d). The stamp is included in the Millennium souvenir sheet series.

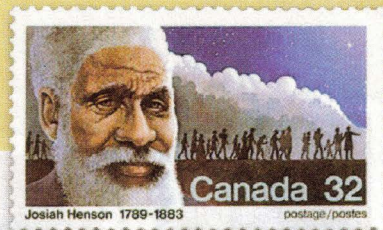


Figure 5. American-born philanthropists who have received postal honors from Canada include the Reverend Josiah Henson and Dorothy Brooks Killam.

## MOST FROM FRESH SHEETS!



### 1c-6c 1893 Columbians

#230-235, Set of six stamps, F-VF, LH/OG. Scott Catalogue is \$378.50, Our price only \$199!!



### 1923-26 Perf 10

#581-91, the scarce perf 10 set of 11, 1¢ - 10¢, all very fresh, choice, at least F-VF, all NH! Scott Catalogue is \$433.25, Our price only \$299!!



### 1926 Regular Issue

#632-42, ex the rare 634A. Set of 11 stamps, very beautiful set, vivid colors, centered at least F-VF, all NH!! Scott Catalogue is \$26, Our price only \$19.95!!

### QE1-4 1925

#### Special Handling

Set of 4, All fresh NH! Scott \$54, Our price \$39!!



### #620-21

#### Norse-American

Set of 2, F-VF NH!

Scott \$31,

Our price \$24.95!!



### #622-23

1925 Regular

issue, NH, Scott

\$47.50

Our price

\$37.50!!



### 1931 Regular Issue

#692-701, Set of 10 stamps, all with very vivid, bright color and centered at least F-VF, all NH! Scott Catalogue is \$137.50, Our price only \$99!!



### Scarce Official Coils VF NH

O135 Strip of 5, Scott \$57.50, \$39

O139 Strip of 5, Scott \$55, \$39

Order both for \$74.95

*Sam Houston Philatelics*

P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282 281-493-6386 1-800-231-5926

Bob Dumaine - APS Life, ASDA

We accept Visa MasterCard Discover Amex. Please add \$1.50 s/h. TX residents add 8.25% sales tax.

Check our web site for more! [shpgraded.com](http://shpgraded.com)

## DUAL-WAVE ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP

Why carry two Ultra-violet lights when one will do? The dual wave lamp features a split tube producing both long and shortwave light. Collectors interested in tagging need a shortwave light, while all collectors wary of faults, tears and repairs can use the longwave light. Only 6.5" long and powered by 4 AA batteries (not included) this lamp is effective in the light of bourse floor.

Item	Retail	AA*
ACC190	\$79.99	\$72.99

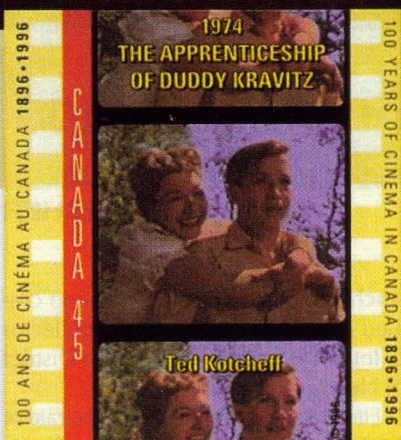


**1-800-572-6885**

[www.amosadvantage.com](http://www.amosadvantage.com)

\*AA prices apply to paid subscribers of Amos Hobby titles.





**Figure 4. Actor Richard Dreyfuss and broadcaster Barbara Frum are two American-born entertainers who are pictured on Canadian stamps.**

Born in Niagara Falls, New York, Frum is considered one of the best radio and television interviewers of the 1970s and 1980s. Her son David was a speechwriter for President George W. Bush.

Shown in Figure 5 are stamps that honor two philanthropists who were born in the United States.

The Reverend Josiah Henson (1789-1883) was born in Charles County, Maryland, and was a major player in the Underground Railroad, a secret

system by which American slaves were led to freedom in the North and Canada.

Henson escaped slavery in 1830 and moved to Dresden, Upper Canada, where he founded a settlement and school for fugitive slaves. The former slaves were taught a trade at the school. Harriet Beecher Stowe used Henson's memoirs as a source for her successful anti-slavery novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

Henson is shown on a 32¢ stamp issued by Canada in 1983 (Scott 997).

Dorothy Brooks Killam (née Johnston, 1899-1965) was born in St. Louis, Missouri. She was one of Canada's leading philanthropists and is shown with her husband on a stamp (Scott 1830b) from one of the Millennium souvenir sheets.

For the 10 years she lived following her husband's death, she increased the family fortune considerably. This was no small feat because Izaak Killam already was the richest man in Canada when he died in 1955.

Her will established the Killam Trusts and ensured that much of the family fortune would be given not only to charities that support higher education in Canada, but also to bursaries, research and fellowships. ■



## REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**Adoption of the euro  
Joint stamp issue Cyprus - Malta**  
Issue date: 1 January 2008



This issue in dual currency comprises of one Souvenir Sheet at the price of €2/£1.18 each.

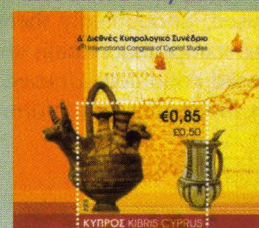
**The Anemone**  
Issue date: 6 March 2008



This issue in dual currency comprises of four stamps at the values of €0.26/£0.15, €0.34/£0.20, €0.51/£0.30, €0.68/£0.40 each in sheets of 8 stamps.

**4<sup>th</sup> International  
Cypriological  
Congress**

Issue date: 2 May 2008



This issue in dual currency comprises of one Souvenir Sheet at the price of €0.85/£0.50 each. F.D.C.s are also available at the price of €1.19/£0.70 each.

**Europa 2008**

Issue date: 2 May 2008



This issue in dual currency comprises of 2 stamps at the price of €0.51/£0.30 and €0.68/£0.40. F.D.C.s are also available at the price of €1.53/£0.90 each. Booklets will also be available at the price of €4.76/£2.79.



For automatic supply and earliest delivery of your stamps place a standing order with:

**DEPARTMENT OF POSTAL SERVICES  
STAMPS & PHILATELIC SERVICE  
CY 1900, NICOSIA, CYPRUS**  
Fax: +357 22304154  
Website: [www.mcw.gov.cy/dps](http://www.mcw.gov.cy/dps)  
E-mail: [philatelic@dps.mcw.gov.cy](mailto:philatelic@dps.mcw.gov.cy)

Please send me details of your terms of sale:

Name .....

Address .....