

Canada Post Celebrates the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum Centennial with Stamp

Helping to shape Canada quite literally from the ground up, the discovery of Canada's underground natural resources has played a significant role in Canada's development for almost three centuries. The Honourable André Ouellet, Chairman of the Board of Directors for Canada Post, announced that on May 4, the Corporation released a single stamp to honour the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum.

The stamp was designed by Monique Dufour and Sophie Lafortune of Ouebec, using layered photographs of equipment common to the honoured industries. A cutting wheel (from Tamrock Canada of Lively, Ontario just north of Sudbury), used in mining to break new ground, appears in the stamp's upper left corner. The impressive image of the Hibernia platform off the coast of Newfoundland (courtesy of the government of Newfoundland) is depicted in the lower left corner. The right side of the stamp features an image of a smelter (or high temperature furnace) used in the production of minerals. A silhouette of a pick axe, the archetypal miner's tool, is overlaid across the three images. The stamps are available in panes of 20, with five minerals depicted along the bottom of the full sheet.

The Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) began as an amalgamation of provincial mining associations and was incorporated by act of parliament in March of 1898 as the Canadian Mining Institute (the name was changed to recognize metallurgy in 1970 and petroleum in 1990). Among the CIM's early achievements were the successful blocking of an export tax on the copper-nickel of Sudbury, the reduction of royalty on Yukon gold from 10% to 2.5%, the reformation of Quebec's mining regulations and a movement for a federal department of mines.

The organization is Canada's leading technical association of minerals, metals, materials and energy professionals, with more than 12,000 national members working in the industry, government, and academia. In addition, more than 10,000 local members can be found in branches and sections throughout the country, along with more than 200 corporate members. The CIM has 16 technical societies, divisions, and committees which conduct studies, publish technical papers, arrange conferences, meetings and courses, and liaison with government departments.

The Official First Day Cover carries a Montreal, Quebec, cancellation mark. The envelope's cachet depicts a head-and-shoulders image of a miner in full gear. The image is part of a statue, *Miners Sculpture*, which is located at the entrance of the Northern History in Kirkland Lake Ontario.

Stamps and First Day Covers are available at participating postal outlets, or by mail order from the National Philatelic Centre. From Canada and the USA, call toll-free: 1-800-565-4362, and from other countries call: (902) 863-6550.

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