

TERMS & CONDITIONS

(Please read carefully)

1. The property described in this catalogue will be offered at public auction by Sparks Auctions Inc. (Sparks) on behalf of various consignors. By bidding on any lot, whether in person, or through an agent, via Stamp Auction Network, by mail, email, fax, telephone, website, or any other means, the bidder acknowledges and agrees to all of the following Terms and Conditions of Sale.
2. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The term "hammer price" means the last bid acknowledged by the auctioneer. The purchase price payable by the buyer will be the sum of the hammer price and a commission equal to 15% of the hammer price ("buyer's premium"), together with any sales tax which may be due on the sale.
3. All bids are per lot as numbered in the catalogue. The auctioneer shall regulate the bidding and reserves the right to reject any bid believed by him not to be made in good faith; to withdraw any lot prior to sale; to divide a lot; or to group two or more lots and to act on behalf of the vendor. In the event of any dispute, the auctioneer's decision shall be final. Sparks will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for any errors in the execution of such bids.
4. Unless a bidder has established credit with Sparks prior to the sale, Sparks must receive payment in full before the lots will be delivered. Buyers not known to Sparks must make payment in full within five days from the date of sale. Accounts more than thirty days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 2% per month. All expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the defaulter. A fee of \$100.00 will be charged for any cheque returned for insufficient funds.
5. All sales are in CANADIAN FUNDS. Payment may be made by bank draft, bank transfer, cheque drawn on a Canadian or U.S. bank, Canadian or International postal money order, cash or credit card (VISA and MasterCard only). **Please note: Effective August 1, 2014, we will be charging a 2.5% convenience fee to process Visa & MasterCard payments.** Payment in U.S. funds is acceptable at the same rate which Sparks can purchase Canadian Funds at our bank (2.5% percent above the mid-market rate). Contact us if you require the exact amount owed in U.S. funds. Credit cards will be processed in Canadian Funds.
6. Buyers from Canada will be charged Federal GST or HST. Absentee bidders resident outside Canada are not liable for Canadian taxes if purchases are delivered outside of Canada. See shipping instructions.
7. Until paid for in full, all lots remain the property of Sparks on behalf of the seller.
8. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots and agrees to pay for prescribed shipping costs.
9. Because the descriptions and scans of the auction will be available in a printed catalogue, our website and on Stamp Auction Network, there is a chance of technical error. In that event the auctioneer's decision will be final. If discovered before the sale a notice will be posted on sparks-auctions.com. Opening bids will be available on the websites and will be updated. These are only provided as a service to bidders and Sparks does not guarantee their completeness or accuracy.
10. Any lot, the description of which is obviously incorrect, is returnable, but only if the lot is returned within 14 days of receipt. All disputed lots must be returned intact with the original packing material. The following lots may not be returned for any reason: Lots containing ten or more items; any lot described with "faults" or "defects" may not be returned because of any fault or defect. No illustrated lots may be returned because of centering, margins or other factors shown in the illustrations.
11. All lots are sold as genuine. If a prospective purchaser wishes to obtain other expert opinion from a mutually acceptable authority, an extension may be granted on a lot prior to the commencement of the auction provided that the following conditions are met; (1) the purchase price of the lot must be paid in full, (2) the item must be submitted to the mutually acceptable expertizing committee with a properly executed application form within 14 days of the sale, (3) a copy of the application form must be given to Sparks, (4) unless prior arrangements are made, extensions are granted for a period of up to 100 days; (5) if in the opinion of the authority the lot is not genuine or was grossly misdescribed, the purchaser shall receive a full reimbursement of the purchase price plus costs of certification up to \$100, and (6) lots back stamped or marked are not returnable. It is the purchaser's responsibility not to let this happen.

Shipping Information

Unless specific other arrangements are made between the buyer and Sparks Auctions, lots will be shipped by Express Post or Fed-Ex with signature required and no extra handling, packaging, or insurance fees.

Notes on catalogue values and reference

Catalogue values are listed for most lots offered. These are the best available guides to the retail price of a single stamp or set provided that the item(s) are the same quality as the standard described in the introduction to each catalogue. Exceptional quality will often sell above the catalogue value; inferior quality will sell for less; faulty stamps in a lot can result in a sale price of a small percentage of the catalogue price.

When cataloguing collections we use the value for the grade specified. For Unitrade we use the grade specified at the start of the textual description. Thus a "fine" collection will have all stamps added at the fine price.

2015 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*
The Essays and Proofs of British North America by Kenneth Minuse and R. H. Pratt
The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by Winthrop Boggs
Canada and the Universal Postal Union by George Arfken
Canada's Small Queen Era 1870-1897 by George Arfken
Canada's Postage Stamps of the Small Queen Era, 1870-1897 by John Hillson and Ted Nixon
Canada's Small Queen Era Postal History, 1870 to 1897 by George Arfken
Canada's Registered Mail 1802-1909 by H.W. Harrison, George Arfken and H. Lussey
Canada 1870-1897 Small Queen Issue by Nixon, J. Edward (BNAPS Exhibit Book)

Provenance is based on past auction sales as noted in lot descriptions and reference copies of collections.

