

Fake loonies were top quality

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MONTREAL / A small factory in Repentigny, Que., is being probed for manufacturing counterfeit loonies and toonies of “unprecedented” quality.

“Our experts are saying, with regards to the quality of the finished product we found (in the factory), is that this kind of operation has never been seen before in Canada. The word they use is unprecedented,” said RCMP Cpl. Luc Bessette.

Police stumbled upon the fake \$1 and \$2 coins while executing a search warrant as part of an unrelated investigation last month.

Bessette did not say how many fakes were found or how many might have been made. “We don’t know yet if they were producing these things for days or months or years,” he said.

Bessette said reproducing the coins requires sophisticated equipment and tools.

One person was arrested and questioned about the fake coins, but was later released. Bessette said more arrests are expected.