



**PUBLISHER & EDITOR:**

Mike Walsh (Ext. 228) mw@trajan.ca

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Ted Banning, Stanley Clute, Tim Grawey, Randy Heimpel, Tony Hine, Sean Isaacs, Dick Logan, George Manz, John Regitko, Ian Robertson, Jesse Robitaille, Sean Sinclair

**ADVERTISING:** advertising@trajan.ca

Mike Walsh (Ext. 228),

Jim Szeplaki (Ext. 223)

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:** jims@trajan.ca

(Ext. 223)

**CIRCULATION:** office@trajan.ca

(Ext. 221)

**COMPOSITION & DESIGN:** jims@trajan.ca

Production Co-ordinator – Jim Szeplaki (Ext. 223)

Mary-Anne Luzba – mluzba@trajan.ca

**OFFICE:** office@trajan.ca

Accounts Receivable (Ext. 230)

**PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

GST #10638 6139 RT

Canada: \$54.60 for one year (26 issues) plus applicable tax;

\$102.90 for two years (52 issues) plus applicable tax;

\$148.99 for three years (78 issues) plus applicable tax;

U.S.A.: \$66.95 for one year (U.S. funds);

Foreign: \$269.00 for one year (Canadian funds).

**DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

GST #10638 6139 RT

Canada: \$37.99 one year (26 issues) plus applicable tax;

US/Foreign: \$37.99 (Canadian funds) one year (26 issues);

Add digital to print subscription for only \$5.99 extra for one year (26 issues)

**CANADIAN POSTMASTER**

Send address changes to Canadian Coin News,

PO Box 25009 Rose City RO, Welland, ON L3B 6G9

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40069699

Registration No. 09137,

Postage paid at Welland, ON.

Return postage guaranteed.

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Circulation Dept.,

PO Box 25009 Rose City RO, Welland, ON L3B 6G9,

e-mail: office@trajan.ca

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Funded by the Government of Canada

**EDITORIAL POLICY:** *Canadian Coin News* is a hobby magazine endeavouring to bring worldwide numismatic news and views to its readers with the major emphasis on Canadian numismatics. Opinions expressed in signed columns, stories, and letters are not necessarily those of *Canadian Coin News*.

**Auction and sales reports:** *CCN* staff or assigned contributors write pre- and post-sale articles. Writers conduct interviews as needed and use information provided by the auction house as source material. As with all news articles, story selection, which sales to cover, and final placement in the magazine are news decisions made by the editor(s). Statements regarding sales are verified against prices realized. Lots that fail to meet reserve, or are bought by the consignee or their agent, are considered non-sales for the purpose of reporting. From time to time, *CCN* staff may request a copy of the invoice covering the auction transaction. Due to the public nature of auction transactions, this should not be needed often, but will be required in private treaty sales. Any information other than the price will be kept in confidence.

**Attributions and values:** Items attributed or values in *CCN* editorial content are offered as a service to our readers. In no way should they be construed to be an endorsement or official opinion on a specific item. Readers looking for definitive answers should seek the services of a professional numismatist. While we strive for accuracy, errors or mistakes can occur. As a matter of policy such errors or mistakes, when discovered, will be corrected in the next available edition.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** *CCN* welcomes and encourages letters to the editor to further promote a diversity of voices and opinions in our magazine. Letters should be between 100 and 200 words (and no longer than 400 words) and refer to a recent *CCN* article or numismatic-related event, and all letters must be signed by the sender. Also provide your phone number or email address for possible verification by *CCN*. We reserve the right to reject or edit letters.

**REPRINT RIGHTS:** *Canadian Coin News* assumes that letters to any department and all unsolicited material submitted are contributed gratis and are for publication unless otherwise stated. Solicited material will be deemed accepted upon publication. Payment will be made two months following publication. *Canadian Coin News* reserves the right to edit all material submitted, solicited or unsolicited.

**PRIVACY POLICY:** Occasionally *Canadian Coin News* makes its subscriber list available to other reputable companies with offers of goods and/or services specific to collectors. If you wish not to be part of this service, please phone or fax us, or e-mail office@trajan.ca. You can also request a copy of our Privacy Policy, or see it online at www.trajan.ca.

**PHOTOCOPYING RIGHTS:** No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior written consent of the publisher or, in the case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a license from Access Copyright (Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency), 6 Adelaide St. East, Suite 900, Toronto, ON, M5C 1H6

This publication makes references to various Charlton Numbers. The copyrights to these Numbering Systems are the property of CHARLTON INTERNATIONAL INC.

*Canadian Coin News* (ISSN 0702 3162) is published bi-weekly by Trajan Publishing Corp., PO Box 25009 Rose City RO, Welland, ON CANADA L3B 6G9. Periodicals postage paid at Buffalo NY and additional mailing offices. Known Office of Publication: 145 Gruner Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227. Publication number 761790. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Canadian Coin News, PO Box 59, Buffalo NY, 14205-0059. Publication Mail Agreement #40069699. Return undeliverable US addresses to Canadian Coin News, PO Box 59, Buffalo NY, 14205-0059, email office@trajan.ca (GST 10638 6139)

*Canadian Coin News* is indexed in the Canadian Magazine Index by Micromedia Ltd. ISSN: 0702-3162

*Canadian Coin News* is owned and published by

**TRAJAN**  
PUBLISHING CORPORATION

PO Box 25009 Rose City RO

Welland, ON L3B 6G9

WWW.TRAJAN.CA

TELEPHONE: (905) 646-7744 FAX: (905) 735-1909

TOLL FREE: 1-800-408-0352



## Collector finds police, media inaction ‘extremely frustrating’

By Jesse Robitaille

After the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) issued a warning this January regarding several obviously fake \$2 coins used at a store in Hawkesbury, Ont., one collector is wondering if law enforcement will shine a light on another coin-counterfeiting matter.

On Jan. 11 at about 11 a.m., OPP officers were called to a store on Regent Street in the Eastern Ontario city after someone used several counterfeit toonies to make a purchase. The following day, the OPP shared a photograph of the fake currency, which depicts a walrus in place of the polar bear on the reverse, where the denomination also reads “Z DOLLARD.” The obverse features a modified portrait of Queen Elizabeth II alongside the year-date “1990,” which was six years before the toonie’s launch, plus the phrase “P.G REGINA” (genuine coins read “D.G. REGINA” for “Dei Gratia Regina,” Latin for “By the Grace of God, Queen”). The fakes also lack edge lettering, which reads “CANADA” and “2 DOLLARS” on genuine toonies.

“The OPP would like everyone to be aware of this and to be vigilant in assuring they do not fall victim to this fraud,” police said in their Jan. 12 statement.

That day, Const. Kenneth Gray also told *CBC News*, “At a glance, they absolutely look like a toonie. You just have to look at them carefully.”

While Gray wouldn’t tell *CBC* whether police believe more fake “Dollard” toonies are in circulation, officers will seek camera footage that may have filmed the person who used the fake coins in Hawkesbury.

Alex Reeves, the Royal Canadian Mint’s senior manager of public affairs, also told *CBC* the bi-metallic colouring

on the Dollard counterfeits may fool some people despite the fakes’ lack of other genuine security features, including laser mark micro-engraving and a latent double maple leaf image.

Upon seeing the OPP’s press release about the Dollard coins and the ensuing mainstream media coverage, including by *CBC*, *Global*, *CTV*, the *National Post* and the *Toronto Star*, one collector who has been researching and cataloguing a separate spate of widely circulated counterfeit toonies voiced his displeasure.



**The Ontario Provincial Police issued a warning to the public this January after several counterfeit \$2 coins were used at a store in Hawkesbury, Ont. The obverse (left) depicts a modified portrait of Queen Elizabeth II with a 1990 year-date, six years before the denomination’s launch. The reverse (right) features a walrus rather than a polar bear in the inner core while the denomination reads ‘Z DOLLARD.’**

“It is extremely frustrating,” said Brent Mackie, the long-time treasurer of the Waterloo Coin Society and a life member of several other numismatic groups. “Mike Marshall and myself are working hard to raise awareness about the much more prevalent and much more dangerous counterfeit ‘Camel Toe’ toonies in circulation, and neither law enforcement nor the mainstream media seem to be paying any attention. Yet

they are quite happy to parade around a novelty coin with a walrus on it and telling people to watch out for them.”

The Camel Toe counterfeits were first reported in fall 2020 (“Dozens of counterfeit toonies allegedly passed in Toronto,” *CCN* Vol. 58 #10) before collectors began finding the fakes in circulation across the country (“Surge of suspected fakes hits cities across Canada since fall, collector finds,” *CCN* Vol. 59 #1).

Mike Marshall, an award-winning counterfeit coin expert who collects data on the Camel Toe toonies and most other counterfeit Canadian coins, notified police plus local, provincial and federal politicians in early 2021 to no avail.

Last summer, Mackie launched a research-focused website, *camelt-oetonies.ca*, through which he hopes to shine a light on the counterfeits’ prevalence (“Collector created fake toonie catalogue ‘because there were so many,’” *CCN* Vol. 59 #9).

Both he and Marshall believe millions of Camel Toe toonies are circulating nationwide to the detriment of small businesses – not to mention the public’s trust in Canadian currency.

Last summer, Reeves told *CCN* the Mint was “monitoring the situation” regarding the Camel Toe toonies but added coin counterfeiting is rare in Canada – a claim he echoed to *CBC* this January.

On Feb. 2, Reeves told *CCN* the Mint is “continuing to actively monitor this situation but cannot provide additional details at this time.”

“A term like ‘rare’ is always subjective, isn’t it? Does rare mean only a few pieces known? Or perhaps it means a low percentage of the overall total,” Mackie told *CCN* this January. “What is ‘low?’”

Since last March, Mackie has searched through and logged hundreds

*Continued on page 30*

## Pick our BRAIN

In this corner of each issue, our writers will work with collectors, dealers and other numismatic leaders to uncover practical knowledge for people who are looking to bolster their hobby. To submit an inquiry, email [info@trajan.ca](mailto:info@trajan.ca) or write to ‘Pick Our Brain,’ PO Box 25009, Rose City RO, Welland, ON L3B 6G9.

**Reader P. Stamets writes, “When did Canada stop making silver dollars for circulation?”**

Among the most desirable yet affordable Canadian coins, the country’s silver dollars were first issued in 1935 to commemorate King George V’s silver jubilee. The coin’s reverse design, by German-born Toronto-based sculptor and designer Emanuel Hahn, fea-



tured a voyageur and an Indigenous guide paddling in a birch-bark canoe while faint lines in the sky represent the northern lights.

“This admirable design served for decades, an enduring reminder of Canada’s early history,” according to the Royal Canadian Mint.

While Hahn’s reverse design was used on Canada’s \$1 coin until 1986,

the coin’s composition was changed in 1967 from an alloy containing 80 per cent silver and 20 per cent copper to pure nickel. Except for during the Second World War (1939-44), Canada coined silver dollars every year between 1935 and 1967. There are many known varieties (listed and valued in *CCN Trends*) plus key and semi-key dates throughout the more than 30-year series.

Previously, in 1870 – three years after Confederation – the newly formed Dominion of Canada issued its first coins, including silver five-, 10-, 25- and 50-cent pieces (with bronze cents coined in 1876). Earlier, the Province of Canada – the united colonies of Lower Canada and Upper Canada that later formed part of the new dominion – adopted the decimal system in 1858 and issued silver five-, 10- and 20-cent coins dated 1858 (plus bronze cents dated 1858 or 1859). 🍁

# Trends...

Continued from page 16

• 75 per cent “Red” and better examples of non-key dates are hit and miss, with some going at bargain levels if only one or two bidders step up.

But for spot-free 90 per cent or more “Red” examples in Mint State-63 and -64, there is generally someone who will pay at least the reserve level or higher – and much higher if it is an under-appreciated “sleeper date.” Examples include the 1861 Nova Scotia “Small Bud” cent (a recent auction result in Mint State-65 “Red” opened at \$1,000 and sold at \$4,462, including buyer’s fee, on a \$2,000-\$4,000 estimate) plus the 1894 Newfoundland cent and 1864 New Brunswick “Tall 6” cent.

Outside the auction format, the common dates in grades from VG-EF are moderate sellers. Attractive single or multiple coin purchases can be found if the collector takes the time and effort to provide his collecting goals and want list to spe-

cialists in these areas. The strength of your Maritime contacts can make a considerable assist in improving your grading skills and your enjoyment of modestly priced coins. Every collector of advanced material will very likely tell you their first steps did not involve expensive coins.

As many of you are no doubt aware, several areas of Canadian numismatics are hot at present – scarce, rare and high-grade paper money, finest-known Canadian coins in all denominations, Canadian George V and George VI high-grade copper and of course attractive key dates in all denominations. As a result, many quality Maritime coins with much smaller mintages than Canadian equivalents can be purchased and completed at preferred levels when compared to Canadian material.

A long-term collector in Canada has been studying, photographing and detailing Newfoundland coins for many years. The detail with which he has shown various engraver

and die varieties is incredible. This gentleman would be the first to admit the extent and result of his labours is “over the top,” and he does not expect Maritime collectors will want to collect all the hundreds of discoveries he has listed and photographed. There is a good chance when the COVID pandemic (hopefully) ends, a group of advanced Maritime specialists will review his work; with his permission, they may help to enter his major discoveries into the published realm. Some members of the Newfoundland Collectors Club, together with other interested collectors and dealers, have expressed interest in this project.

As a first step and with the encouragement of several Newfoundland specialists, CCN could add a new dramatic variety – a 1945 “Narrow Date” five-cent coin – to *Trends* without a valuation (as it has done with the 1876-H Newfoundland “7 Over 7” cent). In that way, whatever natural demand strength develops will determine its eventual valuation. \*

# Inaction...

Continued from page 6

of thousands of toonies, mostly withdrawn from various banks in rolls. According to his data, the concentration of Camel Toe toonies outside of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) is between one per cent and two per cent of total circulation with “even greater rates” within the GTA.



**The ‘Camel Toe’ fakes (shown) feature a tell-tale obverse marker on the polar bear’s right paw. The fakes also include extra lines on the left side of the ice floe, font differences on the year-dates and a ‘generally poor engraving quality’ on the bear and portrait, according to numismatist Brent Mackie.**

“Do those numbers equate to ‘rare?’ That might depend on your perspective,” Mackie said. “An average consumer who would normally only have a few toonies at any one time and frequently pays with plastic may never see a counterfeit coin. A retail business that collects thousands of dollars per day in revenue could see counterfeits every day. The very fact that these Camel Toe toonies are easy to obtain simply by checking few rolls of coins, I believe, disqualifies the use of the term rare.”

Mackie’s research has highlighted what he called “the

other key problem with counterfeit circulating coins.” He believes the coin-distribution system, including financial institutions and cash-processing firms, are passing these coins “through the system unchecked.”

“Gone are the days when you could go to the bank, get a roll of toonies and expect to get exactly 25 genuine toonies. Not only are there foreign coins mixed in, but rolls may often be short one or two coins, and rolls may even have loonies, car wash tokens or washers and now counterfeit coins, too. Unless you open the roll before leaving the bank, count and examine each coin, there’s no guarantee that you’re getting \$50 in genuine toonies in that roll.”

Last June, after being contacted by CCN, TD Canada Trust declined to comment regarding its branches withdrawing \$2 circulation coins to check for counterfeits – something reported by some collectors.

“The banks need to be taking ownership of this problem by only handing out full rolls of genuine coins,” Mackie added. “They need to put pressure on their coin suppliers, too, to ensure that they are only being supplied with full rolls of genuine coins. The government needs to ensure an adequate supply of genuine coins for circulation and needs to sort out and withdraw everything else. Lastly, law enforcement needs to investigate these counterfeit coins and put a stop to their production.”

“None of that is happening at present, and the problem worsens day by day.”

To view Mackie’s online catalogue, where all known Camel Toe types are illustrated and described alongside earlier “Montréal Mint” fakes, visit [cameltoetoonies.ca](http://cameltoetoonies.ca). \*

## SHOW & Bourse

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, many shows, auctions, club meetings and other numismatic events are being cancelled. For the most up-to-date information, visit CCN's online 'Events' listings at [canadiancoinnews.com/events](http://canadiancoinnews.com/events) or contact event organizers.

### FEB. 13, OTTAWA, ON

Ottawa Monthly Coin Show, Royal Canadian Legion, 389 Richmond Road Ottawa's monthly coin show returns on February 13th. Show hours are 9am-3pm. Should be a full house of 12-14 dealers who have had a couple of lockdown months to fatten their inventory. For the latest on the show, please visit [ottawacoinshows.com](http://ottawacoinshows.com) Website: [ottawacoinshows.com](http://ottawacoinshows.com).

### FEB. 20, 2022, OSHAWA, ON

Coin-A-Rama, Jubilee Pavilion, 55 Lakeview Park Ave. One day only, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., featuring paper money, coins, tokens, medals, books, supplies and many other items. The show also features a mini-auction at 2 p.m. plus free dealer and membership draws, new hourly public draws and free admission. Come out and look for that special item for your collection or for a gift. We're sure you'll find what you need. The show is sponsored by the Oshawa & District Coin Club. For more information contact Sharon Maclean, email [papman@bell.net](mailto:papman@bell.net), telephone 905-728-1352. Website: [www.oshawacoinclub.com](http://www.oshawacoinclub.com).

### FEB. 20, 2022, MADISON HEIGHTS, MI

12th International Coin Show, \*\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*\* Club Venetian, 29310 John R Road Madison Heights, MI 48071 Polish American Numismatic Society and Windsor Coin Club. Over 75 US and World Coin Dealer Tables. 10am – 4pm FREE admission and FREE parking. Authentic Polish food. NO SALES TAX in Michigan on coins and bullion. For more information contact Brett Irick, email [xr7gt@prodigy.net](mailto:xr7gt@prodigy.net), telephone 1-313-207-3562. Website: [www.pans-club.org](http://www.pans-club.org).

### FEB. 26 – 27, 2022, TORONTO, ON

TORFX, Crowne Plaza Toronto Airport Hotel, 33 Carlson Court. Canada's National Coin Show & Auctions - 60th Anniversary. Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Admission \$5. Under 16 free! Official Auctioneer: The Canadian Numismatic Company. For more information contact Brian Smith, telephone 416-705-5348. Website: [www.torfx.net](http://www.torfx.net).

### MAR. 4 – 6, 2022, MONTRÉAL, QC

Nuphilex Spring Show 2022 \*CANCELLED\* For more information, email [montrealnuphilex@gmail.com](mailto:montrealnuphilex@gmail.com), telephone 514-889-7740. Website: [nuphilex.com](http://nuphilex.com).

### MAR. 5 – 6, 2022, CALGARY, AB

Calgary Numismatic Society Annual Spring Money Fair, Clarion Hotel and Conference Centre, 2120 16th Ave NE Show hours: 10 am to 5 pm. Admission \$5 adult and free for 16 and under w/ adult. More than 50 dealer and exhibit tables to view. Lots of free parking. Youth Club table set-up w/handouts. Hourly draw prizes, plus a gold coin door prize. Fully accessible. Everyone is welcome to trade, buy or sell numismatic items. ATM and restaurant on premises. For more information contact James A. Williston, email [jawilliston@shaw.ca](mailto:jawilliston@shaw.ca), telephone 403-461-2663. Website: [www.calgarynumismaticssociety.org](http://www.calgarynumismaticssociety.org).

### MAR. 6, 2022, MISSISSAUGA, ON

Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show, John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Sponsored by the Troyak Club, the Mississauga Coin and Stamp Show will be open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., with 60 tables and more than 30 dealers. There's something for everyone, with Canadian and world coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official mint products, hobby supplies, reference books and more. Free evaluations plus buying, selling and trading. Admission is \$5 (children under the age of 16 are free), and parking is free. For more information contact Les Plonka, email [leszkep@rogers.com](mailto:leszkep@rogers.com), telephone 416-505-7999. Website: [www.troyakclub.com](http://www.troyakclub.com).

### MAR. 12, 2022, CAMBRIDGE, ON

Cambridge Coin Show, \*CANCELLED\* For more information contact Brent Mackie, email [info@cambridgecoinshow.ca](mailto:info@cambridgecoinshow.ca). Website: [cambridgecoinshow.ca](http://cambridgecoinshow.ca).

### MAR. 12 – 13, 2022, EDMONTON, AB

Edmonton Coin Show, \*CANCELLED\* For more information contact Marc Bink / Pierre Driessen, email [info@edmontoncoinclub.com](mailto:info@edmontoncoinclub.com), telephone 780-612-8477. Website: [edmontoncoinclub.com](http://edmontoncoinclub.com).

**SHOW ORGANIZERS:** How to list: Simply fill out the form found at [www.canadiancoinnews.ca](http://www.canadiancoinnews.ca) or mail, fax or email your information to Trajan Publishing (S&B), PO Box 25009 Rose City RO, Welland, ON L3B 6G9, fax (905) 735-1909, email [jims@trajan.ca](mailto:jims@trajan.ca). Please include: date of show; site of event, street, city, prov.; official name of event; organization sponsoring or affiliated with the event; hours; admission charge; if exhibits are present (display or competitive), contact person's name, address, postal code, telephone number. Two show dates per year will be listed for free (subsequent show dates will cost \$15 per listing).



### TORONTO COIN EXPO

is host to Canada's premier coin, bank note and collectable show, held semi-annually, in Downtown Toronto.

Auction: April 28-29, 2022  
Show: April 29-30, 2022

Auction: Sept 29-30, 2022  
Show: Sept 30-Oct 1, 2022

Conveniently located in the Heart of the City  
789 Yonge Street, Toronto Reference Library, 2nd Floor

Complete information can be found at [www.torontocoinexpo.ca](http://www.torontocoinexpo.ca)