

Variety of Canadian Coins

- By Metro Hnytko

One Cent

Province of Canada (1858-1859)

Large cents (95% copper, 4% tin, 1% zinc) also a very rare brass issue.

Canada

After confederation, the large pennies were again minted in 1876 until 1920. The coins minted in the Heaton mint were marked with a "H" under the date. In 1920, the penny consisted of a large cent and a cent common to the size of the penny today, made from 95.5% copper, 3% tin, and 1.5% zinc.

In 1953, the metal went to 98% copper, 0.5% tin, and 1.5% zinc until 1997. From 1990-1996, the coin became a 12 sided figure. The centennial penny had a dove on the reverse. From 1997-2003, the penny was made of copper plated zinc. There was also a test coin, 1999-2003, made of 94% steel, 4.5% copper, and 1.5% nickel.

May 4th, 2012, was the last day for the one cent coin after 106 years. The mint put the penny to R.I.P.

Rest in peace, Farewell Penny



1917 1935 1967 2009 2012

Five Cent

Province of Canada, 1858

The five cent coin. Composition; 92.5% silver, 7.5% copper. Weight; 1.16 grams.

Canada

After confederation, the five cent silver coin was again minted in 1870 with the same size and composition until 1919. Some five cent silver coins were minted in Heaton, England, which had been marked with a "H" under the wreath. The silver content was changed in 1920-1921 to 80% silver and 20% copper.

The nickel came into existence in 1922 with the nickel being the same size as our present-day nickel and was made of 100% nickel, therefore, the nickel. In 1942 and 1943, nickels were changed to a 12 sided coin and made of 88% copper and 12% zinc. This was

done as nickel was needed for the war effort. In 1944-1945, nickel was made from steel with a nickel plating and chromium plating. In 1946, the nickel went back to the nickel it had been before the war.

From 1951 to 1954, the nickel was steel again with a nickel, chromium plating. From 1963 to date, the nickel was round again. The centennial nickel had a rabbit on the reverse side. From 1982 to 1992, the nickel was made of 75% copper and 25% nickel. From 1993 to 2006, the nickel was made of 94.5% steel, 3.5% copper, and 2% nickel.

There have been rumours that the mint wants to get rid of the nickel as it costs too much to make. I believe that they should make the nickel smaller, as it is needed to make change for a quarter, and get rid of the dime.



1916 1923 1943 1944 1952 1967 2013

Ten Cent

Province of Canada, 1858

Composition; 92.5% silver, 7.5% copper

Canada

From 1870 to 1919, the ten cents was made of 92.5% silver and 7.5% copper. From 1920 to 1966, it went to 80% silver and 20% copper. In 1967, 32 million were 80% silver and 20% copper, and 30 million were 50% silver and 50% copper. In 1967, the dime had a mackerel on the reverse. The 1968 dime was 50% silver and 50% copper. In 1969, the dime consisted of 100% nickel. In 2001, the Royal Canadian Mint started minting coins of 92% steel, 5.5% copper, and 2.5% nickel.

There are numerous varieties that are too many to mention. They can be seen at our fall coin show on October 1st and 2nd at the Sunova Centre, 48 Holland Rd., West St. Paul.



1858 1898 1965 2011