

Joint Issue Postage Stamps: Canada and the United States

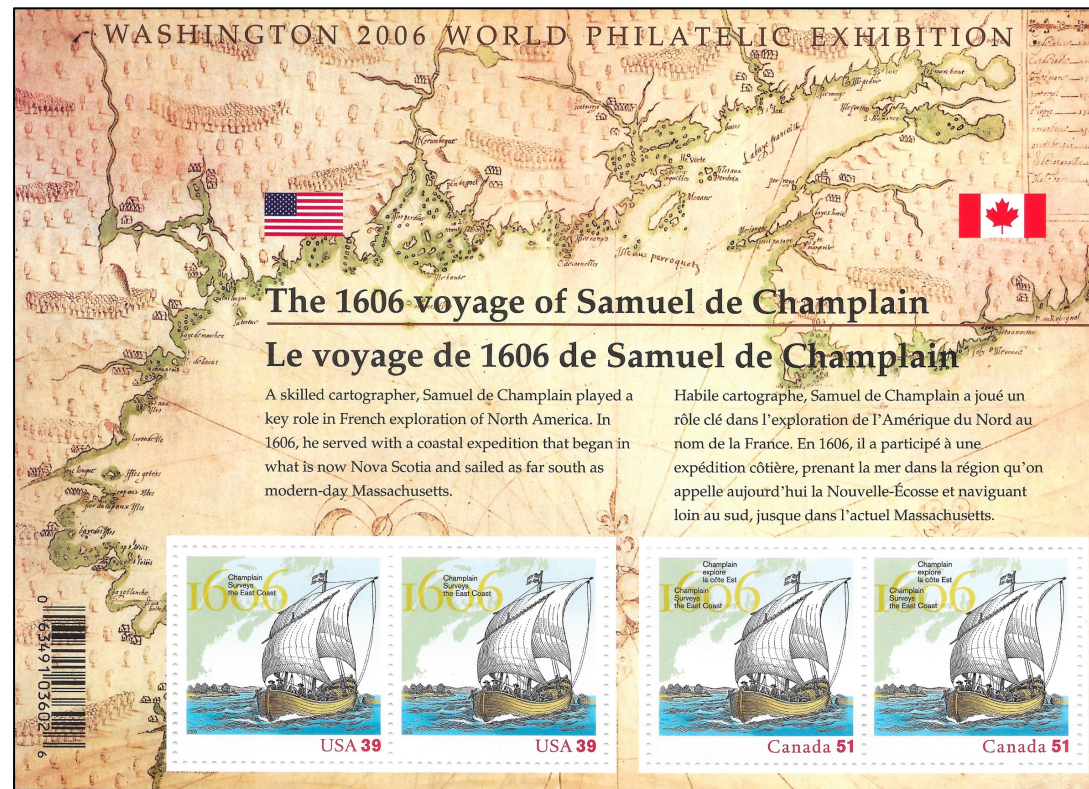
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Joint issue postage stamps are issued collaboratively by two or more countries.

In 1955, the Universal Postal Union, a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for coordinating the international postal system, published the following guidelines for the production and distribution of joint issue stamps between member countries.

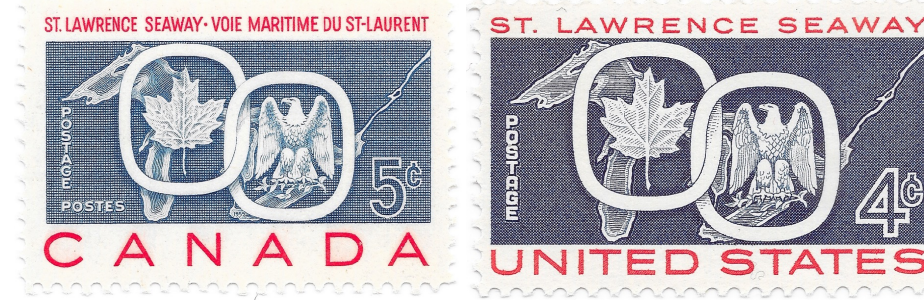
1. Design and Theme: The stamps should have a common design and theme that reflects the history, culture, or values of the participating countries.
2. Distribution: The stamps should be distributed in both countries with the same face value, and each country should print and sell its own stamps.
3. Language: The stamps should be inscribed with the official languages of both countries.
4. Technical Requirements: The stamps should meet the technical requirements of both countries and be valid for postage in both countries.
5. Printing: The printing of the stamps should be done collaboratively, with both countries involved in the design, production, and printing process.



Left: In 2006, joint stamps were issued to celebrate the 1606 voyage of Samuel de Champlain along the eastern seaboard. Souvenir Sheet: US Scott 4279, Canada Scott 2333. (Shown at 75%)

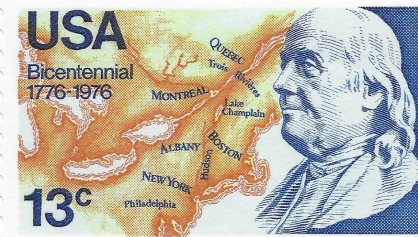
These and other joint issues have been released celebrating a wide range of cultural and historical ties between Canada and the United States. The stamps remind people in both countries of their close relationship as neighbours and allies and the of values that they share.

For more information visit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_issue

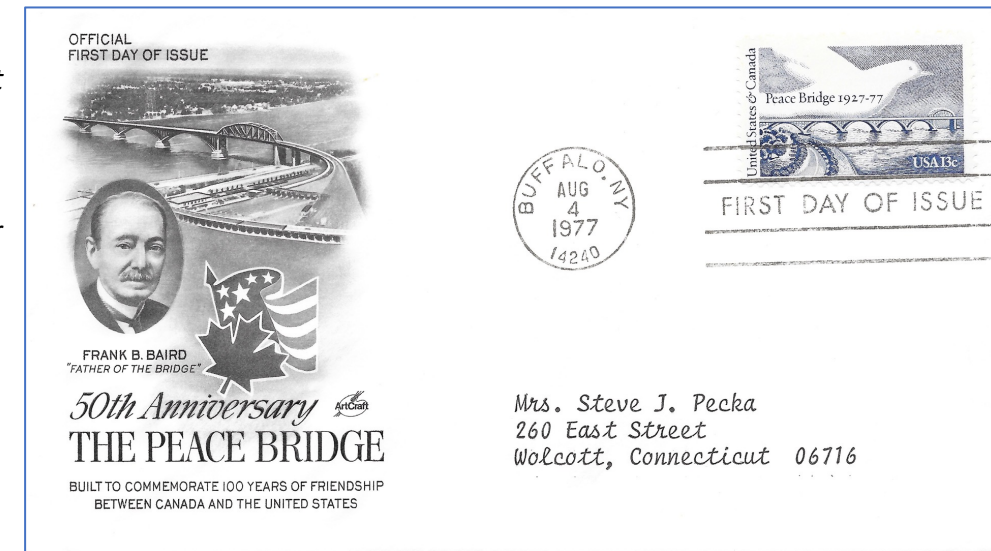
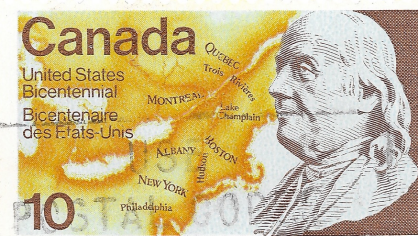


Left: One of the most well-known and longest-running joint issue stamp programs is the one between Canada and the United States. In 1959, the two countries issued their first collaboration – stamps commemorating the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Canada Scott 387, US Scott 1131. (Both Shown at 155%)

Right: Twenty-five years later the two countries issued another joint set celebrating the continuing success of the 2,300-mile waterway and its critical role in North American trade. Canada Scott 909, US Scott 2091. (Both Shown at 155%)



Left: The US bi-centennial was celebrated with a joint issue featuring Benjamin Franklin and his role as Postmaster General for British North America prior to the Revolution. He established a network of post offices between Virginia and Canada. US Scott 1434. Canada Scott 627. (Both shown at 140%)



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Above and below: The 50th Anniversary of the Peace Bridge between Buffalo, NY and Fort Erie, ON was the subject of a pair of joint stamps, with differing designs, in 1977. US FDC August 4, 1977 (Shown at 75%). Canada Scott 662. (Shown at 125%)

Right: And, of course, the two countries shared their love of hockey with a joint issue. FDC October 20, 2017 US Scott 5606, 5607 Canada Scott 3154, 3155. (Shown at 85%)

