

Previously unknown Pellan work to be unveiled at Quebec City Old Paper Show

Stamp-related painting just one part of event that features bourse, exhibition

By Mike Walsh

The Quebec City Old Paper Show is set to return Oct. 26-27, offering a weekend filled with philately, historical documents and vintage collectibles.

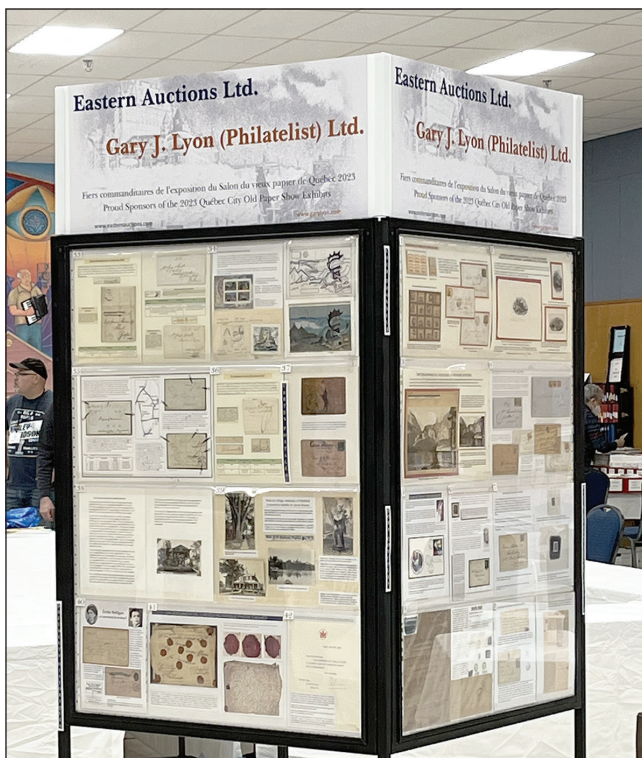
Now in its third year, the event will take place at the recently renovated Hôtel-Travelodge, providing collectors, historians, and philatelists with the chance to explore rare and valuable items from Canada and around the world. Co-organizers Grégoire Teyssier and Hugo Deshayé have confirmed an exciting lineup, with a strong focus on youth engagement, competitive exhibitions, and a variety of dealers.

Teyssier says the Quebec City Old Paper Show caters to enthusiasts of postage stamps, postal history, old postcards, notarial deeds, autographs, maps and other forms of ephemera – anything made of paper. It brings together collectors from across Canada and beyond for two days of buying, selling and appraising historical items.



Grégoire Teyssier stands proudly with the show banner at the Hôtel-Travelodge in Quebec City, where the popular show will be held Oct. 26-27.

"The show's unpretentious and friendly atmosphere is a highlight, making it a welcoming space for both veteran collectors and newcomers to the hobby," he adds.



Eastern Auctions and Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd., based in Bathurst, N.B., are key sponsors of the Quebec City Old Paper Show, helping make the event possible. (File photo)

The show will feature 22 dealers, many of whom are returning from previous years, offering a wide range of philatelic materials and historical items.

"We have some very renowned and well-known Canadian dealers, as well as local dealers who offer hidden treasures," says Deshayé, a well-known Canadian postal history dealer and president of the Quebec show. "We even have over 10 dealers on our waiting list hoping to participate, but unfortunately, we don't have the space for everyone. Perhaps one day we'll be able to expand."

Organizers say the dealers will offer a wide array of items, including stamps, postal history, old postcards, vintage books and documents. The range of materials caters to the varied interests of collectors, who are often drawn to historical paper items beyond just stamps. Visitors will be able to explore and acquire rare finds, with many dealers also on hand to appraise collections brought in by attendees.

EXHIBITIONS AND COMPETITIONS

One of the highlights of the show, Teyssier adds, is the competitive exhibition of private collections, judged by a panel of renowned philatelists. This year's judging panel in-

cludes Ed Kroft, former president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), Jane Sodero, president of the RPSC Foundation, Laurent Bélisle, director of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS), and Yan Turmine, president of the Société d'histoire postale du Québec (SHPQ). The competition will feature 50 exhibits, a significant number in today's exhibition landscape, with displays ranging from one to two pages each.

Teyssier says the "one-to-two-page" exhibit format, a concept developed exclusively for their show, allows exhibitors to showcase rare or curious philatelic items without

the need for a large collection. This has encouraged new exhibitors to participate, and this year's event will feature several first-time exhibitors, as well as a notable presence of female collectors: eight women will be exhibiting.

"We're proud to see this exhibition component grow, thanks to the exceptional support of Eastern Auctions and Gary Lyon (Philatelist)," says Teyssier. "It's a fantastic way for both new and experienced philatelists to display rare and interesting items without the pressure of preparing dozens of pages."

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND SPECIAL FEATURES

A major focus of this year's show is youth philately. With support from the RPSC Foundation, the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation and the Fédération Québécoise de Philatélie, the show has developed a dedicated section for young collectors. An entire hall will be devoted to youth activities and workshops, with the aim of nurturing the next generation of philatelists.

This year, there will be eight youth exhibits by philatelists under the age of 12, along with seven entries in the parent-child category, a new concept and a first in Canada. These 15 youth exhibits will be judged alongside the regular entries, with medals and special prizes awarded to the young winners.

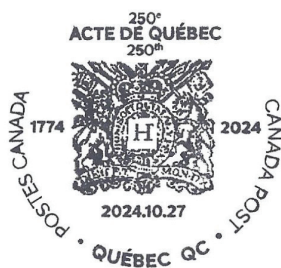
"We're very proud to see so much enthusiasm from young collectors," says Teyssier. "While some claim youth philately is fading, our show is proving the opposite."



Co-organizers Hugo Deshayé, left, and Grégoire Teyssier are preparing for another successful Quebec City Old Paper Show.

In addition to the exhibits, the show will feature lectures and conferences open to the public. Kevin O'Reilly, from the Postal History Society of Canada, will travel from the Northwest Territories to deliver a presentation on a unique Yukon postmark, while former head of the Canadian Postal Archives, Cimon Morin, will host a book launch. BNAPS will also hold a luncheon on Sunday.

One of the show's most anticipated highlights is the exhibition of a previously unknown work by Canadian painter Alfred Pellan, titled *Project for a Canadian Stamp*. This work, making its world debut, is closely tied to philately and will be displayed in the Court of Honour.



Teyssier adds this year's show will commemorate two major anniversaries: the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and the 250th anniversary of the Acte de Québec. Canada Post will provide two special cancellations to mark these occasions, and a wide range of show souvenirs, including cinderella stamps and souvenir covers, will be available for purchase.

The show will take place at Quebec City's Hôtel-Travelodge, where special room rates have been negotiated for out-of-town visitors. Admission on Saturday is \$5, which includes a 54-page full-colour show catalogue featuring exclusive items. Admission on Sunday is free, and door prizes and free parking will be available throughout the weekend.

For more information and updates, visit svpq.ca. ♦