



TCYHA Board 2018-2019

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~

C.A.O.

John Wojcicki



March 5, 2019

Royal Canadian Mint

320 Sussex Drive

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0G8

The Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association, representing over 100 municipalities in Western Canada, would like to request that the Royal Canadian Mint consider issuing a commemorative coin in 2020 recognizing the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway.

The Yellowhead Highway was officially opened by Transport Canada in 1970¹ which would make 2020 the 50th Anniversary of this iconic highway.

The iconic Canadian highway – Yellowhead Trans Canada #16 plus Yellowhead BC#5 – has its beginnings intrinsically connected to the Hudson Bay Trading Company's initiatives to find a way westward across the Rocky Mountains. To that end the HBTC engaged an Iroquois Metis Guide by the name of Pierre Bostonais to show them the way through. Pierre Bostonais was referred to by French voyageurs as "Tête Jaune" or "Yellowhead" due to his blond streaks.

The engagement of "Tête Jaune" occurred in 1819 which means that 2019 marks the 200th anniversary of this critical passage of movement of people and goods first coming to realization. Over the next 200 years this route became the impetus for the construction of what is now known as the Yellowhead Highway.

A commemorative coin showing the iconic Yellowhead Highway symbol would not only be an excellent reminder to Canadians of the growth of our country but more importantly demonstrate the key role our indigenous peoples played in that growth.

The Yellowhead Highway symbol, shown below, represents the profile of Tête Jaune/Pierre Bostonais and its Trade-Mark is owned by the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association (No, 0905338 with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office) along with arrangements made with Provincial Transportation Departments for its use on the highway as highway signage.



Attached is a more detailed introduction of the TCYHA and the connection to our symbol.

We believe that a commemorative coin issued that reflects the Yellowhead Highway

TRANS CANADA YELLOWHEAD HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION
 ~ est'd 1947 ~
 #3, 9343 50 STREET
 EDMONTON, AB, T6B 2L5
 PH: (780) 761-3800 EMAIL: admin@goyellowhead.com
 www.goyellowhead.com

and its official opening is historically appropriate in its significance – it was a key milestone in our Country’s westward growth – and celebrates the cooperative nature of our heritage which led to an economic structure that has, and continues to, support a substantial number of Canadians and visitors alike.

We have also extended this suggestion to Canada Post for issuance of a commemorative stamp issue in 2020. They are currently considering this opportunity.

Should you have any questions or require further information please contact our Chief Administrative Officer John Wojcicki at admin@goyellowhead.com.

Yours truly,



Paul Smith
TCYHA President
(Councillor, Strathcona County, AB)



Sandy Salt
TCYHA Past President
(Valemount, BC)

Copy: TCYHA Board of Directors

Enclosure

¹ <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/policy/acg-acgd-menu-highways-2153.htm>