



Stamp of the Century



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Canada Post has issued a commemorative stamp to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Canadian diplomacy, released on the occasion of DFAIT's centenary. The domestic-rate stamp features a Canadian flag and an image of the globe, which intersect midway. "For this design, we wanted to capture the philosophy of the department that has driven Canada's growing role on the world's diplomatic stage for the past century," explains David Craib, creative director of Ottawa's Parable Communications, which designed the stamp. "We also wanted to express the way the department sees itself, in a modern and clean style."

The Parable design team say they found inspiration in DFAIT's "remarkable story of transformation," from its beginning above an Ottawa barbershop to a department of some 10,000 employees with 174 missions in 110 countries. "The department has grown as Canada's role on the world stage has expanded and strengthened," explains Craib. "The intersection between these two symbols represents the fusion of global activities and sensitivities, with our national identity, culture and ingenuity."

In 1989, Canada Post issued a commemorative stamp recognizing Canada's role in international trade. It showed the world in a box emblazoned with a maple leaf. To learn more about these stamps, visit www.canadapost.ca.

Information courtesy of Canada Post's publication, Details (Volume XVIII N°2, April to June 2009).

1990 1995 2000 2005 2009

1993
The department is renamed the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

1994
The Trade Commissioner Service celebrates its 100th anniversary.

1994
The North American Free Trade Agreement is signed.

1997
The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, known as the Ottawa Convention, is signed.

2006
Diplomat Glyn Berry is killed while serving as the first political director of the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

2009
Canada has 174 missions in 110 countries.

2009
DFAIT has 17 regional offices across Canada.

2009
DFAIT employs some 10,000 people in Canada and overseas.

2009
Canada's missions abroad include staff from 21 other government departments and three provinces.

The Department Today