



DISPATCH



KWPS NEWSLETTER



Kitchener-Waterloo
Philatelic Society
since 1935



THE CITY OF
Waterloo

DELTA
HOTELS
MARRIOTT
WATERLOO

98th RPSC Convention & Exhibition
98e Congrès et Exposition de la RPSC

Royal * 2026 * Royale

hosted by / présentée par

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 12-14, 2026

10 am - 4 pm daily

Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex

101 Father David Bauer Drive, Waterloo, On N2L 0B4

Competitive Exhibits • Dealers • Social Events

President's Reception and Awards Banquet

Youth & New Collector Booth • Fully Accessible Venues

Free Admission • Entrée libre



*Commemorating the
100th Anniversary of
the birth of
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
1926-2026*

June 11th – (Set up for Royal) No Meeting

June 12 –14th Royal Show 9:30 - 4pm daily

Sunday June 14 9:30 am Special Presentation

Royal 2026 Royale Update

Everything is set to go ! We will have over 125 in attendance at the awards banquet on Saturday evening, 58 Competitive exhibits will be Judged. In addition there are three outstanding Court of Honour Exhibits - The Small Hermes Heads of Greece 1886-1901, Beavers: Nature's Engineers, and Canada's C-Force in Hong Kong & its Forerunners, 1940-1945

Jean Wang will be hosting Discussions of the 47 Freestyle Philately entries on Sunday morning at 11:30 am

Also on Sunday Morning there will be a Special Presentation to celebrate World Blood Donor Day at the entry Registration area when the show opens from 9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Everyone attending will receive a gift before going into "The Great Arena of Stamps".

Royal *2026* Royale Seminars & Meetings Schedule
All Sessions take place at the Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex

Friday, June 12

9:30am -10:00am	Opening Ceremonies	Entrance to Bourse
10:00am	Exhibition and Bourse Opens	The Great Arena of Stamps
12:00 pm – 1:00pm	“Topical & Thematic Collecting” – Jean Wang	Room 200
1:15pm – 2:15pm	“K-W Dutchmen’s Two Olympic Journeys”- Kon Sokolyk	Room 200
2:30pm - 3:30pm	“A Variety of Elizabethan Varieties” – Arnie Janson	Room 200
4:00pm	Exhibition and Bourse Closes	

Saturday, June 13

10:00am	Exhibition and Bourse Opens	The Great Arena of Stamps
10:00am – 12:45pm	Postcrossing Meetup	Room 200
10:00am – 11:00am	“The Expertization of Canadian & BNA Stamps & Covers Using the Foster + Freeman VSC” – Garfield Portch	Room 201
11:15am – 12:15pm	FRPSC Meeting (Fellows Only)	Room 201
1:00pm - 2:00pm	“PSSC Full & Partial Pre-cuts in Britain’s Line of Engraved Stamps” – Paul Sarjeant	Room 200
2:00pm - 4:00pm	“Machins of Hong Kong” - Hong Kong Study Group	Room 201
2:30pm – 4:00pm	Judges’ Feedback Session	Room 200
4:00pm	Exhibition and Bourse Closes	
5:30pm	President’s Reception*	Delta Marriott Hotel
6:30pm	Awards Banquet*	Delta Marriott Hotel

* Requires Pre-registration

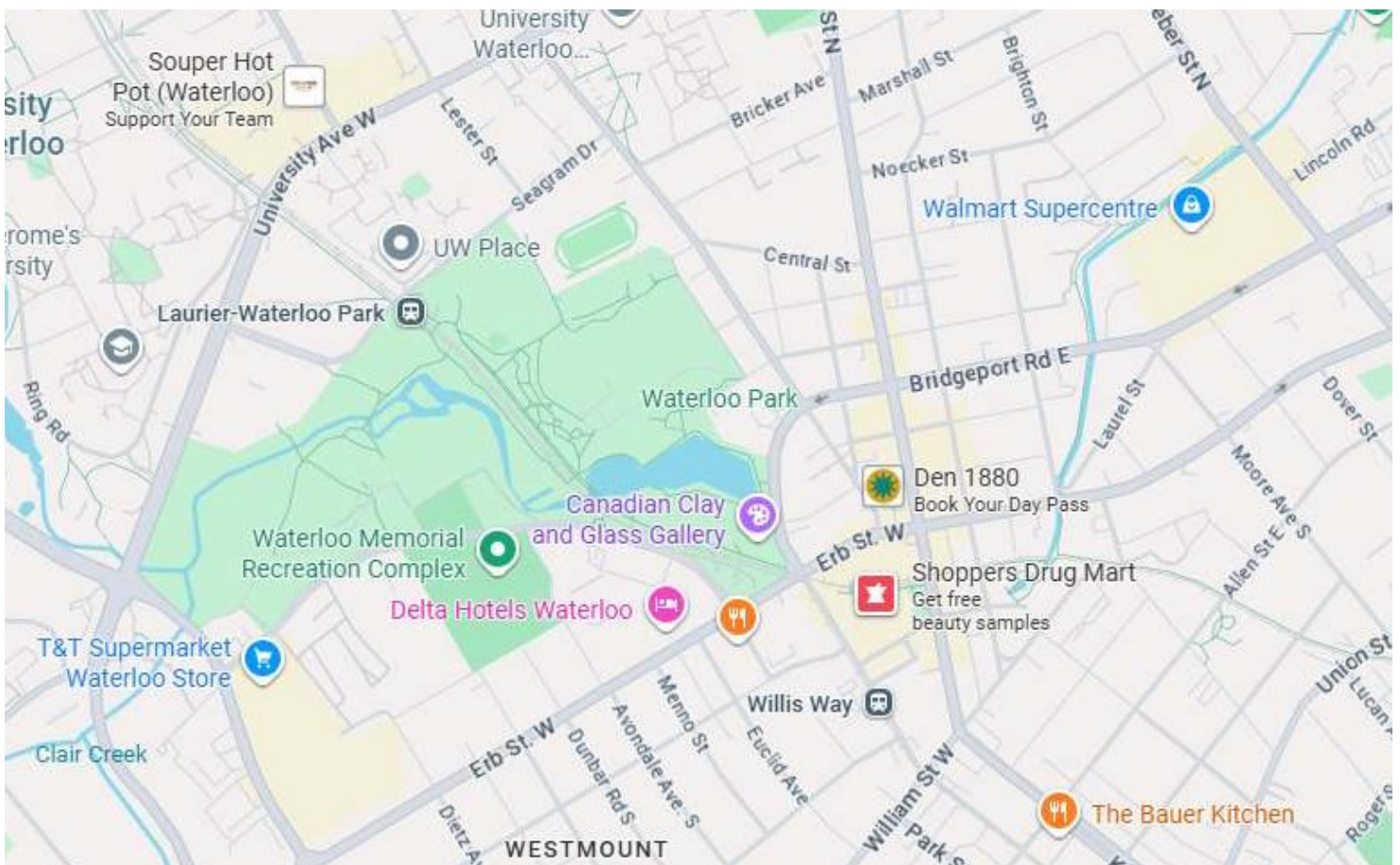
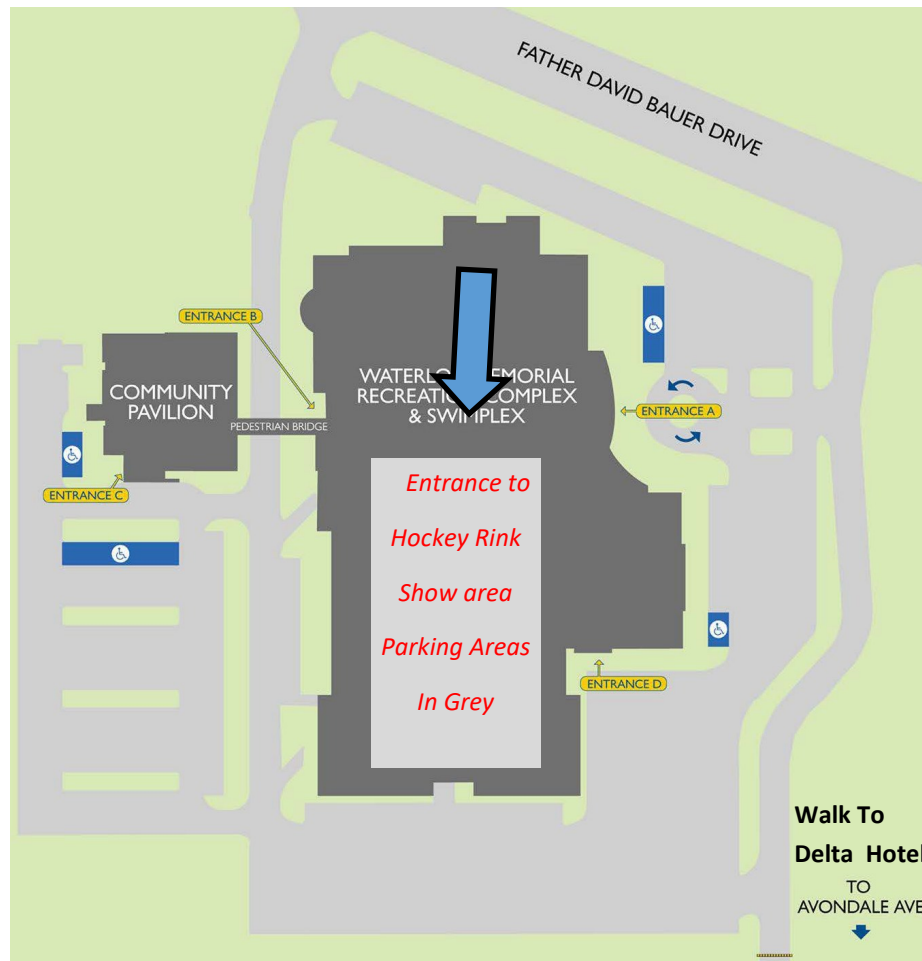
Sunday, June 14

9:30am – 9:45am	Special World Blood Donor Day Frame Presentation	Entrance to Bourse
10:00am	Exhibition and Bourse Opens	The Great Arena of Stamps
10:00am –11:30am	RPSC Town Hall Meeting**	Room 200
11:30am -12:30pm	Freestyle Philately	Exhibit Floor
1:00pm – 2:00pm	“Exploding Some Myths About Judging” – John Wilson	Room 201
1:00 pm – 4:00pm	Golden Horseshoe BNAPS Meeting	Room 200
2:00pm – 4:00pm	“Collector Declares Germany Victorious in the WW I Post Card Battle” Historian and Author/Columnist – rych mills- Toronto Postcard Club	Room 201
4:00pm	Exhibition and Bourse Closes	

**This Town Hall continues a tradition started several years ago at the Royal 2023 Royale held in London, Ontario. Members of the Board of Directors present at the convention invite RPSC members to ask questions, propose activities for the Society and meet with other members in person. The only agenda is the

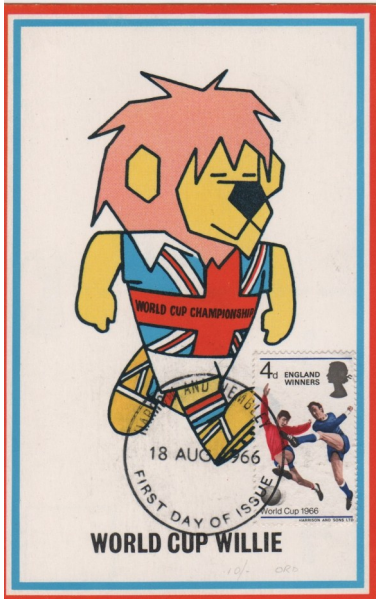
Zoom Stamp Talks

- **June 8** - Ann Miller - **The 1947 Southern Africa Royal Tour: stamps, covers, and stops along the way**
- **July 13** - David Foot - **Maralinga & British Atomic Bomb Tests in Australia, 1952-67**
- **August 10** - Paul Sarjeant - **Common Technologies for the production and perforation of Stamps: Part One**
- **September 14** - Paul Sarjeant - **Common Technologies for the production and perforation of Stamps: Part Two**



The First World Cup Mascot – World Cup Willie

Ellis Kwan



The 2026 FIFA World Cup is fast approaching, and football fans around the world are eagerly awaiting the start of the tournament. After four years of anticipation, the world's most celebrated football event will once again capture global attention. While the star players from Europe's leading football leagues will naturally dominate headlines, another group of figures will also attract considerable media attention during the tournament — the official World Cup mascots.

As the 2026 tournament will be jointly hosted by three nations, there will also be three official mascots. According to [FIFA](#), they are Maple the Moose, representing Canada; Zayu the Jaguar, representing Mexico; and Clutch the Bald Eagle, representing the United States. (Fédération Internationale de Football Association, n.d.).

The use of mascots in major sporting events has become a long-standing tradition. Mascots serve as powerful promotional symbols, transforming a large international event into a friendly and memorable visual identity. A lively and recognisable character is often far more effective in attracting public attention than an abstract logo or slogan alone. In the history of the FIFA World Cup, this tradition began with the 1966 tournament held in United Kingdom.

Figure 1 shows a postcard depicting a cartoon lion wearing a jersey decorated with the Union Jack. This character, known as World Cup Willie, became the first official mascot in World Cup history. The postcard is franked with an overprinted stamp and cancelled with a First Day of Issue postmark commemorating England national football team's victory in 1966.

According to a 2012 report by BBC journalist Emma Kasprzak, World Cup Willie was designed by British freelance children's book illustrator Reg Hoyer (BBC News, 2012). [BBC News](#) reported that the original proposals featured one with a boy, while the other three were with lion designs. Eventually, however, the lion character — inspired by the appearance of Hoyer's son, Leo — was selected as the final design for World Cup Willie. Following its introduction, the mascot quickly became enormously popular and appeared on a wide range of souvenirs and merchandise connected with the tournament (BBC News, 2012).

Dr. Leo Francis Hoyer, the son of Reg Hoyer, later recalled the excitement surrounding World Cup Willie during the summer of 1966 (BBC News, 2012). Although Reg Hoyer passed away in 1987, his creation continues to hold an important place in the history of international sport and sports marketing.

Since the 1966 FIFA World Cup, every edition of the World Cup tournament has introduced its own official mascot. Some mascots have taken human form, while others have been represented by animals, objects, or even characters from outer space. Regardless of their designs, these mascots have become an essential part of the World Cup tradition, helping each tournament establish its own unique identity for football fans around the world.

Fédération Internationale de Football Association. (n.d.). FIFA World Cup 2026™ mascots. FIFA. <https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026/mascots>

BBC News. (2012, June 15). World Cup Willie's sporting mascot legacy. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-18430665>