

Immediate Press Release - September 27, 2017

HISTORIC OFFERING OF GOVERNOR GENERAL MEDALS IN TORONTO SEPT 29, 2017

Geoffrey Bell Auctions Ltd. is excited to be able to offer two dozen Governor General medals is a pre-sale estimate of \$48,000, representing thirteen different individuals who have served this prestigious office. This historic assemblage features beautiful and rare examples produced by the Wyon family for Lord Dufferin, Lorne, Lansdowne, Stanley, Aberdeen, and Minto, in gold, silver, and bronze, presented in our Toronto Coin Expo 2017 Fall Sale September 28 & 29. Named and presented medals are seldom offered for sale making this a tremendous opportunity for collectors to acquire a significant piece of Canadian history.

The Governor General, currently the reigning British monarch's representative in Canada, is actually, along with the Crown, the oldest continuous institution in Canada, playing a genuine role in shaping our nation. The first person in the role after confederation was The Viscount Monck, who had role while we were still the Province of Canada. These medals were presented annually to recipients deemed worthy and it is a tradition that continues to this day.

Highlights include a gold Lord Dufferin medal awarded to the Quebec Curling Club in 1877. Only 18 medals were issued in gold and only four are known to still exist. There is also a silver and bronze of the 1873 version, which are quite rare. The bronze was given to W. W. Smith of the Ontario Institute for the Deaf and Dumb in 1874, while the silver is a pristine, toned example in its original case presented to a student of Montreal High School in 1875 for excellence in Mathematics. This medal is estimated to sell for \$7,500 or more to the right buyer.

Two more very rare pieces to watch are a gold medal from the Marquess of Lansdowne, 1883-1888, and an Earl of Minto, 1898-1904, gold with 27 and 29 issued, respectively. Many of the examples offered in this sale are in remarkable condition, some with original cases, making this a truly important event.



The [Toronto Coin Expo](#) is Canada's premier coin & banknote show and auction taking place September 29-30, 2017 at the Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, and is open to the public. For full information, please visit www.torontocoinexpo.ca. Be sure to follow the action on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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