

## ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

### GOLD BAR MANUFACTURER IN OTTAWA

The **Royal Canadian Mint (RCM)**, a major gold refiner and bar manufacturer in North America, has its headquarters in Ottawa, the federal capital of Canada.

It issues a standard range of 3 cast and 3 minted bars:

Cast: 400 oz, 100 oz, 1000 g

Minted: 10 oz, 5 oz, 1 oz

The RCM does not retail its gold bars. The bars, traded mainly in North America, are available to the public through gold dealers.

#### ACCREDITATION

1934\* London Bullion Market Association (LBMA)

1974 CME Group – Market Contract: COMEX

1988 Tokyo Commodity Exchange (TOCOM)

\* Estimated. The Mint is recorded in the earliest known list issued by the London Gold Market in 1934.

#### BACKGROUND

The **Royal Canadian Mint** is a Crown Corporation, wholly owned by the Federal Government of Canada.

It had originally been established in 1908 as the Ottawa Branch of The Royal Mint to mint Canada's legal tender coinage, including gold sovereigns.

In 1931, when control by The Royal Mint in London came to an end, the Ottawa Branch, renamed the Royal Canadian Mint, operated within the Department of Finance. In 1969, Crown Corporation status was granted, whereby an independent Board of Directors was appointed to operate the Mint as a profitable, commercial enterprise.

Although the Assaying Department had refined gold since 1908, the gold refinery was officially opened in 1911, expanded in 1914, and again in 1916 to accommodate a requirement of the British Government to refine 17 million ounces of newly-mined gold from South African mines during the First World War.

The gold refinery, rebuilt in 1936, has always remained on the Mint's original site on Sussex Drive in Ottawa. The buildings, incorporating the Ottawa Plant behind an attractive façade of Nepean sandstone in a Tudor design, are close to the National Art Gallery, arguably the most prestigious location of any accredited gold refinery worldwide.

The RCM refines gold mainly from mines in Canada, the USA and Latin America. Gold refining methods include pyrometallurgical chlorination and electrolysis.

Annual gold refining capacity: approximately 300 tonnes.



The Royal Canadian Mint has its headquarters in Ottawa, the capital of Canada



The 10 oz minted bar was launched in 2003.



The Mint manufactures London Good Delivery 400 oz bars for the international market.



Annual refined gold output: around 150 tonnes in recent years.

Apart from gold refining and bar manufacture, the RCM focuses on the minting of Canadian and foreign coins at its Winnipeg Plant (operational from 1976) and precious metal coins (notably, the Gold Maple Leaf), numismatic coins and medals at the Ottawa Plant.

The RCM opened a new silver refinery in 2006. It produces 1000 oz and 100 oz silver bars.

Number of employees: approximately 1,000 (consolidated RCM)

Website: www.mint.ca



**TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION**

Weight	Type	Fineness	Shape	Dimensions* mm	First Issued	Serial Number System	System Introduced
400 oz	Cast	995+/999.9	Rectangular	250 x 70 x 43.9 225 x 55 (base)	Not known#	Year plus 5 numbers	2010
100 oz	Cast	995+/999.9	Rectangular	102 x 61 x 30 90 x 50 (base)	1981	Year plus bar number	Not known
1000 g	Cast	999.9	Rectangular	108 x 51 x 9.5	1984	Letter plus 6 numbers	1984
10 oz	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	60 x 35 x 8	2003	6 numbers	2003
5 oz	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	50 x 25 x 7	2003	6 numbers	2003
1 oz	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	50 x 29 x 1.5	2001	6 numbers	2001

Source: Royal Canadian Mint. \*Current dimensions. #RCM has produced London Good Delivery 400 oz bars since at least 1934, early versions having different dimensions.

**HISTORY OF GOLD BAR MANUFACTURE**

Gold bar manufacture dates back to 1910 when 55 bars of unknown weight were made in the Assaying Department. 400 oz cast bars are believed to have been poured for the first time in 1914.

In 1922 and 1931, there are specific references to 500 oz bars, as well as small trade bars in the 1920s.

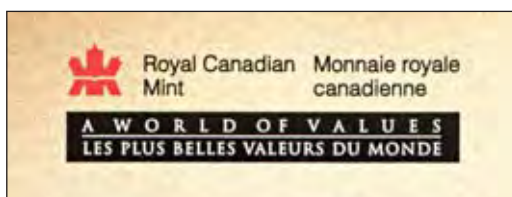
In 1981, 100 oz cast bars were introduced, followed by 1000 g cast bars in 1984.

In 2001, 1 oz minted bars were launched, followed by 5 oz and 10 oz minted bars in 2003.

There have been four official stamps, incorporating: the royal crown adopted by the Royal Mint (around 1914 – 1931); two versions of modified royal crowns (1931 – 1983), although it is not known over what period each was used); the corporate maple leaf logo (since 1983).



The Mint has refined gold since 1911.

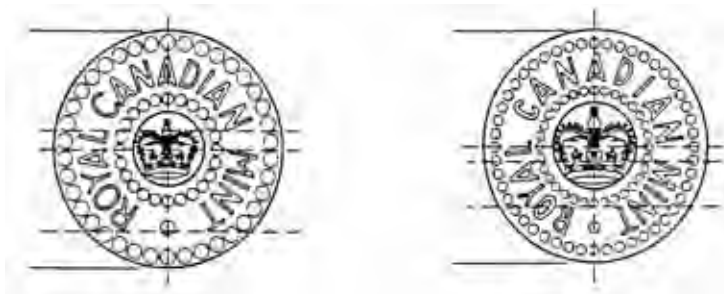


**LONDON GOOD DELIVERY BAR**



The Mint has manufactured London Good Delivery 400 oz bars since at least 1934.

**HISTORICAL OFFICIAL STAMPS**



On 400 oz bars, between 1931<sup>Est</sup> and 1983. Only one of these two official stamps, which incorporate different crowns, was used on any one bar. It is not known over what period each version of the "crown" was used.



SMALLER CAST BARS

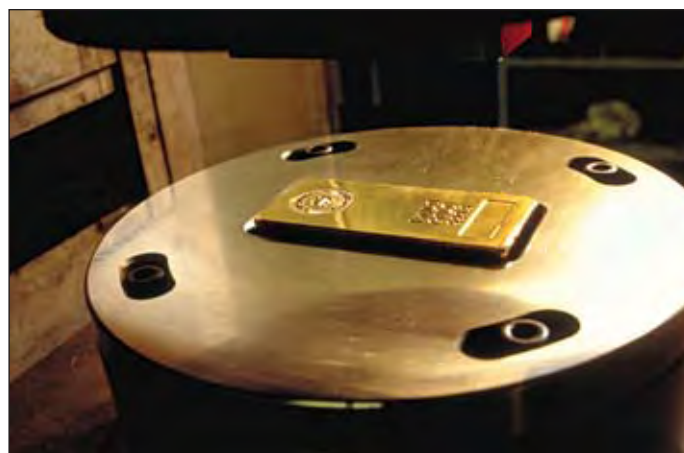


100 oz



1000 g

The Mint has been an authorized manufacturer of COMEX Good Delivery bars since 1974.



The Mint has manufactured kilobars since 1984.





MINTED GOLD BARS



10 oz



5 oz



1 oz



The Mint launched the Maple Leaf, the world's first 24 carat gold bullion coin, in 1979.



Millions of Gold Maple Leaf bullion coins are held by investors around the world.



HISTORICAL LONDON GOOD DELIVERY BAR



London Good Delivery 400 oz bar manufactured by the Mint in 1934.



London Good Delivery bars.

The Mint has been a major refiner of Canada's gold mine output for over 100 years.

Refer to disclaimer on website: [www.goldbarsworldwide.com](http://www.goldbarsworldwide.com)

© Grendon International Research Pty Ltd 2012. All rights reserved.

