

#bankNOTEable Canadian woman will be revealed on 8 December, Bank of Canada publishes short list of five

OTTAWA, ONTARIO — On Thursday, 8 December 2016, the Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Bank of Canada will reveal which iconic Canadian woman will be featured on the next regularly circulating bank note, expected in 2018.

In advance of that announcement, the Bank today published the [short list](#) from which the #bankNOTEable woman will be chosen.

[An independent Advisory Council](#) short-listed these five iconic Canadian women earlier this year for consideration by the Minister of Finance.

They are (in alphabetical order):

- [Viola Desmond](#) (1914–1965)
- [E. Pauline Johnson](#) (1861–1913)
- [Elizabeth \(Elsie\) MacGill](#) (1905–1980)
- [Fanny \(Bobbie\) Rosenfeld](#) (1904–1969)
- [Idola Saint-Jean](#) (1880–1945)

The women were selected from [461 eligible nominees](#) submitted by Canadians during an open call for nominations, launched by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on International Women’s Day, 8 March 2016.

More than 26,300 submissions were received from Canadians over a five-week period. The Advisory Council initially reduced these nominations to a [long list](#) of 12 women, guided by the following principles: Canada is comprised of many different communities; the women who appear on the long list should resonate with Canadians and reflect the diversity of Canada; and their achievements must be seen in the context of the time in which they lived.

In compiling their short list, Advisory Council members agreed that these five women best articulated the Council’s ultimate selection criteria: that nominees should have broken or overcome barriers, made a significant change, left a lasting legacy, and be inspirational.

“The Advisory Council had the difficult task of selecting only five outstanding Canadian women from a vast field of strong choices, and I commend the members for their excellent work,” said Governor Stephen S. Poloz. “I am also delighted that this entire process encouraged a meaningful conversation among Canadians about the many exceptional women who have shaped our country.”

“Canadian women made our country what it is today, and they deserve a place on our currency,” said Minister of Finance Bill Morneau. “Thanks to the work of the Council members and to the thousands who participated in the conversation, a new generation of



young women and girls will be inspired by the stories of those who contributed so much to our society, our values and our history. And, in 2018, we will all have a constant reminder of these exceptional accomplishments to carry around with us wherever we go.”