Fort Smith, Northwest Territories

**Population Rank:** Canada. . . . 1,183  
Territory. . . . 4

**Proportions:** 1:2  
**Adopted:** Unknown

**DESIGN:** The flag of the Town of Fort Smith has a field of green with the town’s coat of arms at the fly end, three-fourths the height of the flag. **TOWN OF FORT SMITH,** in black serifed letters, appears to the left of the coat of arms in the lower half of the flag. The simple shield has a horizontal top and simple sides curving down to a point. It has a white field divided vertically by a wavy light blue stripe. In the base, surmounting the stripe, is a brown palisades fort gateway; atop it is a pair of red wings extending upward in a “V”. Within the open gates is a green trail (on it some designs show an inscription, **60° N,** in black). At the top of the shield, on either side of the stripe, is a small image of a wood buffalo (**Bison bison athabascae**) standing between two evergreen trees twice its height, all on green mounds. Above the shield is a large wood buffalo matching those on the shield, standing on a green mound on a torse of white and green. The buffaloes on and above the shield are depicted in brown, black, and white, and stand facing the left. Below the shield is a scroll in white with black details, inscribed **PERSEVERANCE** in blue antique letters.
SYMBOLISM: The three bison refer to Wood Buffalo National Park, an area larger than Switzerland which straddles the border between Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Established in 1922 and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is home to the world’s largest free-roaming buffalo herd with over 5,000 bison. The fort symbolizes Fort Smith, was named in honour of Donald Alexander Smith, Lord Strathcona, a Hudson’s Bay Company governor. HBC established Fort Smith here in 1874 in the former homeland of the Slavey Dene, a First Nations people. “Perseverence”, the motto on Smith’s arms, was adopted for the town by its council in May 1969. “60° N” indicates the town’s latitude, which forms the border between Alberta and the Northwest Territories. The wavy line symbolizes the Slave River, on which Fort Smith is situated. In the local Chipewyan language, Fort Smith was called Thebacha, meaning “beside the rapids”. The river was an important transportation link between southern Canada and the valley of the Mackenzie River, and was the reason for the town’s founding. The wings commemorate the role bush pilots played in the development of this area. They transported goods and people throughout the North and maintained contact between isolated villages and the outside world.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown. The arms were designed at the request of the town council.

DESIGNER: Unknown. Professor A. L. C. Atkinson, an engineering professor at the University of Saskatchewan, designed the coat of arms.

OTHER FLAG: The Fort Smith civic flag displayed at the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver’s Expo ’86 was a Canadian pale design of green-white-green, with the coat of arms in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag. All such NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed in 1985 at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The Fort Smith flag was likely modified temporarily to match the others, by Rob Butler, graphic artist at Inkit Graphics in Yellowknife, NWT.
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 42
Province. . . . 3

Proportions: 1:2 (usage)
Adopted: Unknown (arms designed 1848)

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Fredericton has a blue field with the city shield in the centre, outlined in black, and the city motto on a ribbon below it. These elements are nearly the full height of the flag. The simple white shield has a horizontal top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed “U” shape. It contains four elements: three smaller shields of the same shape arranged two over one, and a smaller Latin cross in brown centred at the top, with many small brown lines emanating from it in all directions. The upper-left shield contains a Union Jack, the upper-right shield contains the royal arms of the United Kingdom (in four quarters)—both have a royal crown above. The lower shield, slightly larger than the others, is blue with an evergreen tree in green with a brown trunk atop a green mound. Wrapping around both sides from below the shield is a wavy ribbon of white with a red back inscribed FREDERICOPOLIS SILVÆ FILIA NOBILIS in red serifed letters.

SYMBOLISM: The city’s documentation interprets the arms: Fredericton’s coat of arms consists of three shields: the Union Jack in the upper left shield surmounted by the crown; the Royal Arms crowned the personal flag of the reigning sovereign of Britain in the upper right shield, and the irradiated cross above
signifies Fredericton’s status as a cathedral city; and below a fir tree symbolizes the forests of New Brunswick. The [Latin] motto is: Fredericopolis silvæ filia nobilis (“Fredericton, noble daughter of the forest”).

HOW SELECTED:  Unknown. According to the city: The arms were drawn without regard to the laws of heraldry and were not recorded nor approved by the College of Arms in Britain at the time. In 1955, when the late Brigadier Michael Wardell of Fredericton entered into discussions with the College of Arms on behalf of the city, with a view of obtaining official authority for the arms, it was stated that in no circumstances could such use of the Royal Emblems be sanctioned. The difficulties seemed insurmountable, but the discussions continued over the years, and three successive mayors of Fredericton urged the city’s case for the official recognition of its arms based on unbroken usage for more than a century. In 1970, as a result of procedures suggested by Sir Anthony Wagner, the Garter King of Arms, a petition was made to the Queen by the Governor General of Canada on a proposal of the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. The Queen, in view of the special circumstances, approved in principle the use of the old arms, thus empowering the College of Arms to grant to the City of Fredericton the lawful authority and unique distinction of being entitled to bear and use the Royal Arms forever, as set forth in Letters Patent presented to the City on 10 June 1971.

DESIGNER:  Unknown. According to the city, the arms were created at the city’s incorporation on 30 March 1848 by Dr. James Robb, a professor at Kings College (now University of New Brunswick), who was also a member of Fredericton’s first city council.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:  On the arms, the cross on the shield is sometimes depicted in black. However, all versions of the flag observed have a brown cross. Likewise, the letters on the scroll always appear in red on the flag, while they are sometimes black outside the flag.
Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador

Population Rank: Canada. . . 383
Province. . . 7

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 1984

**DESIGN:** The flag of the Town of Gander is a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue. In the centre is a seal, three-fourths the height of the flag, bearing a naturalistic depiction of a large male Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) in black and golden yellow outlined in white, with the distinctive white patch on its cheek and throat, flying across a central blue disc toward the left. Surrounding the blue disc is a white ring, into which the gander’s head and tail extend. At its top is **TOWN OF**, at the bottom **GANDER**; at the left and right, aligned horizontally, are **19** and **58**, all in black serifed letters. The white ring is in turn encircled by concentric rings of blue, white, and blue, of decreasing width. Near the top of each blue bar of the flag is an abstract winged shape of four points in golden yellow, “flying” toward the left.

**SYMBOLISM:** The gander, a male goose, alludes to the town’s namesake. The winged shapes in the blue bars are stylized aircraft, symbolizing the town’s close association with Gander International Airport (IATA code YQX), opened in 1938 as Newfoundland Airport and an important base of operations during World War II. According to the city: *The flag’s predominant colours, blue and white, represent the water, sky, and clouds. The gold represents sunlight and,*
as in the provincial flag, confidence in ourselves. The town was incorporated in 1958. The Canadian pale design refers to the Canadian national flag; the blue bars also signify Gander Lake and the Atlantic Ocean.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Although the flag represents the town at official municipal events and locations, its use is encouraged throughout the municipality.

FORMER FLAG: An earlier version of the flag apparently used a different version of the town seal: monochrome (of an unspecified colour), and without the year of incorporation. The symbolism was also described in somewhat different terms: The two blue edging stripes signify the clarity of Gander Lake [on which Gander is situated] and of the sky. The two yellow figures represent aircraft in flight coloured by the rays of sunlight.

SDM
Granby, Québec

**Population Rank:** Canada. . . . 51
Providence. . . . 9

**Proportions:** 1:2 (usage)
**Adopted:** Unknown (but after the 2006 merger)

**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Granby has a white field with the city logo in the centre, roughly two-thirds the length of the flag. The logo is Granby in black sans-serif letters. Out of the top of the “y” emerge three “spouts” (inverted water-drop shapes), the central one higher than the others, in light green, blue, and ochre. The shape formed by the spouts approximates the size of the “y”.

**SYMBOLISM:** The city’s documentation interprets the flag: *The basis of the concept is to identify the city’s name at a glance and to attach to it a strong and unifying symbol. Lake Boivin and Daniel-Johnson Park are sources of pride. These gathering sites, rich with activities, are the origins of this concept. The lake’s fountain is an attractive and noticeable symbol for the population, as well as newcomers and visitors. In this spirit it is put forth in this signature. Fountains, present in many areas of town, symbolize growth, accomplishment, development, riches, success, and balance. In this regard, the symbol represents the city well on the geographical, social, economic, environmental, and cultural levels. The colours are significant on both the social and economic levels. From a social perspective, green represents youth, a new generation. Blue is for the active population and ochre is*
associated with the elderly, and wisdom. On the economic level, green represents environmental issues, blue is for commerce, and ochre stands for cultural issues. The sans-serif font has been edited to give Granby its own identity. The bold face and black colour translate the new city’s strength.

**HOW SELECTED:** Unknown.

**DESIGNER:** Unknown.

**FORMER FLAG:** In 1998 the city used a white flag with a stylized “G” in burgundy, symbolizing Granby’s quality of life, and orange, symbolizing its residents’ dynamism. The white line between the two portions of the “G” represents the Yamaska River, which runs through the centre of the city. Under the “G” is **GRANBY** in large burgundy sans-serif letters.

**OTHER SYMBOLS:** The city logo is usually displayed with the slogan Ville rayonnante (“Shining City”), but the slogan never appears on the flag. The city also has a coat of arms.
Grande Prairie, Alberta

**Population Rank:**
- Canada... 49
- Province... 5

**Proportions:** 1:2  
**Adopted:** 1980

**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Grande Prairie has a medium blue field with a central charge nearly the full height of the flag. The charge is composed of a naturalistic image of a trumpeter swan seen from the side with its wings outspread in white, atop a sprig of wheat in yellow and black, in front of a row of naturally-shaped evergreen trees in green. Behind the swan and extending above it are two oil derricks in black. These are all surrounded by a ring of 24 yellow maple leaves, with gaps in the ring at the top and bottom. Curving below is a white ribbon with forked ends, inscribed **CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE** in fancy serified black letters.

**SYMBOLISM:** Blue is one of the city’s official colours. The trumpeter swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) is Grande Prairie’s official symbol; its nickname is “Swan City” (the city is on the swans’ migration route and is the site of their summer nesting grounds). The wheat sprig represents the city’s heavy involvement with agriculture—the area is the northernmost major farming region in North America. The trees represent the forestry industry. The oil derricks symbolize the city’s thriving gas and oil industry. The maple leaves celebrate Alberta’s 75th anniversary; their number carries no meaning and merely completes the circle.
HOW SELECTED: In 1980, the city held a flag-design contest to commemorate Alberta’s 75th anniversary. The design was to symbolize the Peace River Country, the large region in northwestern Alberta around Grande Prairie.

DESIGNER: Mrs. Louise Lissoway.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: Grande Prairie is surrounded to the north, east, and west by a large prairie; Father Grouard, a Catholic missionary who came to the area in the late 19th century, described it as la grande prairie. To the south of the city lies a vast boreal forest, mainly evergreen trees, which is central to the city’s forestry industry. Both terrains make up the southern edge of a region known as the Peace River Country, or “The Peace”.

AW
Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury, Ontario

Population Rank:  Canada . . . 24 
Province. . . . 10 

Proportions:  1:2 (3:5 in the grant) 
Adopted:  13 May 2004 

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Greater Sudbury (Grand Sudbury in French) is divided horizontally, green over golden yellow. The two sections are separated by a complex division line that forms the outlines of stylized evergreen trees—eleven in golden yellow point upward and the spaces between them in green make the same shape pointing downward. The trees are about 2/11 the height of the flag. In the upper hoist is a five-pointed star in golden yellow, about two-ninths the height of the flag.

SYMBOLISM: Green and gold are similar to the city’s corporate colours. The colour gold, representing the precious metal, is associated with generosity, reason, and immortality. Like gold, the spirit of community does not deteriorate. Gold also represents the mineral riches of the Greater Sudbury area. The trees represent the white pine forests that once covered Northern Ontario and the re-greening efforts of the past quarter-century; the division line indicates the old-growth forests of the region and how much of it has been reforested in recent years. Lumbering was one of the original industries of Greater
Sudbury. The star symbolizes the North Star, a traditional guide to navigation, just as Greater Sudbury, “The Hub of the North”, is the leading city of northeastern Ontario. Its five points represent the characteristics of a good citizen: fortitude, loyalty, righteousness, prudence, and broad-mindedness. The flag is a banner of the arms of the City of Greater Sudbury.

**HOW SELECTED:** The city council approved the flag after applying to the Canadian Heraldic Authority for a coat of arms and a flag, which were granted 15 December 2003.

**DESIGNER:** Bruce Patterson, Saguenay Herald, Canadian Heraldic Authority.

**MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:** The flag was donated to the city by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE), Elizabeth Fry Chapter. Formed in 1932, its Sudbury Branch consists of women who work together for the public good of their community, founded on service, education, and citizenship.

**FORMER FLAGS:** Greater Sudbury was created by the 2001 amalgamation of municipalities of the former Regional Municipality of Sudbury: Capreol, Nickel Centre, Onaping Falls, Rayside-Balfour, Valley East, and Walden, all of which had flags.
Guelph, Ontario

Population Rank:  
Canada. . . 28  
Province. . . 12

Proportions: 2:3  
Adopted: 20 November 1993

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Guelph is a horizontal bicolour, red over white. In the upper hoist is the head of a Hanoverian horse in white, facing the hoist. In the lower hoist is an “ancient”, or open, crown of three visible points, in red. Both figures are outlined in black, with black details.

SYMBOLISM: The colours come from the city’s coat of arms and allude to the national colours of Canada. The horse-head and crown are simplified depictions of the horse and crowns on the arms, which symbolize the royal family of Hanover, descended from the Guelfs of Germany and Italy. John Galt, the settler who cut down the first tree to found Guelph in 1827, gave it that name because the king of the United Kingdom at the time was George IV, a member of the Brunswick-Hanover line, and hence a descendant of the Guelphs (as the British spell the name). Guelph is therefore known as Canada’s “Royal City”. Moreover, on 24 April 1879 Mayor George Howard declared the municipality to be a lawful city, after which Alderman MacMillan raised the royal standard on the flag-staff of the speakers’ platform, symbolizing the “Royal City”.
HOW SELECTED: On 20 November 1993 the Canadian Heraldic Authority registered an earlier grant of arms from the English Garter King of Arms (1977) and granted a new flag and badge.

DESIGNER: Darrel Kennedy, a resident of Guelph; he later became Assiniboine Herald, Canadian Heraldic Authority.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag is not a banner of arms in the traditional sense, but uses key elements of the arms in its design. Because Guelph also has a true banner of arms flag (see below), which represents the city’s government, this flag is known as the “citizens’ flag”. Although adopted in 1993, it was finally first waved (by hand) on 24 October 2001 by former mayor Norm Jary and raised at an official function for the first time on 23 April 2002 at City Hall during the city’s 175th anniversary in the presence of the lieutenant governor of Ontario.

OTHER FLAGS: A 21 July 1965 article in the Daily Mercury cited noted vexillologist Rev. D. Ralph Spence’s comment that Guelph’s (first) city flag was a “horrible city flag”. In response to that Verne McIlwraith wrote that while the flag was originally his idea, which he had thought a good one, he acknowledged that it had been “shot down” by Spence’s remark. Nevertheless, it remained in use until 1977. The flag, in proportions of roughly 2:3, has a medium blue field with the city’s first coat of arms edged in white, about half the flag’s width, in the centre. Beneath the arms is GUELPH – CANADA in white, running two-thirds the length of the flag. The arms show a simple white shield with two green horizontal bars, one in the lower half of the shield’s upper third, and the other in the upper half of the shield’s lower third. Two narrow white horizontal stripes separate the green bars from a red field that makes up the centre third of the shield. On the red field is a white horse, galloping toward the hoist. On the left is a woodsman (John Galt) holding an axe over his shoulder. On the right is Britannia holding a cornucopia with assorted fruit and leaves. Against her right leg leans an oval shield, bearing the flag of Britain used in 1827. The crest has what was earlier, and erroneously, thought to be the Guelphic royal crown, to show a connection to the British royal family, topped by a lion headed toward the hoist, right front
paw raised, looking toward the viewer. In reality, it was the royal crest for the sovereign of the United Kingdom, as used in England. The heraldic ribbon is divided in three parts inscribed **FIDES FIDELITAS PROGRESSIO**, one word on each part. It is not known when the earliest flag was first used, but the original coat of arms dates to 1879.

The city’s second flag, still used as the governmental flag, is the banner of arms created as a result of the grant of arms from the English Garter King of Arms, for which Darrel Kennedy was the agent between the city and Windsor Herald at the College of Arms. A carving was produced in 1977 by Eric Barth, assisted by local historians, for the city’s sesquicentennial. However, it had been based on preliminary art and omitted material from the final blazon. The grant of arms was issued on 8 May 1978 and the Letters Patent were presented to the city on 28 September 1978 by York Herald. A number of heraldic errors in the first arms were corrected. The new arms retain the white horse, but it is now of the Hanoverian breed; the green bars are reduced in width to stripes; and in the white field at the top are two ancient red crowns, with a third centred in the shield’s lower third, all alluding to royal connections. The banner of arms places the charges from the shield on a white flag that is nearly square, 10:9. The colours date from 1879 and derive from the arms of the County of Kent, England.

A variant of the banner of arms is also sometimes used, having been approved only by the city council. This flag, in 1:2 proportions, has **GUELPH** and **CANADA** inscribed in black serifed letters on either side of the lower crown. Hence, Guelph has the unique distinction of having three city flags in use simultaneously.

**FORMER FLAG:** The township of Guelph used a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue, with the crest, shield, and ribbon from the town’s arms set in a white disc ringed by **THE CORPORATION OF** above and **THE TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH** below, in serifed letters.
Haines Junction, Yukon

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 2,801
        Territory. . . . 6

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 1990

DESIGN: The flag of the Village of Haines Junction is a Canadian pale design of light blue-white-light blue, with the municipal logo in the centre, three-fourths the height of the flag. The logo is in a vertical “racetrack” shape and outlined in black. It depicts a scene with a crossroads of two highways in white, and stylized houses (18 in all) on each side of the roads in black, all on a beige background. Above is a yellow foothills section beneath a naturalistic mountain range in blue and white under a light-blue sky (some flags depict the mountains in black and white). Framing the scene are naturalistic green evergreen trees in silhouette forming a “V”; at their base is a sprig of fireweed with green leaves and three clumps of red flowers. Below is a lime-green field with GATEWAY TO KLUANE in sans-serif black letters, curving along the base of the logo. Above the logo is VILLAGE OF HAINES JUNCTION, also in sans-serif black letters, arching over the top. Curving around the lower left and right of the logo are more sprigs of fireweed, with green leaves and four clumps of red flowers each.

SYMBOLISM: The motto reflects Haines Junction’s vital role as an access point to Kluane National Park and Reserve, which was established in 1972
and designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site as a globally significant mountain wilderness in 1980. In the park is the St. Elias Mountain Range, which includes Mount Logan, the highest peak in Canada. The mountains on the logo represent this geographical feature. The crossed highways allude to the junction of the famed Alaska Highway and Haines Road, and hence the town’s name; the houses represent the village. The trees signify the forests of the area. The fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*), a hardy pinkish, purplish flower, is one of the first plants to bloom after a fire. Adopted as the territorial flower in 1957, it symbolizes Haines Junction as a Yukon community.

**HOW SELECTED:** The logo was the result of a contest in early 1985, soon after the village’s incorporation in 1984. After a flag contest in 1990, the first flags were manufactured in 1991 or 1992.

**DESIGNER:** Unknown. The logo was designed by local artist Libby Dulac.
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Population Rank: Canada...13
Province...1

Proportions: 9:16 (1:2 usage)
Adopted: 10 November 1998

DESIGN: The flag of the Halifax Regional Municipality has a blue field bearing a saltire (X-shaped cross) in yellow. In the centre is a yellow disc, half the height of the flag, bearing a kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) in blue with yellow details, looking toward the hoist. On each arm of the cross, near the disc, are short broad arrow shapes in blue pointing toward the corners of the flag. In the hoist and fly quarters are stylized 18th-century ships, with three masts, square sails, and pennants flying, in yellow and sailing toward the left.

SYMBOLISM: The flag is a banner of the municipality’s arms. The Halifax Regional Municipality Council’s Coat of Arms Committee originally proposed the saltire, a St. Andrew’s cross, to celebrate the Scottish heritage of many citizens and to recall the cross in the provincial flag, symbolizing the municipality’s status as the capital of Nova Scotia. The arms honour the four communities forming the Halifax Regional Municipality in 1996 (Halifax, Dartmouth, Bedford, and Halifax County). Each is represented on the arms by a specific element: the kingfisher for the City of Halifax, the 1760-era ships for the City of Dartmouth, the wavy blue bars (appearing only on the coat of arms, not on the flag) for the County of Halifax, and the broad arrows for
the Town of Bedford. Some elements are repeated for aesthetic balance. The blue field represents the harbours, the sea generally, and the nearby lakes, rivers, and the Shubenacadie Canal. The broad arrows refer not only to Bedford, but recall the long involvement of the authorities of the sovereign in defence and the presence of both land and sea-based forces. The arrows point in four directions, symbolizing the region’s naval tradition, and indicating connections with all corners of the world. The sailing ships refer to the naval tradition of Halifax and the history of settlement. The kingfisher is a symbol of industry and appears in the centre, in part as it is the oldest symbol specifically created for a public government in the capital region (1860).

**HOW SELECTED:** The Halifax Regional Council applied to the Canadian Heraldic Authority for a grant of a flag, which it adopted through Administrative Order Number 19, respecting the Corporate Coat of Arms, Logo, and Flag. The Canadian Heraldic Authority made the formal grant on 15 July 1999.

**DESIGNER:** Robert D. Watt, Chief Herald of Canada, Canadian Heraldic Authority.

**MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:** The flag was not initially available to the public, and was provided only to civic authorities and flown only on civic property. An amendment to the Administrative Order in 2010 made the flag available for sale to the public, but restricted its use to “respectful purposes”.

**OTHER FLAG:** In the 1998 administrative order adopting the flag, a Halifax Regional Municipality logo flag was also defined. It has a white field with **HALIFAX** in large serifed letters, running over three-fourths the length of the flag. The central “I” has a dot or a disc above it (in some variants this “I” is shown in the shape of a lighthouse), with beams extending to the left and right across the top of the word, and the middle five letters, “ALIFA”, shorter, with a wave below them. All these are in blue with yellow highlights to the left, giving the font and other elements a three-dimensional effect. Below, running the length of “HALIFAX”, is **REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY** in blue serifed letters. This logo flag was widely used in the first few years of the existence of the Halifax Regional Municipality, but has largely dropped out of use in favour of the official flag, which has proven more popular. The logo flag is restricted to municipal purposes only.
FORMER FLAGS: The former flag of the City of Halifax depicted a golden yellow kingfisher, a symbol of industry, on a blue field. Although use of the kingfisher dates to 1860, the flag was approved by the minister of municipal affairs on 22 October 1964 and adopted on 1 July 1992 when the Chief Herald of Canada granted the city its arms.

The former flag of the City of Dartmouth is a yellow over blue bicolour, horizontally divided by four blue and yellow wavy lines, and a semicircular field of white at the hoist bearing the municipal arms in blue, white, and yellow.
**Hamilton, Ontario**

**Population Rank:** Canada. . . . 9
Province. . . .3

**Proportions:** 1:2
**Adopted:** 11 December 2002

**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Hamilton is a Canadian pale design of golden yellow-blue-golden yellow. In the centre is a cinquefoil (a five-pointed heraldic flower with wavy petals), surrounded by a circular chain of twelve rectangular links with rounded corners, alternating large and small, all in golden yellow. The diameter of the circular chain is nearly the full height of the flag.

**SYMBOLISM:** Blue and gold have long been the city’s colours. The cinquefoil is the badge of the Clan Hamilton, representing the city’s name. The links of the chain are a heraldic symbol of unity and also symbolize steel, a major element in the city’s identity—Hamilton is known as the Steel Capital of Canada. The six larger links represent the six municipalities that joined to form the current City of Hamilton: the former City of Hamilton, the City of Stoney Creek, the Towns of Ancaster, Dundas, and Flamborough, and the Township of Glanbrook. The colours and central elements come from the shield of the city’s arms, designed with the assistance of the Canadian Heraldic Authority in Ottawa, and approved by the city council in January 2001.
HOW SELECTED: Presented at a city council meeting on 11 December 2002 by Bishop Spence and Dr. Greaves, and adopted unanimously by council. The flag was included in a grant from the Canadian Heraldic Authority on 15 July 2003.

DESIGNER: Bishop D. Ralph Spence (named Albion Herald Extraordinary by the Canadian Heraldic Authority in 2006) designed the flag using elements from the arms designed by Dr. Kevin W. Greaves.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The flag was designed to be complementary in design when flown with the national flag, but distinctive to represent the city.

FORMER FLAG: The city describes the former flag: The flag of Hamilton is composed of a white field with the red maple leaf of the National Canadian flag in the upper right fly. Commencing in the canton, a green horizontal bar proceeds lengthwise, then bends at an angle of approximately 45 degrees and proceeds diagonally to the lower fly, then becomes horizontal and proceeds lengthwise in green with white block letters proclaiming “HAMILTON” occupying one-quarter of the green bar which changes to ultramarine blue to the end of the fly. The upper horizontal bar represents the Hamilton Mountain, the diagonal bar represents the escarpment, the lower horizontal green bar represents the lower city and the ultramarine blue portion of the bar represents the Harbour. Adjacent to the hoist, the shield of the Corporation Seal of the City of Hamilton is located. In the upper third of the shield is a black, red and white steamer, fully rigged on a blue background representing commerce. In the middle third, a brown beaver [Castor canadensis, the national animal] on a white background representing prudence. In the lower third, a golden yellow beehive with bees on a blue background representing industry. The final design for the City of Hamilton flag, designed by Stewart Roxborough, was chosen and adopted by Hamilton City Council on 29 October 1985.

The shield shown on this flag was altered to this form in July 1963 to be somewhat more heraldically correct, but the basic elements derive from the city seal designed by Edward Acraman and adopted by the city council on 20 January 1847.
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador

Population Rank: Canada . . . 477
Province . . . 8

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: Unknown

DESIGN: The flag of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay has unequal horizontal stripes of white, green, and light blue, in widths of 2:1:2. The town seal appears in the upper left of the white stripe, nearly the full height of the stripe, and one diameter away from the hoist. It has a central disc surrounded by a white band, inscribed TOWN OF HAPPY VALLEY · GOOSE BAY, running from the 7 to 5 o’clock positions and with a dash at the base, all in black sans-serif letters. The disc portrays a valley with a stream in blue flowing from a lake and white mountains in the distance to a bay in the foreground, through a landscape in green with two evergreen trees at the left in black, all with black details under a light blue sky. In the top centre is the head and neck of a Canada goose (Branta canadensis) in black and white, looking to the left. Flanking it are two small Canada geese in black and white, flying toward the right. Below is a white ribbon with swallow-tailed ends, inscribed LABRADOR in black sans-serif letters. The Pantone colours of the lower stripes are green 256 U and blue 2975 U.
SYMBOLISM: The flag is identical to Labrador’s, but with the spruce twig replaced by the town emblem. The scene likely represents the geography and name of the town (water, mountains, goose). The symbolism of the Labrador flag from which the town flag is derived is described by its designer, Michael S. Martin: The top white bar of the flag represents the snows, the one element which, more than any other, coloured our culture and dictated our lifestyles. The bottom blue bar represents the waters of our rivers, lakes, and oceans. The waters, like the snows of winter, have been our highways and nurtured our fish and wildlife that was our sustenance and the basis of our economy. The centre green bar represents the land—the green and bountiful land, which is the connecting element that unites our three diverse cultures [Innu, Inuit, and white]. Martin designed the Labrador flag as part of celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of Newfoundland and Labrador’s confederation with Canada in 1974. Though unofficial, it has become the de facto flag of the mainland portion of the province, and flies on government buildings in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and in Labrador City. (The town flag derivative, however, is seldom seen.)

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.
Hay River, Northwest Territories

Population Rank: Canada... 875
Territory... 2

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: Unknown

**DESIGN:** The flag of the Town of Hay River is a Canadian pale design of dark blue-white-dark blue, with the emblem of Hay River in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag. The emblem is a circle with eight spokes, all in medium blue, surmounted by a black sans-serif H, its height three-fourths the interior diameter of the circle. Directly above the circle is a black vertical line with a diamond-shaped arrow tip divided black on the left and white on the right. Above the circle is a medium blue line zigzagging from 10 to 2 o’clock and edged above by a yellow line of equal width. Below the circle curving closely along its base is **HUB OF THE NORTH** in black sans-serif letters.

**SYMBOLISM:** Standing at the mouth of the Hay River on the Great Slave Lake, the town is a harbour for water transportation in the western Arctic to the Beaufort Sea. The community also has a commercial fishing industry and hosts a Canadian Coast Guard base. The blue eight-spoked circle represents a ship’s wheel, symbolizing the community’s nautical trade. The “H” and “Hub of the North” reflect Hay River’s role as a centre of commerce in this area of the Northwest Territories. Hay River also is a terminus of the Canadian National Railway; the Mackenzie Highway, an all-weather,
uninterrupted road from the south, ends here; and the town has an airport with daily flights. The arrow points north and the zigzag lines represent the northern lights (aurora borealis).

**HOW SELECTED:** All such NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed in 1985 for the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver’s Expo ’86, at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The side-bar colours of these Canadian pale designs vary from dark blue, to green, to brown, and to bright red.

**DESIGNERS:** Rob Butler, graphic artist at Inkit Graphics in Yellowknife, NWT, designed the flag based on the symbol designed by former mayor D. M. Stewart and Mrs. N. J. Mackie, a member of the municipal staff.
Igloolik, Nunavut

Population Rank: Canada . . . 1,570
 Territory. . . .8

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 1985, updated before 1999

DESIGN: The flag of the Hamlet of Igloolik is a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue with a naturalistic depiction of a winter scene in the centre, in light blue, blue, and white. The scene comprises a shelf of ice in white with blue and light blue details on which stands an igloo in light blue with blue details. Crossed in front of the igloo and its snowy base stand two Inuit tools of the hunt on the water, frozen or clear: an unaaq (harpoon) and a kaki-vak (trident ice-fishing spear). The harpoon is fitted out with its telltale line, coiled in loops with perhaps a small weight at its end to attach to a seal bladder float, the other end leading to the detachable spear point. On the right stands an Inuit figure, presumably a man, in full winter garb; on the left, a well-furred, attentive sled dog. Both look back toward the igloo’s entrance, which has a vague suggestion of a qulliq (interior hearth lamp) in silhouette. (If so, this is a rare example of a female tool on a flag; another is the ulu on the flag of Arviat).

SYMBOLISM: Igloolik, meaning “houses there” in Inuktitut, is situated on the flat and barren island of the same name at (according to some) the very northeast corner of the North American continent. Igloolik Island sits at
the eastern approaches to Fury and Hecla Strait, a narrow ice-choked channel between the upturned snout of the continent and Baffin Island, the fifth-largest island in the world, an island large enough to carry its own significant ice fields and be mistaken by early European explorers for two separate pieces of land. Opinions differ on whether igloolik refers to igloo, snow houses, or to sod houses (the prehistoric remains of which are found on the island), but the civic flag uses the first. This igloo, constructed in realistic fashion of multiple snow blocks coloured blue for contrast with the white field, sits on its own island of snow, ice, or snow-covered land. Igloolik is considered the most culturally-traditional Inuit city in Nunavut, although southern culture prevails there as well.

**HOW SELECTED:** The flag is an elaboration and revision of the 1985 flag.

**DESIGNER:** Unknown. Rob Butler, graphic artist at Inkit Graphics in Yellowknife, NWT, configured the original flag based on ideas and designs supplied by the local community.

**MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:** All such NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed in 1985 for the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver’s Expo ’86, at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The side-bar colours of these Canadian pale designs vary from dark blue, to green, to brown, and to bright red.

**FORMER FLAG:** The 1985 version of Igloolik’s flag does not include the Inuit man or the sled dog. The harpoon, unaaq, and trident spear, kakivak, have more turned detail on their hafts and points but no telltale line on the harpoon. The igloo, in light blue with white details, sits on a shelf of snow or ice with a dark blue frontal margin, and there was no interior detail visible through the blank, arched entrance. The revisions to this flag—especially the addition of the man and dog—may have related to the sled-dog revival effort in Nunavut and Northwest Territories, which eventually failed.
Inuvik, Northwest Territories

Population Rank:  Canada . . . 899
                 Territory . . . 3

Proportions:  1:2
Adopted:  Originally early 1970s, modified in 1982

DESIGN:  The flag of the Town of Inuvik has a white field with a logo in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag and five-eighths its length. Within a narrow outline of light blue, with straight base and sides and two circular curves at the top, the left higher than the right, are four overlapping elements. Behind all is a partial disc in light blue, with three narrow white concentric circles toward its outer edge. In front of it in the centre is a silhouette of the roof and chimney of a house in dark green. In front of that, to the right, is a stylized teepee in light green, formed of two bars crossing at their tops, with a white triangle at its base as a door. In front of all is a stylized igloo and door formed by a white semicircle with a smaller light blue semi-disc at its centre.

SYMBOLISM:  “Inuvik” is from Inuvialuktun, an Inuit word for “Place of Man” or “Place of People”. Three main ethnic groups live in the town; each represented by a type of abode associated with them. The teepee is for the Dene (a First Nations people); the igloo is for the Inuit (Eskimo); and the house is for the non-native inhabitants of the town. Each group makes up about a third of the population. The large light blue disc symbolizes the
Midnight Sun, as Inuvik is 125 miles above the Arctic Circle. The three white concentric circles represent the unity of the three groups of people.

**HOW SELECTED:** Unknown.

**DESIGNERS:** Ewan Cotterall, in the early 1970s. William Huff modified it in 1982, changing the field colour from light blue to white.

**FORMER FLAGS:** In the early 1970s the first Inuvik flag had a light blue field. Many NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed or temporarily modified in 1985 for the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver’s Expo ’86, at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The side-bar colours of these Canadian pale designs vary from dark blue, to green, to brown, and to bright red. In the Inuvik flag, the logo from the flag, with the house and teepee both green, was placed in the centre of a Canadian pale design of dark blue-white-dark blue.
**Iqaluit, Nunavut**

**Population Rank:** Canada. . . 583  
Territory. . . 1

**Proportions:** 1:2  
**Adopted:** 1985, restyled  
circa 2001

**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Iqaluit is a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue with a device in the centre, consisting of a logo and inscriptions, over three-fourths the height of the flag. The logo comprises a stylized mountain of two peaks in blue, with a white curved river shape descending from its saddle to the horizontal base. Below it is a shallower reflection of its shape in light blue, apparently water. Below that are three stylized blue fish in a row, with tails upraised, swimming toward the right; the central fish pointed to the lower right. Above the logo is **Iqaluit** in simple black Narkisim font, below are Inuktitut syllabic characters in black, with the same meaning.

**SYMBOLISM:** Iqaluit, originally an Inuit summer camp, was founded as a U.S. air base in 1942 and called Frobisher Bay until 1987. It became the territorial capital in 1995. Iqaluit is in the Everett Mountains rising from Koojesse Inlet, part of Frobisher Bay; both are likely represented by the mountains and water in the logo. The river is likely the Sylvia Grinnell River. In Inuktitut “iqaluit” means “place of many fish”—in this case, Arctic Char (*Salvelinus alpinus*). Martin Frobisher, the first European and the bay’s namesake, arrived in 1576.
HOW SELECTED: The current flag is a revision of the 1987 flag, selected from among 37 entries in a contest anticipating the official name change from Frobisher Bay to Iqaluit in 1986. The current design was created for more effective visual and marketing presentation by marketing agency Outcrop Communications in 2000–2001, as part of a general logo, letterhead, and street signage improvement campaign in the new territorial capital.

DESIGNER: Unknown. The flag was restyled by a graphic artist at Outcrop Communications in Yellowknife, NWT.

FORMER FLAGS: A less-stylized version of the flag preceded the current flag. It is a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue. The logo, in the form of an inverted shield with a rounded top and a flat base, contains the same elements—mountain, river, water, fish—depicted in blue, white, and black. However, there are three mountains and the river, ending in an ice shelf, is a prominent central feature, showing a serrated face to the front, at the water’s edge. Also, there are four fish, arranged two over two, all swimming to the right. They are separated by a broadly-serrated narrow horizontal black line. The inscription IQALUIT is in black sans-serif letters curving above the logo; the Inuktitut syllabic characters in black run horizontally below the base of the logo.

The first flag of then-Frobisher Bay incorporated an already-existing badge which depicted a snow bunting in the foreground in white and black, the wavy blue waters of the bay, and a modest church and hills on the far back shore, all in white. Behind them is a golden yellow semicircle forming a sun in three concentric bands separated by white lines edged in black. The beloved snow bunting (Plectrophenax nivalis) was long Frobisher Bay’s symbol until its name changed to Iqaluit and its symbol became the fish. The most distinctive building in many northern towns is the “igloo” church, and the badge surely depicts the unique silhouette of St Jude’s Anglican Cathedral, consecrated in 1972, destroyed by arson in 2005, and recently completely rebuilt. The badge was incorporated, as is, into a flag in 1985 by Rob Butler, graphic artist at Inkit Graphics in Yellowknife, NWT.
MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: All such NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed in 1985 for the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver’s Expo ’86, at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The side-bar colours of these Canadian pale designs vary from dark blue, to green, to brown, and to bright red.
Joliette, Québec

Population Rank: Canada. . . 67
Province. . . 15

Proportions: 1:2 (usage)
Adopted: Unknown

**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Joliette consists of two squares, blue and white. On the hoist square appears the municipal coat of arms. In the fly square appears **VILLE DE JOLIETTE** in black sans-serif letters centred on three lines. Both of these charges substantially fill their fields. The coat of arms has a simple shield with a horizontal top and a rounded base, divided horizontally by a wavy blue band with three black birds in a row, oriented to the left. The panel above is yellow/orange with a cogwheel (gear) in blue, the panel below is yellow/orange with a sprig of corn with a tobacco leaf at either side, over a curved mound, all in green with black details. Above the shield is a six-towered mural crown in yellow with black details; below is a wavy ribbon in yellow with the inscription **INDUSTRIA DITAT** in black sans-serif letters.

**SYMBOLISM:** The city’s documentation interprets the arms: *The crown represents the authority of the city council and its citizens’ security. In heraldry, the yellow colour of the shield represents the future. The gear represents industry and commerce, which makes the City of Joliette progress. The three black birds [heraldic martlets—legless fowl] represent the coat of arms of the de Lanaudière*
family. Marie-Charlotte Tarieu-Taillant de Lanaudière was the wife of Barthélemy Joliette [who founded the city as “L’Industrie” in 1863]. The corn cob symbolizes agriculture in general, which feeds our citizens. Furthermore, two crossing tobacco leaves indicate the more specific agricultural production of the region, all on a green base. The Latin motto Industria ditat translates as “industry enriches”.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown.

FORMER FLAG: At least up to 1990, the city used a white flag with its badge in the centre, one-half the height of the flag. The city motto, “Industrie”, is illustrated by the beehive and the beaver (Castor canadensis, the national animal).
Kamloops, British Columbia

Population Rank: Canada . . . 37
Province . . . 5

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 1 October 1985

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Kamloops is a modified Canadian pale design, three vertical stripes of red-white-red in proportions of 1:3:1. The coat of arms is in the centre, three-fourths the height of the flag. Above it arches CITY OF KAMLOOPS in black sans-serif letters. The simple shield has a horizontal top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed “U” shape, with black edges and divisions. Its upper third is white bearing a red cross; in each quarter is a beaver (Castor canadensis) in natural colours facing to the left. Its lower two-thirds is white with ermine spots in black distributed throughout. A wavy blue “Y” figure runs from the base to the top corners. On each of the three branches of the “Y” is a white fish with black details, head pointed upward. Between the upper branches is a bull’s face, in natural colours. Above the shield is a knight’s helmet in silver with a white five-towered mural crown atop it. On top of the crown is an eight-spoked wheel in blue with white wings emerging from its hubs in front and back. Alongside the helmet and shield is heraldic mantling in white and red. Beneath the shield is a curved white ribbon inscribed SALUS · ET · OPES (Health and Wealth), in black serifed letters.
SYMBOLISM: Ermine, a heraldic fur, represents the commerce between the European fur traders and the First Peoples in the early days of the area. The “Y” shape symbolizes confluence of the North and South Thompson Rivers, which flows as one river to the sea at Kamloops, whose name means “the meeting of the rivers” in the native Shuswap language. The fish are mountain trout (perhaps *Salvelinus fontinalis*), swimming upstream. The bull’s head recalls the one-time role of Kamloops as the centre of the British Columbia cattle industry. The red cross and beavers derive from the arms of the Hudson’s Bay Company, as Fort Kamloops was founded in 1812 as an HBC trading post (the red cross is the cross of St. George, representing England, and the beavers signify the fur trade). The mural crown denotes civic authority. The wheel represents Kamloops as an important junction for the railways, airways, and highways; its wings represent progress.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Mayor Jim Walsh designed the flag, based on the city’s arms.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: In 1910 the council had called for the submission of designs conveying in heraldic language the history of Kamloops, and offering a financial reward to the successful competitor. One of three designs submitted by Mr. W. Miller Higgs of Walhachin was selected by a committee of three. In 1911, following a few minor modifications by Canon Beanlands, an English heraldic expert, the coat of arms was adopted by the city council. The arms were granted by the English Kings of Arms on 20 February 1981.

OTHER FLAG: Kamloops also uses a logo flag. It is blue, with the city’s multi-coloured logo centred over *Canada’s Tournament Capital* in white sans-serif letters.

JC
Kawartha Lakes, Ontario

Population Rank: Canada . . . 48 Province . . . 20

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 27 January 2009

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Kawartha Lakes has a white field. At its base are rolling stripes, green over blue, curving downward in the hoist side and arching upward in the fly side. The width of the green stripe is about one-sixth of the flag’s height; the blue stripe varies from one-sixth to one-third. Rising from the upper stripe, in the fly side, are two stylized evergreen trees in green, the left a third shorter than the right, which extends nearly to the flag’s upper edge. On the white area in the hoist half, centred over the lowest level of the stripes, is a disc whose diameter is nearly one-half the height of the flag, graduated in colour from yellow at its base to orange at its top.

SYMBOLISM: The blue stripe represents the Trent-Severn Waterway and the lakes of the area. The green stripe represents the local farming and agricultural areas, as well as park trails. The sun celebrates Kawartha Lakes as a travel destination, and the evergreen trees represent the sustainable “green” growth of the city. Previously known as Victoria County, the City of Kawartha Lakes was created through amalgamation of the county and its constituent municipalities in 2001. Kawartha is an anglicisation of Ka-wa-tha, itself
a word coined in 1895 by Martha Whetung of the Curve Lake First Nation meaning “bright waters and happy lands”.

**HOW SELECTED:** In 2007, Councillor Gord James proposed a community contest to create a city flag. The entries were judged by a committee of three, representing the city’s north, central, and south areas, with voting by the public. 135 designs were entered and approximately 6,300 votes were cast. The winning design won 1,998 votes and a grand prize of $500 for its designer.

**DESIGNER:** Daryle Anne Wright of Oakwood, Ontario.

**MORE ABOUT THE FLAG:** The flag represents the unification of a county and 14 former townships into the city’s 16 new political wards.
Kelowna, British Columbia

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 22
Province. . . .3

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 22 April 1975

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Kelowna is a Canadian pale design of blue-white-blue with the city’s coat of arms in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag. The simple shield has a horizontal top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed “U” shape. It has a green field with three upright isosceles triangles in white rising above four wavy stripes of blue over white. Above the triangles are two apples in golden yellow. Above the shield is a knight’s helmet in blue with black and white details, flanked by heraldic mantling in green and white. Over the helmet is a crosscut saw in blue with brown handles. Above all is an apple tree with green leaves, brown trunk, and white apples. To the left stands a grizzly bear in brown; to the right stands a seahorse in green with fins in white. Below the shield is an elaborate horizontal scroll in white inscribed FRUITFUL IN UNITY in serified letters in black on a blue rectangle with rounded ends.

SYMBOLISM: The blue wavy stripes symbolize Kelowna’s location on the eastern shore of Okanagan Lake. The white triangles represent the region’s mountains—the Cascades to the west and the Columbia Mountains and the Canadian Rockies to the east. The apples and apple tree symbolize the
region’s fruit industry, as Kelowna lies in an exceptionally fertile valley where orchards and vineyards have flourished. The crosscut saw represents the timber industry. The grizzly bear represents Kelowna’s namesake—Kelowna means “grizzly bear” (Ursus arctos horribilis) in the Interior Salish language. The seahorse is the closest heraldic approximation to Kelowna’s mythical lake creature, Ogopogo. It lived in the waters near Peachland, 20 km south of Kelowna, according to the Syilx, the native inhabitants, who called this monster “N’ha-a-itk”. In 1924, a song about the monster called it “Ogopogo”. It has been described as having a snake-like body about 20 m long, with two or more humps often seen going in and out of the water. Over the years, the legend has been given credibility by hundreds of sightings. As with the Loch Ness monster in Scotland, photographs have always been inconclusive, but it remains a popular tourist mascot. The city’s motto, “Fruitful in Unity”, alludes to Kelowna’s steady progress, largely attributable to its early fruit industry success and the community-mindedness and cooperation of its citizens.

**HOW SELECTED:** Unknown. The arms were granted by the English King of Arms on 23 August 1954, adopted by the city council on 3 January 1955, and registered at the Canadian Heraldic Authority on 3 April 2001.

**DESIGNER:** Unknown.
Kensington, Prince Edward Island

Population Rank:  Canada . . . 1,604
                   Province . . .15

Proportions:  3:5
Adopted:  Unknown

**DESIGN:** The flag of the Town of Kensington is a modified Canadian pale design, three vertical stripes of red-white-red in proportions of 1:3:1. In the centre is the town’s coat of arms, over two-thirds the height of the flag. The simple shield has a horizontal top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed “U” shape. It is grey (silver) bearing a cross in red with arms one-third the width of the shield. Surmounting the cross is a grey sword pointed upward, surmounted by a flower in white and black in the centre of the cross. Above the shield is a crown in yellow with black details, with four maple leaves as its major elements. Out of the crown rises the top part of a lobster (head and claws) in red with black details. The mantling above and along the sides of the shield is red, black, and grey. Below the shield is a yellow ribbon, with forked ends, inscribed KENSINGTON PEI in black serifed letters.

**SYMBOLISM:** The major colours of Kensington’s arms are red and white, which have been adopted as the town’s official colours. The red and white flag and its division into three parts recall the national flag. The cross and the sword are elements taken from the arms of London, England. The cross may also refer to Kensington’s one-time name of “Barrett’s Cross”, first adopted
in 1824. The flower, a potato blossom, represents the area’s major crop and Kensington’s location in the heart of the agricultural district. The crown is a Canadian civic crown composed of the national symbol, maple leaves. The lobster alludes to the importance of the lobster and fishing industry to Kensington.

**HOW SELECTED:** Unknown.

**DESIGNER:** The arms were designed by D. Tunstall, Director of International Coats of Arms, Heraldic House, Ltd., Toronto (a commercial heraldic design firm) in 1975.
Kingston, Ontario

Population Rank: Canada. . . 25
Province. . . 11

Proportions: 1:2
Adopted: 27 June 2000

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Kingston has a red field with three wavy horizontal stripes of white-blue-white, edged in black, in the lower third. Rising out of them on the left is a round stone tower with two windows and a conical roof, in white with black details, just over half the height of the flag. In the upper fly are three yellow eastern crowns, two over one, outlined in black, each with five points and one-sixth the height of the flag. The Pantone colours are red 186 C, yellow 123 C, and blue 286 C.

SYMBOLISM: The red field is one of the national colours of Canada. The blue and white wavy stripes represent the confluence of three bodies of water in the Kingston area—Lake Ontario, the St. Lawrence River, and the Cataraqui River/Rideau Canal System. The tower represents the Martello Tower, the outstanding feature of Kingston’s waterfront which has symbolized the city for over 150 years. It represents strength and firmness of resolve, as well as Kingston’s extensive military connections. The three eastern crowns are positioned to reflect the geographic arrangement of the three former municipalities that combined to form the City of Kingston in 1998—the Town of
Kingston, the City of Kingston, and the Town of Pittsburgh. The flag rearranges the elements from the shield of the city’s coat of arms.

**HOW SELECTED:** A committee formed in May 1998 worked with Robert D. Watt, Chief Herald of Canada, to develop a design for the coat of arms. The arms and flag were granted 11 January 1999 by the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

**DESIGNERS:** A committee comprising three councillors, George Beavis, Leonore Foster, and Don Rogers, as well as six citizens: Robert Cardwell and Peter Dorn of the Pittsburgh Historical Society, Edward R. Grenda of the Kingston Historical Society, Roland Laframboise, a member of the College of Arms, Marjorie Simmons of the Genealogical Society, and Lawry Raskin, a graphic designer who drafted the committee’s ideas into drawings.

**FORMER FLAGS:** The City of Kingston had two flags before the merger (the Towns of Kingston and Pittsburgh reportedly did not). The “citizen’s flag”, for non-governmental display, has a white field, with a large “Y” in teal running from the base of the flag to the upper edge, with its tips touching the upper corners. In the centre is a red disc, three-eighths the height of the flag, ringed by a band consisting of four concentric circles of golden yellow edged in black, with maple leaves pointing outwards at the four cardinal positions, in golden yellow with black details. Within the ring is an image of the Martello Tower in white with black details and golden yellow shading.

The “official” or “city” flag was used only on civic buildings and at civic parades. Its proportions are 2:3. On a field of medium blue, a horizontal “Y” shape runs with its arms straight and touching the hoist corners and its trunk wavy and running to the fly at about one-third the height of the flag. The “Y” consists of stripes of white-blue-white in proportions of 4:3:4. Two-thirds of the way to the hoist and overlayed by the wavy trunk of the “Y” is a shield three-quarters the height of the flag. The shield is
red with a golden-yellow border and places an eastern crown over the Martello Tower, both in golden yellow with black details; at its base are two wavy lines, blue over white. On both flags the “Y” shape represents Kingston’s location at the junction of the three bodies of water, the tower (of limestone) reflects the area’s geology and the city’s historic role in the defence of Canada, and the colours gold and blue suggest a royal city, which Kingston is by name and association. They were chosen in a public flag competition in 1974.
Kitchener, Ontario

Population Rank:  Canada. . . 11
Province. . . 5

Proportions:  1:2
Adopted:  2002

DESIGN: The flag of the City of Kitchener has a white field with a dark green segment at the hoist in the form of a trapezoid. On a field of 2 by 4 units, the top of the trapezoid is 1 unit; the base, 1.3 units. The arms of the city, without supporters, appear in a dark green oval edged in golden yellow in the centre of the white fly section. The oval is about 1.5 units high and 1.3 units wide. The shield’s shape is somewhat elaborate, with scrolls on both sides at the top and a point at the top centre. The sides of the shield are also pointed in the mid-section, aligned with the scrolled ends above. The field of the shield is beige. In its centre is a small beaver in golden yellow, facing the hoist, surrounded by an open wreath composed of oak leaves on the left and maple leaves on the right, all in dark green. Above the beaver is 1916 in small green numerals. Above the shield is a golden yellow ribbon with CITY OF in white sans-serif letters. Above that ribbon is a royal crown in golden yellow, with white details. Below the shield is another heraldic ribbon, also golden yellow, with KITCHENER in white in sans-serif letters. The outside edges of ribbons and shield, but not the crown, are very narrowly edged in white.
SYMBOLISM: The beaver (*Castor canadensis*) and maple leaves are symbols traditionally associated with Canada. The oak leaves, from the tree sacred to the German people, allude to the city’s original name, Berlin, and its large German-Canadian population. The royal crown symbolizes the monarchy. The date, 1916, is the year that the name of the city was changed from Berlin to Kitchener, owing to anti-German sentiment in Canada during World War I. It honoured the British field marshal, Lord Kitchener, who had won fame at Khartoum in the Sudan.

HOW SELECTED: Introduced by city personnel.

DESIGNERS: City personnel. The coat of arms was designed by W. H. Schmalz, mayor of what was then Berlin, Ontario, in 1912.

MORE ABOUT THE FLAG: The city flag must be used at City Hall. Kitchener also has a corporate logo flag, identical to the city flag, with the oval and coat of arms replaced by the city’s logo: the top of a round clock tower surmounted by a plain flag, and an oval outline circling its base, all in dark green. The tower top is centred above, and rests on, KITCHENER, in golden-yellow serifed letters, with the “K” and “R” somewhat larger than the rest. The clock tower is a city landmark now in Victoria Park, but formerly located atop the original city hall. This flag was introduced in 2000 at the same time as the new city flag, but only the city flag may be used for “official purposes”.

FORMER FLAG: Kitchener’s former flag, used as early as 1970, has a white field with the coat of arms in the centre. Below the heraldic ribbon in small black letters is ONTARIO, changed in 1916 from the original CANADA of the 1912 version because another Kitchener existed in British Columbia. The original shield had BERLIN instead of KITCHENER, and “1912” instead of “1916”. In very small black letters, CANADA was centred below the heraldic ribbon. The arms are “assumed” rather than granted formally by a heraldic authority.