

Introduction

The History Of The Flag That Marks Canada



The national flag of Canada, also known as the Canadian flag, has two red bands and a white space in the middle occupied by a red maple leaf. But there is much much more to the meaning of this masterpiece of a flag. Like the alternate designs, the history of the maple leaf, or why it's red and white. But what my heritage fair project includes is... The past alternate designs! The maple leaf! Why it is red and white, and a few interviews on people's thoughts about our current flag.

The Flag Debate

On June 15, 1964, a debate over the new Canadian flag started. This debate happened because of a few reasons, I'll list three of them. 1: Canada wanted a unique national identity so others would recognize the place we call home. 2: We wanted a stronger relationship between us and Britain. If we have a national flag or symbol, Britain will see us as a stronger ally. 3: There was a debate over it because the Canadian government wanted to give everyone a chance on a design for our new flag, they didn't want only people in the government to be a part of the new design.

COOL FACT!!! The flag debate lasted seven whole months!

Alternate Designs



This flag submission is called “Beaver”. This flag design consists of a beaver in the centre of the flag, a red horizontal band occupies the bottom. While a blue horizontal band occupies the top. There are ten green maple leaves circling around the beaver in the middle. All of this is set on a white background.

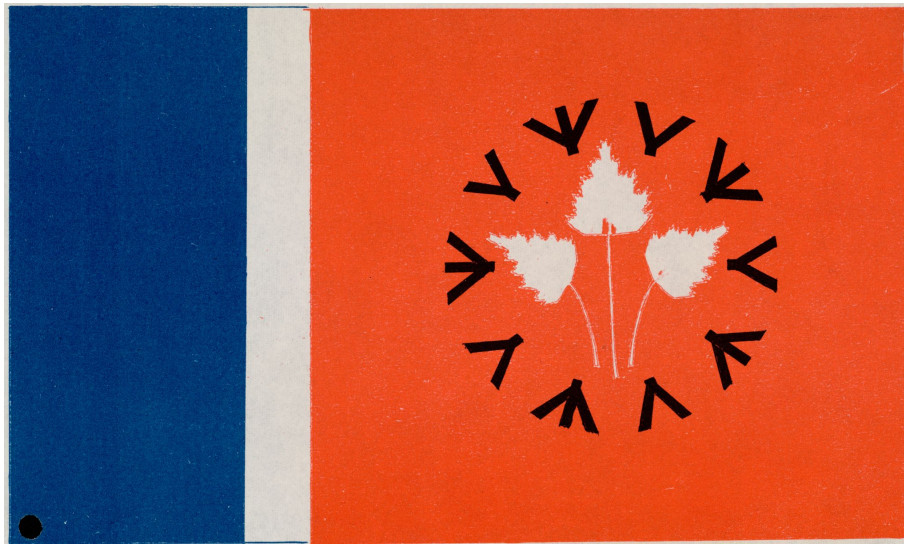


This flag submission is called “NORTHERN LIGHTS”. This flag consists of a drawing of a night sky with northern lights but sadly they didn’t add any stars to it.): This flag design also has a dark blue background.

Wanna know a cool fact?

Did you know that there are a lot of myths about the northern lights? Here is a link to learn about some of them ↓

<https://www.hurtigruten.com/en/explore-norway/northern-lights/myths-legends>



This flag submission is called "Birch". It has three white leaves from a birch tree on the right side. Around the birch leaves there are what I believe to be tipi's. The flag also has an orange and blue background occupied by a big white stripe on the right side of the flag.



This black, grey and white flag has three running geese on its left side, nine maple leaves on its right side, and a Fleur de Lis; which is a stylized lily that represents the purity, royalty, and nobility of France. Underneath the Fleur de Lis is a Union Jack.

Wanna know another cool fact?

While migrating, Canadian geese can fly up to 100 kilometres per hour.

That's all I'm going to write about for the alternate flags. But the next part of my heritage fair project is all about why the Canadian flag is red and white, and the maple leaf in the middle of it.

Why the Canadian flag has red and white with a maple leaf in the middle

I believe the reasons that the Canadian flag is red and white are that both England and France flags have red and white in them, the winter snows being the white and the autumn leaves being the red. Now there's another question- Why does the Canadian flag have a maple leaf in the centre of it? I believe some of the reasons that help explain why there is a maple leaf in the middle of the Canadian flag are that: In 1921, three maple leaves were included in the Canadian coat of arms, from 1867-1901. Also, the maple leaf appeared on all Canadian coins.

The Interviews

I asked a couple of people about their thoughts on the current Canadian flag, here is what they said:

“I think every single part of the flag is perfect in every way. There is no way to make a better flag.”

“I think the Canadian flag is a very powerful symbol. It represents the true north strong and free. I also believe that the colors go very well with each other. I like the fact that the Canadian flag has colors from the national flag from France, and the national flag from England.”

That is my heritage fair project, thank you so so much for reading this. (: