

Share stories about Canada to promote literacy July 1

HISTORY

In 1899, volunteer teachers with Frontier College set up the first reading tents in mining towns, logging camps and isolated communities across Canada. The reading tent was a place where, at the end of the working day, people could meet in order to read, to write, to learn together. A plain banner was placed on the tent with a simple message - Reading Tent - All Welcome.

In celebration of 1990 as International Year of Literacy, the Department of the Secretary of State invites you to renew this uniquely Canadian custom by setting up your own reading centre, by involving the entire community in literacy events, and wherever possible, by including books, reading and story-telling as part of your Canada Day celebrations and ongoing activities. Canada Day is the ideal time to share stories about our marvelous country, our history, culture and symbols, and in the process, to emphasize the importance of a literate and vital nation. Happy Canada Day!

YOUR READING TENT

You can include a reading tent as part of your community Canada Day celebration.

Here's how:

Select a location which will be visible to those attending the Canada Day celebrations. A spot with some shade will work best!

Any sort of structure will do for a reading tent. If possible, display the traditional banner - "READING TENT - ALL WELCOME." Make it as bright and colorful as possible in order to attract people and get them involved.

In fact, a tent is not necessarily required. You might just spread

some blankets on the grass to help create a comfortable and informal setting.

Have a selection of Canadian books and short stories by or about Native people on display. You might as your community librarian to help you select them. You could also ask a volunteer to watch the books and help children with selections.

Invite people passing by to spend a few minutes reading aloud from Canadian books and stories as part of Canada Day. Have one child start a story, and a different child take over every five minutes. It's that simple!

Invite local dignitaries, politicians, radio and TV people to visit the reading tent and read aloud from their favourite Canadian story - a children's book, history, biography, or poetry. Anything will do!

Approach the people at your local bookstore and ask them to donate a couple of Canadian books as prizes. For a month leading up to Canada Day, each time a person borrows a Canadian book at the local library, he/she could fill out an entry form. The winning forms could be drawn prior to July 1st and the prizes awarded at the reading tent.

OTHER IDEAS TO CELEBRATE LITERACY

Suggest to your child's teacher, a local newspaper, or journal that they organize a short story contest during Citizenship Week. Have the winner read it at an appropriate ceremony.

Encourage schoolchildren to read to seniors in a residence, or to younger children.

Further information is available from: Frontier College, 35 Jackes Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M4T 1E2, (416) 923-3591.

Ontario Agricultural museum takes you back in time

MILTON - Take a trip through time at the Ontario Agricultural Museum to celebrate CANADA DAY, on Sunday, July 1, 1990 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is FREE for this special event.

There will be activities and entertainment for time-travellers of all ages.

Children will delight in a puppet presentation by the "Crankee Consort", a puppet workshop, wagon rides, as well as the museum's farm animals. Bring your own kite

to fly over the expansive grass areas, or kindle the spirit of the past by participating in organized 19th Century games.

Enjoy the nostalgic atmosphere of a country church service, at 11 a.m., in our restored church.

Pack a picnic lunch, or eat in our own "country style" restaurant - but save room to indulge in fresh strawberry shortcake, during the afternoon's strawberry social.

Explore the 32 hectares of spacious grounds which the

museum offers. Discover Ontario's rural past - 30 display buildings, artifacts, costumed interpreters and daily demonstrations will provide first-hand knowledge of Ontario's early days.

Celebrate Canada Day, while experiencing living history at the Ontario Agricultural Museum. Located just 5km west of Milton. Take Highway 401 to exit 320 or 312 north, and follow the signs.

The museum is open daily until mid-September, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

30-page document governs composition of Canada's flag

OTTAWA - While you enjoy Canada Day festivities this year, ask yourself this simple question: Why is it that all Canadian flags look exactly alike?

It may seem silly at first, but think about it. It is no coincidence that the maple leaf is always the same shade of red from one flagpole to another, and that Canadian flags are always twice as long as they are wide.

Flags are consistent across Canada for the same reason that light bulbs and electrical plugs

are. It's all because of standards.

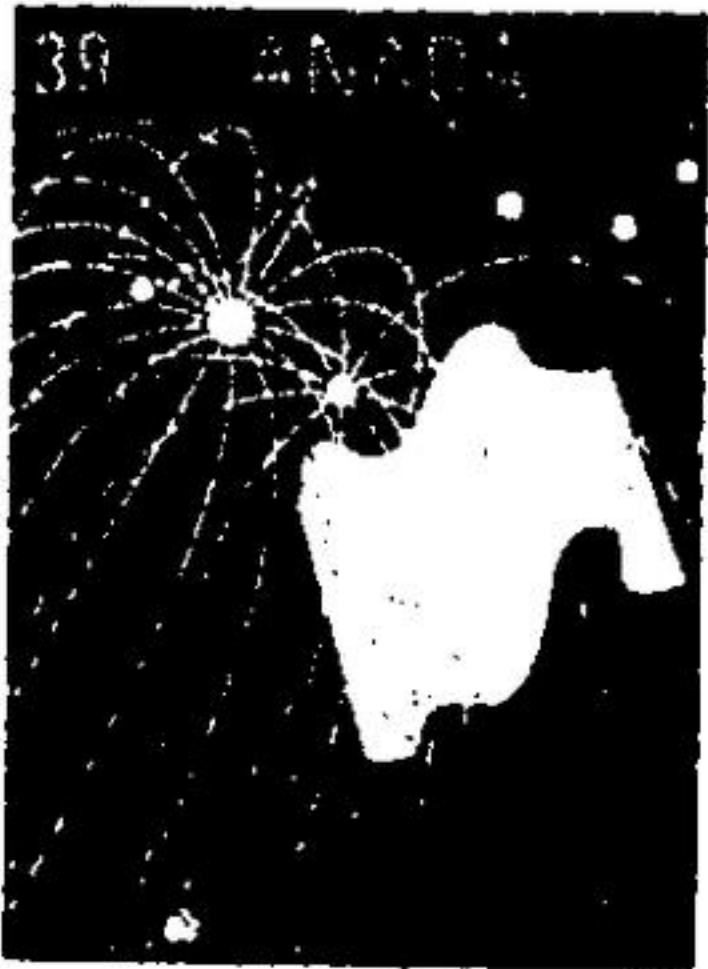
The standard for the Canadian flag is published by the Canadian General Standards Board and approved as a National Standard by the Standards Council of Canada. In its 30-odd pages this document specifies exact colors, materials and dimensions for the Canadian flag, and even covers such areas as color fastness, labelling, and water repellency.

Any company that wants to manufacture a flag, from New-

foundland to British Columbia, need only follow the guidelines of this standard to ensure perfection. So no matter where you are, you'll recognize our billowing national symbol for what it is, time after time.

If you would like to learn more about standards, write away for the Standards Council of Canada's free brochure, Standards and certification: What's in it for me? The address is 350 Sparks St., Suite 1200, Ottawa, K1P 6N7.

New stamp honors flag's 25th birthday



OTTAWA - Canada Post will issue a stamp celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Canadian flag on June 29. The 39 cent stamp depicts a fluttering flag against a sky of fireworks.

This issue recalls the selection of the Canadian flag which was chosen after a lengthy debate in Parliament in 1964. The story began with Lester B. Pearson who came to power in 1963. He had promised Canada a distinctive flag, a recognizable symbol of pride and independence.

Soon after his election, he appointed an all-party committee to present recommendations.

Various heraldic experts were asked to submit sketches. Parliament had to choose among three finalists which emerged among the 2,000 proposed designs. All three proposals met the heraldic standards. The colours and the symbols were those of our country and had significance in our past.

The conclusion came on December 15, 1964, when the single, stylized maple leaf was adopted by a vote of 163 to 78. On January 28, 1965, Queen Elizabeth II signed the proclamation. The design with a centred maple leaf became Canada's flag as of February 15. The two red bars, also known as pales, represent Canada's two coasts. The white centre is unique throughout the world; no other country's flag has a centre area that is a perfect square.

The stamp designer, Clermont Malenfant of Montreal, used the computer to create a scene which conveys the energy and vitality of the grandiose celebration of Canada Day to take place July 1 on Parliament Hill. The fireworks on the stamps overflow into a large border which was specially created for this 16 stamp pane.

A total of 15 million on the stamps were printed in 7 colour lithography by Ashton-Potter Limited, Toronto.

The New Duke of York
is having
A BIRTHDAY PARTY!

COME IN AND CELEBRATE THE FLAG

25%* OFF YOUR MEAL
FOR EVERYONE WHO ATTEMPTS TO SING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The New Duke of York
118 GUELPH ST. GEORGETOWN
873-1409
*Alcohol Not Included

Family Optical
Extensive Fashion Eye Wear
- Affordable Prices
- FREE Adjustments & Minor Repairs
873-3050
232 Guelph St.
Unit 8, Georgetown
"Behind the Royal Bank"

WILLOW LANE NATURAL FOODS
18 Willow St. Georgetown
873-3051 | **873-3067**