

Canada



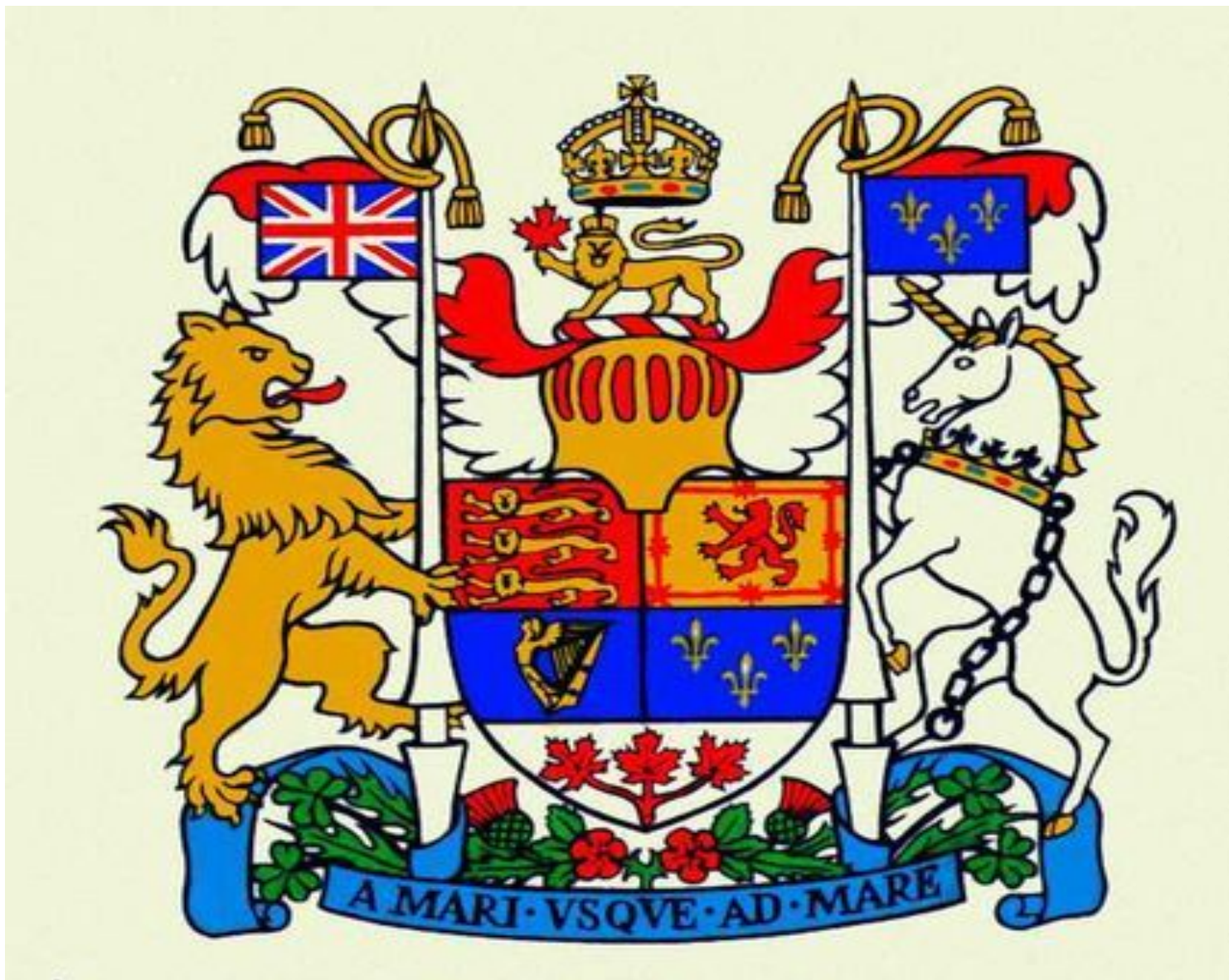
Canada

Canada is a country occupying most of northern North America, extending from the Atlantic Ocean in the east to the Pacific Ocean in the west and northward into the Arctic Ocean. It is the world's second largest country by total area and shares the world's longest common border with the United States to the south and northwest.



National symbols of Canada
The National Flag of Canada, also known as the Maple Leaf, is a red flag with a white square in its centre, featuring a stylized 11-pointed red maple leaf. The maple leaf is the characteristic leaf of the maple tree, and is an important national symbol of Canada

The Royal Coat of Arms of Canada .



Politics



Canada has a parliamentary government with strong democratic traditions. Parliament is made up of the Crown, an elected House of Commons, and an appointed Senate. Canada is also a constitutional monarchy, with The Crown acting as a symbolic or ceremonial executive. The Crown consists of Queen Elizabeth II (legal head of state) and her appointed viceroys, the Governor General (acting head of state), and provincial Lieutenant-Governors.

Ottawa



Ottawa is the capital of Canada. One third of its people are French-speaking. It is located on the banks of the Ottawa, Rideau and Gatineau rivers. Canada's fourth-largest city is a complementary blend of urban and rural lifestyles, old and new neighborhoods, culture and heritage, business and government