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 **LABRA-DOR** 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 wild-life 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 ele-ment that unites our three diverse cultures [Innu, Inuit, and white].* Martin designed the Labrador flag as part of celebrations marking the 25th anniver-sary 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.

SDM