



## Thunder Bay, Ontario

**Population Rank:** Canada . . . 31  
Province . . . 14

**Proportions:** 1:2

**Adopted:** 1972



**DESIGN:** The flag of the City of Thunder Bay is a horizontal bicolour of two-thirds golden yellow over one-third blue. Extending along the full base of the golden yellow section is a low mountainous landform in green, reaching to about one-third the height of that section. Behind it is a Canadian maple leaf in red, extending nearly the full height of the flag. All components are edged in white, separating them from each other.

**SYMBOLISM:** The overall image depicts a golden yellow sky with a sun (in the form of a maple leaf, the symbol of Canada) rising behind the “Sleeping Giant” mountain, which sits in the blue waters of Lake Superior. Green and gold are Thunder Bay’s official colours. The “Sleeping Giant” has long symbolized Thunder Bay. A rock formation on the Sibley Peninsula across the bay from the city, it resembles a giant lying on its back. According to an Ojibway legend, the giant Nanabijou was turned to stone when the secret of a local silver mine was betrayed to white men. The Ojibway (sometimes known in the U. S. as Chippewa) were the original inhabitants of the area.

**HOW SELECTED:** In 1972 Mayor Saul Laskin conceived of a distinctive flag to promote the city, after it was formed by the amalgamation of the twin cities of Fort William and Port Arthur. A small committee was formed and invited participation in a contest.

**DESIGNER:** Cliff Redden, a local citizen, created the winning design in the contest.

