

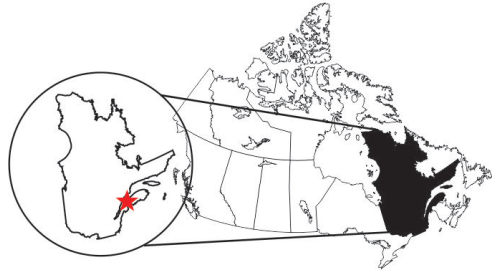


Rimouski, Québec

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 65
Province. . . . 14

Proportions: 1:2 (usage)

Adopted: Unknown, but before
2004 (arms likely created
in the late 1950s)



DESIGN: The flag of the City of Rimouski has a purple field with the city’s coat of arms in the centre. **Rimouski** runs below the arms in a medieval font; its “R” is red, the other letters are yellow. The simple shield has a slightly arched top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed “U” shape. It is divided horizontally into two panels. The upper panel is black with scattered silver ermine spots and tails (in heraldry, “ermine”), a Patriarchal cross (two crossbars, the upper one smaller) in golden yellow is in the centre, with a small crown-like object above it. The lower panel is silver with a red anchor fouled with a black rope in the centre, and a small green evergreen tree on either side. Atop the shield is a five-towered mural crown in golden yellow with black details. Flanking both sides of the shield are branches with green maple leaves, tied at their base with a red ribbon which forms loops at the centre and splits into forked ends. Surmounting the juncture of the maple branches is a ribbon in golden yellow, also splitting at its ends, inscribed **LEGI PATRUM FIDELIS** in black serifed letters—the “L” in red.

SYMBOLISM: The city’s documentation interprets the arms: *The coat of arms is a symbol of Rimouski’s faith, work, and dignity. The shield is divided*

*into two equal parts, which symbolize the movement of the waters. The silver [ermine] spots represent the [historical] seigneurs of Rimouski. The pastoral cross indicates that Rimouski is a religious centre [it is the seat of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Rimouski], its educational institutions, and the indestructible faith of its pioneers. The anchor symbolizes the seaport [Rimouski is on the south shore of the Saint Lawrence River] and commercial and industrial development. It is also a symbol of hope. The fir trees remind us of the forestry industry. The Latin motto *Legi patrum fidelis* translates as "Faithful to the Law of our forefathers". The maple leaves are green, their traditional colour in Québec heraldry. The mural crown is a traditional symbol of civic authority.*

HOW SELECTED: Unknown (the flag was observed in 2006 and mentioned in city council minutes in 2004).

DESIGNER: Unknown. The arms were created by the Collège canadien des armoiries, a commercial heraldic design firm founded in 1954 and active in creating Québec municipal heraldry in the late 1950s.

