



Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 57
Province. . . . 11

Proportions: 1:2 (usage)

Adopted: Unknown (arms created in 1956)



DESIGN: The flag of the City of Saint-Hyacinthe has a blue field with the city's coat of arms in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag. Below the shield is **SAINT-HYACINTHE** running three-fifths the length of the flag in yellow sans-serif letters outlined in black. The simple shield has a horizontal top and simply-curved sides forming a pointed "U" shape. It is divided into four quarters. The first is white, with a fleur-de-lis in blue; the second is red, with a mill wheel in white; the third is red with a diagonal wavy band in white running from upper right to lower left; and the fourth is white, with a harrow drawn with black lines. Surmounting the centre is a smaller shield of the same shape in yellow with a Patriarchal cross (two crossbars, the upper one smaller) in blue. A seven-towered mural crown in yellow is above the shield. 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 scroll in golden yellow, inscribed **UT AMORE ET VIRTUTE RIVIVISCERE** in black serifed letters, and also splitting at its ends.

SYMBOLISM: The city's documentation interprets the arms: *The mural crown represents the importance of the city. The shield bears a Patriarchal cross, indicating that Saint-Hyacinthe is a centre for religion [it is the seat of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saint-Hyacinthe] and education. The fleur-de-lis represents the French origins of the population. The mill wheel demonstrates the strength of industry and commerce. A river represents the Yamaska River and a harrow recalls the agriculture of the Maskoutaine region. The Latin motto translates as "We live again through love and courage", as a reminder of past hardships. The maple leaves are green, their traditional colour in Québec heraldry. The mural crown is a traditional symbol of civic authority.*

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNER: Unknown. The arms were created in 1956 by the Collège canadien des armories, a commercial heraldic design firm founded in 1954 and active in creating Québec municipal heraldry in the late 1950s.



OTHER FLAG: The City of Saint-Hyacinthe also uses a logo flag. In proportions of 1:2, it has a green field on the left and fourteen horizontal stripes in black and blue on the right. These sections are separated by a curved line in white

that runs from the lower edge (one-third of the distance from the hoist) to the upper edge (over nine-tenths the distance from the hoist); the line broadens toward its centre and forms a very shallow backward "S". In the upper left of the green section, one-half the height of the flag, is a stylized "H" in white outline, with similar curved lines in its centre. In the lower right of the black and blue section is *Saint-Hyacinthe la jolie* UN CHOIX POUR LA VIE (meaning "Lovely Saint Hyacinthe—a choice for life" in French) in white serified letters on three lines. Above and below the lettering are white lines which double in thickness at their central thirds.