

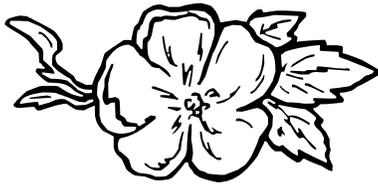


How many of Alberta's symbols and emblems can you find? ☆

A-Mace-ing ALBERTA ☆



The province's schoolchildren chose Alberta's official bird in 1977. They voted for the great horned owl, a year-round resident of the province.



The wild, or prickly, rose became Alberta's floral emblem in 1930. Its bright pink blossoms grace the countryside in all parts of the province.



The lodgepole pine became Alberta's official tree in 1984. A western tree peculiar to the Rocky Mountains, this pine got its name because it was the Aboriginal's first choice for teepee poles. During Alberta's settlement, this tree was an important source of railroad ties. Today, it is in demand in Alberta's lumber industry.



In 1989, the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep became Alberta's official mammal. Like the great horned owl, it was chosen by schoolchildren in a poll of over 3,000 schools.



The bull trout became the provincial fish in 1995. It is the only native trout found in most mountain and foothill streams in Alberta.



In 1977, petrified wood became the province's official stone. It was originally formed in coal seams and later carried by water and deposited in streams river beds, and gravel pits throughout Alberta.

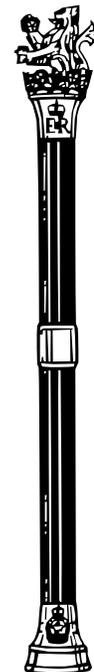
Alberta's tartan became official in 1961. The colours represent Alberta's landscape and natural resources: green for forests, gold for wheat fields, blue for lakes, pink for wild roses, and black for coal and petroleum.



In 1907, King Edward VII gave Alberta its first coat of arms in the shape of a shield. At the top of the shield is a red St. George's cross (the official flag of the Hudson's Bay Company) with the mountains, foothills, prairies and wheat fields beneath it. On Alberta's 75th anniversary in 1980 a crest and supporters were added. The crest consists of a beaver with the royal crown on its back. The supporters - a golden lion on the left and a pronghorn on the right - stand for Britain and Alberta. The supporters stand on a grassy mount dotted with wild roses. The Latin motto at the base, *Fortis et Liber*, stands for "strong and free." Alberta's flag (adopted in 1968) has the coat of arms' shield set against a royal ultramarine blue background.



Alberta's Mace measures 91 cm long and contains 200 ounces of sterling silver overlaid with gold. Engraved on the shaft's surface are some of the emblems and symbols of Alberta - wild roses, sheaves of wheat, and a coloured shield. Two features on the crown are a hand-carved beaver and a ring of precious stones that spell "Alberta": amethyst, lapis lazuli, beryl, emerald, ruby, topaz, and aquamarine. The coats of arms of Canada and British monarch adorn the ball of the Mace.



In 1998 the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of the Royal Canadian Legion gave Alberta a Black Rod - a ceremonial staff used by the Sergeant-at-Arms to request permission for the Lieutenant Governor to enter the Chamber. The rod has an ebony shaft (a gift from Sri Lanka) 114 cm long and 2.5 cm thick. On its tip is a silver lion holding a wild rose. Other details included the Royal coronet, the Canadian maple leaf, an engraved crest of the Legion and a 1905 gold Sovereign in the base (a gift from the United Kingdom).