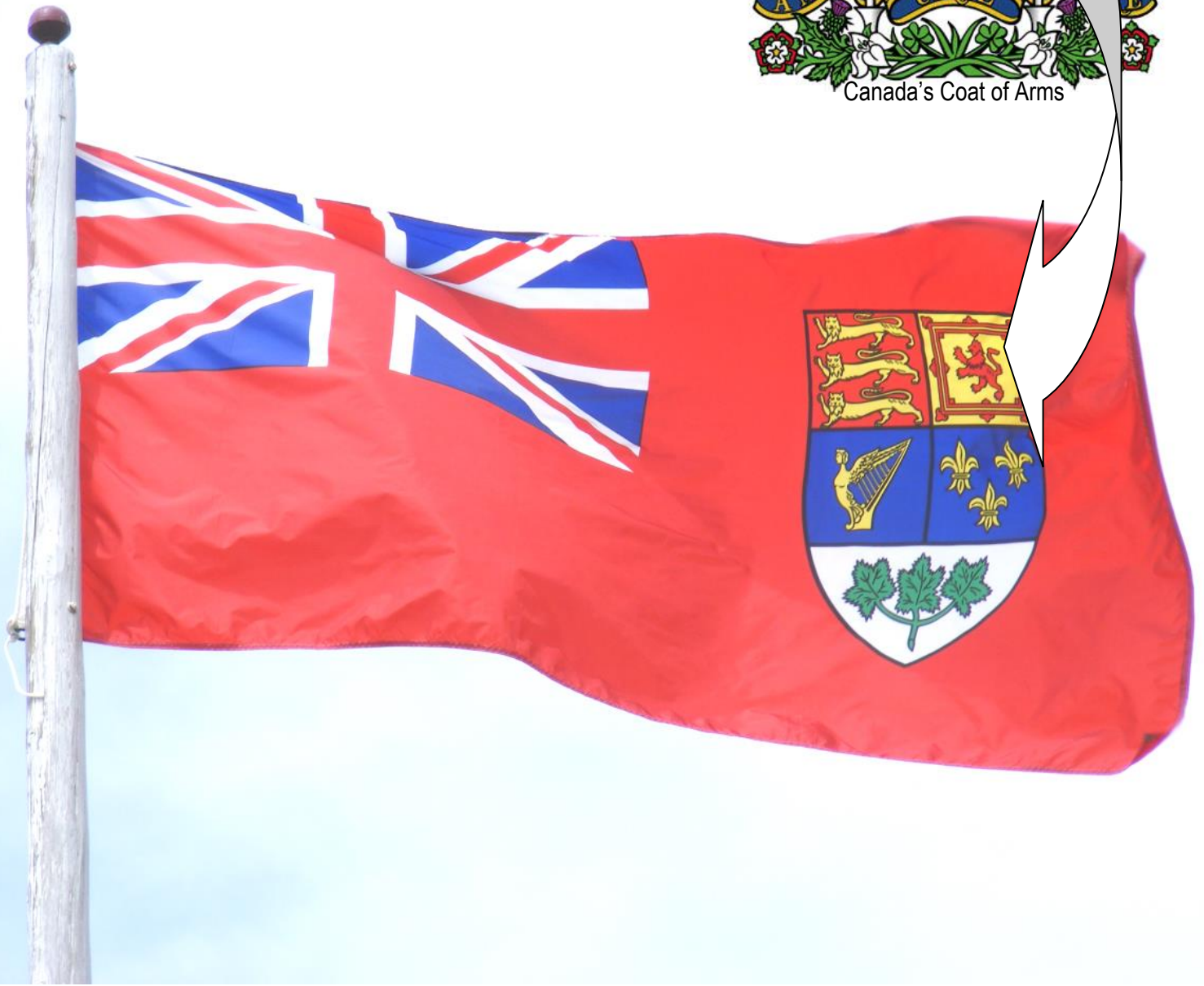


The Canadian Red Ensign

Until 1946, the official flag of Canada was the British Union Jack. However, as early as 1868 versions of the British Red Ensign (with the coats of arms of the various provinces in the 'fly') began to appear. In fact, a version of the Red Ensign was carried at Vimy Ridge.

There was no standard design until the 1920s when the Canadian Government petitioned King George V for an official Grant of Arms (Coat of Arms). The new shield (the most important part of a coat of arms) was placed in the 'fly' of the Red Ensign, producing a new version of the 'Canadian Flag' in 1922. In 1924, the Canadian Red Ensign was approved for use on Canadian buildings outside of Canada, and in 1945 for use inside of the country.

The Canadian Red Ensign (and its various forms) flew over Canada until it was replaced by the Maple Leaf Flag in 1965.



Previous (Unofficial) Canadian Red Ensigns

Evolution over the years

