

Inuvik, Northwest Territories

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 899
Territory. . . . 3

Proportions: 1:2

Adopted: Originally early 1970s,
modified in 1982



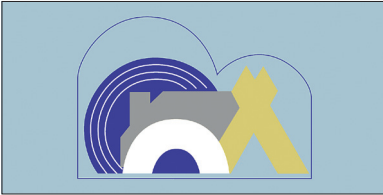
DESIGN: The flag of the Town of Inuvik has a white field with a logo in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag and five-eighths its length. Within a narrow outline of light blue, with straight base and sides and two circular curves at the top, the left higher than the right, are four overlapping elements. Behind all is a partial disc in light blue, with three narrow white concentric circles toward its outer edge. In front of it in the centre is a silhouette of the roof and chimney of a house in dark green. In front of that, to the right, is a stylized teepee in light green, formed of two bars crossing at their tops, with a white triangle at its base as a door. In front of all is a stylized igloo and door formed by a white semicircle with a smaller light blue semi-disc at its centre.

SYMBOLISM: “Inuvik” is from *Inuvialuktun*, an Inuit word for “Place of Man” or “Place of People”. Three main ethnic groups live in the town; each represented by a type of abode associated with them. The teepee is for the Dene (a First Nations people); the igloo is for the Inuit (Eskimo); and the house is for the non-native inhabitants of the town. Each group makes up about a third of the population. The large light blue disc symbolizes the

Midnight Sun, as Inuvik is 125 miles above the Arctic Circle. The three white concentric circles represent the unity of the three groups of people.

HOW SELECTED: Unknown.

DESIGNERS: Ewan Cotterall, in the early 1970s. William Huff modified it in 1982, changing the field colour from light blue to white.



FORMER FLAGS: In the early 1970s the first Inuvik flag had a light blue field. Many NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed or temporarily modified in 1985 for the Northwest Territories Exhibition Hall at Vancouver's Expo '86, at the initiative of heraldry enthusiast Michael Moore, then a deputy minister at the NWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA). The side-bar colours of these Canadian pale designs vary from dark blue, to green,

to brown, and to bright red. In the Inuvik flag, the logo from the flag, with the house and teepee both green, was placed in the centre of a Canadian pale design of dark blue-white-dark blue.