

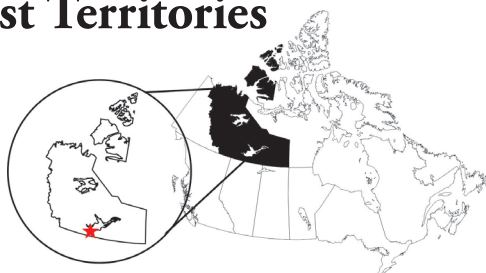


Hay River, Northwest Territories

Population Rank: Canada. . . . 875
Territory. . . . 2

Proportions: 1:2

Adopted: Unknown



DESIGN: The flag of the Town of Hay River is a Canadian pale design of dark blue-white-dark blue, with the emblem of Hay River in the centre, nearly the full height of the flag. The emblem is a circle with eight spokes, all in medium blue, surmounted by a black sans-serif **H**, its height three-fourths the interior diameter of the circle. Directly above the circle is a black vertical line with a diamond-shaped arrow tip divided black on the left and white on the right. Above the circle is a medium blue line zigzagging from 10 to 2 o'clock and edged above by a yellow line of equal width. Below the circle curving closely along its base is **HUB OF THE NORTH** in black sans-serif letters.

SYMBOLISM: Standing at the mouth of the Hay River on the Great Slave Lake, the town is a harbour for water transportation in the western Arctic to the Beaufort Sea. The community also has a commercial fishing industry and hosts a Canadian Coast Guard base. The blue eight-spoked circle represents a ship's wheel, symbolizing the community's nautical trade. The "H" and "Hub of the North" reflect Hay River's role as a centre of commerce in this area of the Northwest Territories. Hay River also is a terminus of the Canadian National Railway; the Mackenzie Highway, an all-weather,

uninterrupted road from the south, ends here; and the town has an airport with daily flights. The arrow points north and the zigzag lines represent the northern lights (*aurora borealis*).

HOW SELECTED: All such NWT/Nunavut civic flags were designed 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.

DESIGNERS: Rob Butler, graphic artist at Inkit Graphics in Yellowknife, NWT, designed the flag based on the symbol designed by former mayor D. M. Stewart and Mrs. N. J. Mackie, a member of the municipal staff.

