



# Ed Holder

Member of Parliament  
London West

## Ed Holder Launches 'Proud to Be Canadian' Campaign!

**How would you like to live in the most patriotic riding in Canada? With glowing hearts and true patriot love, we can make it happen.**

**To demonstrate our love for Canada, a number of my colleagues in Parliament and I have launched the *Proud to Be Canadian* campaign. The idea is to get as many residents of our riding and other ridings (ideally, everyone from coast to coast to coast) to display the Canadian Flag leading up to, and on Canada Day.**

**To participate, place the enclosed flag on a window or door where it is visible to the public and fill out the reply card to notify my office of your participation. You must send in the reply card if you want your home to be counted in the official tally, so please remember to do so. The winner will be granted the title of "Most Patriotic Riding in Canada."**

**The campaign is a lot of fun, and a terrific opportunity to demonstrate both your love for Canada and some old-fashioned home town pride. If we all pitch in, I know we can show the rest of Canada the strong, deep-rooted Canadian patriotism Londoners all share.**

**Best regards,**

Ed Holder, MP

**Stay informed at  
[www.EdHolder.ca](http://www.EdHolder.ca)**



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## The History of Canada Day

For Canadians from coast to coast to coast, Canada Day is a much-anticipated national holiday, and a welcomed opportunity for enjoying the time of the season with friends and family, relaxing at the cottage, or even watching a fireworks display. This has been a proud Canadian tradition since the days of Sir John A. MacDonald.

Londoners enjoy July 1 in many different ways, but Canada Day is, first and foremost, a day to celebrate the country we know and love. And Canadians have been celebrating for a long time.

Canada's Confederation came into existence when Queen Victoria gave Royal Assent to the British North America Act (BNA Act) in March, 1867. A proclamation read: "We do ordain, declare, and command that on and after the First day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-seven, the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, shall form and be One Dominion, under the name of Canada."

On June 20, 1868, a proclamation signed by the Governor General, Lord Monck, called upon Canadians to join in the celebration of the anniversary of the formation of the union of the provinces in a federation under the name of Canada on July 1. The July 1 holiday was established by statute in 1879, under the name of Dominion Day.

As new provinces and territories became part of Canada, Dominion Day came to be celebrated across the country. There are no records of organized ceremonies after this first anniversary, except for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation in 1917. At that time the new Centre Block of Parliament was under construction, and it was dedicated as a memorial to the Fathers of Confederation and to the courage of Canadians fighting in the First World War in Europe. The next celebration was held in 1927 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation.

Since 1958, the Government has arranged for an annual observance of Canada's national day. The format includes a Trooping the Colours ceremony on the lawn of Parliament Hill in the afternoon, a sunset ceremony in the evening followed by a mass band concert and fireworks display. Many Canadians still remember Canada's Centennial in 1967 when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II attended a large-scale celebration on Parliament Hill.

On October 27, 1982, "Dominion Day" officially became known as "Canada Day". This Canada Day, please take a minute to reflect upon our country's incredible history and culture.

## Maple Leaf as a Canadian Symbol



Long before the ships of Cabot, Cartier and Champlain appeared on Canada's Eastern horizon, Canada's aboriginal peoples had discovered the importance of maple sap and used it for culinary purposes. In fact, an Iroquois legend recalls ancestors piercing maple bark and using its "sweet water" to cook venison.

Many historians believe that the maple leaf began serving as a Canadian symbol as early as 1700. As time passed Canadians became increasingly aware of the maple leaf as a distinct part of the Canadian identity.

In 1834, Ludger Duvernay is reported to have proposed the maple leaf as an emblem of Canada when the *Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste* was founded on June 24 of that year. Two years later, *Le Canadien*, a newspaper published in Lower Canada, referred to it as a suitable emblem for Canada.

In August 1860, at a public meeting held in Toronto, the maple leaf was adopted as the national emblem of Canada for use in the decorations for the Prince of Wales' visit.

One of the most enthusiastic advocates of the maple leaf was Alexander Muir, a Toronto schoolmaster and poet who in 1867, in honour of Confederation, composed the song *The Maple Leaf Forever*.

During the First World War, many Canadian soldiers respectfully wore the maple leaf on military badges, and it was the dominant symbol used by many Canadian regiments.

In 1957, the colour of the maple leaves on the arms of Canada was changed from green to red, one of Canada's official colours. And on February 15, 1965, the red maple leaf flag was inaugurated as the National Flag of Canada.

The maple leaf has become a globally recognized symbol of our country. Canadians from coast to coast to coast can take pride in the maple leaf and all that it represents.



**Ed Holder**  
Member of Parliament  
for London West

**PROUD TO BE CANADIAN CAMPAIGN**

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**Instructions!**

- 1. CUT OUT** the flag and place it in your window
- 2. FILL OUT** detach and send back the reply card (no postage required)



**Show your pride!**

Will you display a flag at your residence in the weeks leading up to Canada Day?

- YES, count me in as a Proud Canadian!
- YES, I display a flag year round!
- I'm not interested in participating.

Are you pleased with the job your Member of Parliament Ed Holder is doing?

- YES     NO

Did you know that Ed Holder has a free weekly newsletter?

- YES     NO     Already Subscribed     Don't have email.

Help Ed Holder keep you informed by letting him know if you are a:

- Senior     Homeowner     Veteran     Student



MP Ed Holder spoke at several Canada Day festivities in London last year.

I would love to hear from you. Here's how you can reach me:

London — (519) 473-5955  
Ottawa — (613) 996-6674

[www.edholder.ca](http://www.edholder.ca)

Ed Holder, MP  
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Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6  
(Mail can be sent postage-free to this address)

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"I hope you decide to participate in the campaign. With your help, having a flag on display at every house in the riding is not out of reach. I can't think of a better way to celebrate Canada Day."

- ED HOLDER, MP



Young residents celebrating Canada Day in London West

CUT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_



FOLD

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