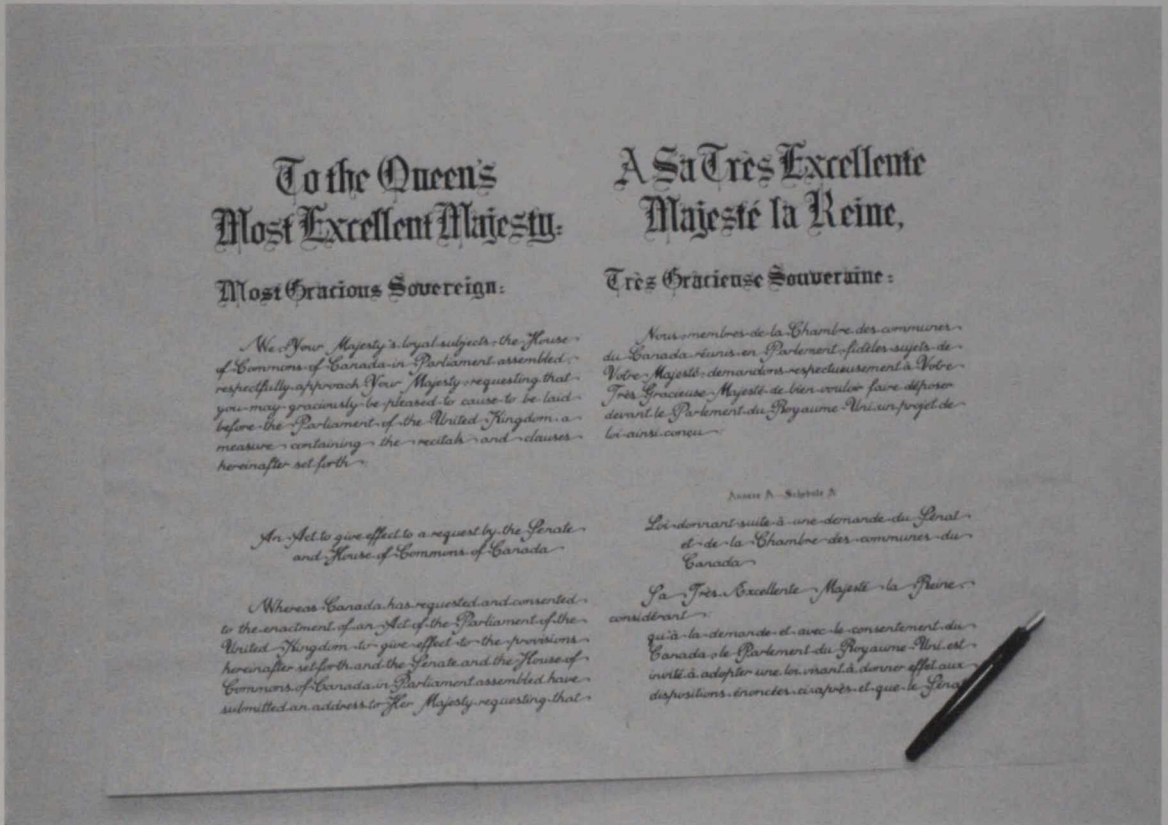


## The Queen Proclaims



Parliament's petition to Westminster

Cover Photo: The Painted Flag #31, by Charles Pachter

On April 17 Canada's Queen proclaimed the patriation of Canada's Constitution.

It has been legally under the control of the British Parliament in Westminster. It is now wholly in Canadian hands.

Some points may need clarification.

The Constitution is not new. Its principal ingredient is still the British North America Act of 1867, which will now be called the Constitution Act, 1867.

There has been, however, a significant addition to Canada's basic body of law—the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Though most Canadians have enjoyed basic rights since the beginning, there have been occasional breaches. These rights are now entrenched in its Constitution and this is of great significance, legally and symbolically.

A nation lives by its laws and is sustained by its symbols. In this issue of CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI we examine the process by which all this came about.