

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND NATIONAL FLAG

The music of "O Canada" was written by Calixa Lavallée in 1880, and was commissioned to honour the official visit to Quebec of the Marquis of Lorne, who was then Governor-General of Canada. The French words were written by Sir Adolphe Routhier. Usually, only the first verse is sung.

Many English versions have been sung, but the accepted one is that of Stanley Weir, written in 1908, and published in official form in 1927, on the occasion of Canada's Diamond Jubilee. After several years considering the problem, the Canadian Parliament has still not adopted a version of the lyrics or music officially, and Canada has no national anthem recognized by statute.

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot — love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North, strong and free,
And stand on guard, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, glorious and free!
We stand on guard, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!

O Canada! terre de nos aïeux
Ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux,
Car ton bras sait porter l'épée.
Il sait porter la croix;
Ton histoire est une épopée
Des plus brillants exploits;
Et ta valeur, de foi trempée,
Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.