

Welcome HOME

The Flamborough Coat of Arms and Flag

In 2009, the Waterdown-East Flamborough Heritage Society petitioned the Chief Herald of Canada for a coat of arms and flag that would represent the communities of Flamborough. The Society established a committee of interested individuals (including members of the Beverly Historical Society), representing all the areas of Flamborough, to work with Dr. Forrest Pass (Saguenay Herald) to create these symbols. It was not until April 29th, 2011, that the Right Reverend Bishop Ralph Spence, Albion Herald Extraordinary of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, presented the arms and flag on behalf of the Governor General to residents at the Carlisle Golf and Country Club.

Description of the Arms

The most important part of any coat of arms is the shield. The other elements around the shield are optional, however, they need to follow very strict guidelines of heraldic design.

The Arms: A white shield with a green pine tree between two blue wavy triangles, rising from the base with their points converging toward the top of the shield.

- The top portion of the shield is green with a triangular notch in the middle, pointing upwards, charged with two gold crowns of maple leaves. This section recalls the dormer of an Ontario Cottage, a nine-

teenth-century vernacular architectural style common throughout Flamborough. A dormer also appears in the logo of the

moving through green turf, a reference agriculture and the early pioneers of this area.

with the British and Canadian Crowns.

- The pine tree appeared on a number of previous seals and arms of Flamborough's communities and represents the white pines that use to dominate the landscape.

- The four wavy lines represent the four major waterways (Grindstone, Bronte, Spencer and Fairchild Creeks) and waterfalls (Webster's, Tews, Borers and the Great Falls) of the region. By their convergence, they also represent the amalgamation of the three townships with the village of Waterdown to create the Township (later Town) of Flamborough in 1974.

Crest: A representation of the "Cobblestone Bridge" at Webster's Falls - a major landmark in the Flamborough region.

Motto: "UNITED WE THRIVE" - developed by students from Greenville Public School and Rehoboth Christian School, as well as Kyle Menegaldo.

Supporters: On the left side of the shield is a horse and on the right a great blue heron. Both are wearing a medallion around their necks, depicting a blue arrowhead. They stand on a platform representing the Niagara Escarpment, charged with three red trilliums rising from a bed of green violets.

- The horse symbolizes the early pioneers of the Flamborough area and the continuing importance and contribution of agriculture. It also illustrates the



Waterdown-East Flamborough Heritage Society. The shape also recalls a plough

- The coronets depict the human history of the area, as well as its connections

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importance of the horse in development of the area and is also a reference to the iconic Rockton World's Fair.

- The Great Blue Heron is a common sight in the area marshes and along the waterways of the community. In particular, the heron represents the Beverly Swamp.

- The arrowheads recall the Aboriginal People of the 'Neutral' and 'Attawandaron' nation, who were the first known human inhabitants of the Flamborough-Beverly area.

- The eastern green violet represents the Beverly Swamp, which is home to a provincially significant concentration of the rare flower.

- The trillium is the provincial flower of Ontario and the red variety is found in abundance in the Flamborough area. The number of trilliums represent the three (Dundas, Aldershot that have been annexed from Flamborough by surrounding municipalities (except Dundas which became independent).

The Flag is a reinterpretation of the arms, focussed at the centre to recall the motto. Purposely divided into four parts, the flag represents the waterways, waterfalls and original townships of this region. The colours of the flag, as with the arms, are the ones used by Flamborough when it was its own municipality (1974-2001).

The Waterdown-East Flamborough Heritage Society is custodian of the arms and flag. For information on their use, as well

as how to purchase your own Flamborough Flag or poster of the coat of arms, please visit www.wefhs.myhamilton.ca. On this site you can also learn about the many activities

and information nights

held by the Waterdown-East

Flamborough Heritage Society including their annual Book Fair held every fall. The website also has information about the Flamborough Archives, an invaluable resource for those interested in learning more about their local history.

