

Understanding Nationalism

Chapter Highlights

Chapter 14: Canadian Identity

This chapter investigates the symbols, myths, and national institutions that have been used to promote the national identity of Canada.

Chapter Issue: *Have attempts to promote national identity been successful?*

In this chapter you will learn about the following concepts:

- That people and governments often use symbols to portray what they think is important about their country's history, nationhood, and role in the world;
- That federal government programs are often used to promote national unity and a sense of Canadian identity; and,

Topics covered in this chapter include:

1. How symbols and myths have been used to promote a national identity.
2. How have institutions been used to promote a national identity in Canada?
3. How can government programs be used to promote a national identity?
4. How can individuals promote a national identity?

You will apply these skills to your understanding of Canadian identity:

1. **Express** your current view if Canadian identity should be promoted.
2. **Choose** different animals and birds to represent Canada's national identity.
3. **List** images, symbols and stories that create group identity and belonging in your school.
4. **Create** an outline for a documentary film that focusses on your community's identity.
5. **Develop** a survey to find out what people think about a specific aspect of Canadian identity.