

## Canada—One Country, Two Nations Still

# The National Anthem



### “O Canada”\*

V. 1: 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; From far and wide, O Canada, We stand on guard for thee. God keep our land Glorious and free! O Canada! we stand on guard for thee. O Canada! we stand on guard for thee.

V. 2: O Canada! Where pines and maples grow, Great prairies spread and lordly rivers flow, How dear to us thy broad domain, From East to Western sea! Thou land of hope for all who toil! Thou True North strong and free! Go keep our land, Glorious and free! God keep our land, O Canada! We stand on guard for thee, O Canada! We stand on guard for thee.

V. 3: O Canada! Beneath thy shining skies, May stalwart sons and gentle maidens rise, To keep thee steadfast thro' the years, From East to Western sea, Our own beloved native land, Our True North strong and free.

V. 4: Ruler supreme, Who hearest humble pray'r, Hold our Dominion in Thy loving care. Help us to find, O God, in Thee A lasting rich reward, As waiting for the better day, We ever stand on guard.

V. 1: 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, Protégera nos foyers et nos droits.

V. 2: Sous l'oeil de Dieu, près du fleuve géant, Le Canadien grandit en espérant. Il est né d'une race fière, Béni fut son berceau. Le ciel a marqué sa carrière Dans ce monde nouveau. Toujours guidé par sa lumière, Il gardera l'honneur de son drapeau, Il gardera l'honneur de son drapeau.

V. 3: De son patron, précurseur du vrai Dieu, Il porte au front l'auréole de feu. Ennemi de la tyrannie Mais plein de loyauté, Il veut garder dans l'harmonie, Sa fière liberté; Et par l'effort de son génie, Sur notre sol asseoir la vérité, Sur notre sol asseoir la vérité.

V. 4: Amour sacré du trône et de l'autel, Remplis nos coeurs de ton souffle immortel! Parmi les races étrangères, Notre guide est la loi: Sachons être un peuple de frères, Sous le joug de la foi. Et répétons, comme nos pères, Le cri vainqueur: “Pour le Christ et le roi,” Le cri vainqueur: “Pour le Christ et le roi.”

V. 1: O Canada! Land of our fathers, Your head is garlanded with glorious flowers. Your arm knows to carry the sword, just as it knows to carry the cross! Your history is an epic of the most brilliant exploits. And your deep worth, drenched in faith, Will protect our homes and our rights, Will protect our homes and our rights.

V. 2: Beneath the eye of God, near the great river, the Canadian grows greater in hope. He is born of a proud race, Blessed was his cradle. Heaven marked his course in this new world. Always guided by its light, he will keep the honor of his flag, he will keep the honor of his flag.

V. 3: From his patron, agent of the true God, he bears on his head a halo of fire. Enemy of tyranny, but forever loyal, he strives to keep in harmony his proud liberty; And, through the efforts of his genius, on our soil plant truth, on our soil plant truth.

V. 4: Sacred love of the throne and of the altar, fill our hearts with your immortal breath. Among foreign races, our guide is the law: Help us to be a people of brothers under the yoke of faith. And let us repeat, like our fathers, the triumphant cry: “For Christ and King.” The triumphant cry: “For Christ and King.”

English lyrics:  
Robert Stanley Weir (1856-1926)

French lyrics: Sir Adolphe  
Basile Routhier (1839-1920)

English translation of the  
French

**\*Music by Calixa Lavallée (1824-91) On July 1, 1980, O Canada was officially made the country's national anthem—100 years after it was sung on June 24, 1880. The music is inspiring. Still, Canada is alone in having an anthem with two distinct sets of lyrics—French and English—harking to different national memories.**