

# Living under the maple leaf



Photo by Julia Karpiuk

Sam Barton came to Canada three years ago to study choral conducting at the University of Toronto. Barton grew up in Manchester, England. He enjoys living in Toronto but has not decided if he is going to stay in Canada and attempt to gain citizenship.



(Above) Mark Button and his wife Summer Li pose with the Canadian flag on the step of MacKenzie Building at the Royal Military College in Kingston where both are employed as researchers. Originally from the U.K. but having lived in Canada for the last four years, Button is in the final stage of his permanent residency application, while Li, from China, was granted permanent residency in 2012, after living in the country for eight years. Photo by Guillaume Nolet

(Left) Tetiana "Tanya" Volobueva came to Canada in 2006. She came here while travelling, but stayed because she fell in love. She is waiting to do her citizenship test, and says she is excited about the prospect of becoming a Canadian. She loves maple syrup and is proud when the Canadian hockey teams do well. Photo by Sarah Vissers



Photo by Justin Greaves

Anita Sipos, minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Bowmanville, Ont., waves a Canadian flag in the nave of the church. Sipos immigrated to Canada in 2007 from her native Hungary.

By Paulina Uy

Celebrating the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Flag of Canada, recent immigrants are standing proud as Canadians.

Since 1996, Feb. 15 was declared National Flag of Canada Day.

It is in commemoration of the red and white maple leaf flag that was first raised in 1965.

Immigrants have worked hard to live in Canada for various reasons. Whether it's seeking a better education or desiring to be reunited with loved ones, new citizens are brought together under the umbrella of the Canadian flag.

They are proud to be here and share the same rights and privileges with other Canadians.

Canada has been a very multicultural country and these are some of the new immigrants grateful to be here.