



“WE ARE CANADIAN!” – REACTIONS

Anne Murray - retired snowbird
Pretty darn good!

John McGovern - Choral Arranger for “We Are Canadian!”

The moving lyrics and beautiful melodies of “We Are Canadian!” provided me with a vast canvas of Canadian experience from primeval times to today. From this powerful material I was inspired to develop a choral arrangement and piano part, reflecting the various images in an individual style for each verse, followed by the rousing chorus. I hope many Canadians will have the opportunity to hear the choral version of this epic song which Ellis and Carey have so lovingly created to reflect what it is for each one of us to truly be Canadian... Thanks again for the opportunity to arrange this beautiful song in praise of our special place on Earth!

Anne Axworthy – Director, Voices in Harmony Choir

Our chorus is proud and honoured to be the first to sing the 4-part arrangement of “We Are Canadian!” This wonderful song resonated with the entire membership at its debut at our first rehearsal. At the end, although they had just been introduced to it, they insisted on singing it in its entirety, with great heart and enthusiasm. All Canadians deserve to hear this uplifting tribute to Canada.

Roxanne Goodman – Director, Great Big Soul Project Choir

This is a wonderful, beautiful and powerful song and the video is just great!

Jody Benjamin – Director, Ottawa Shout Sisters Choir

I just now had a chance to listen to your lovely song. The tears are still in my eyes. It really is great.

Dai Bassett – Songwriter/Entertainer

Oh my goodness, Ellis. This song is absolutely beautiful ... I simply love it and it is still giving me goose bumps!

Alan Sandeman – Songwriter/Entertainer

It really is a wonderful and moving tribute to this country. In my mind it has captured the vast breadth of our culture and character and I think it does a touching job of portraying us and our passions.

Eric Sewell – Past President, Belleville Probus Club

Your song and video received a standing ovation. I had so many requests to forward this on to other members and clubs. I was so proud to present your work. It is fabulous and highly regarded by all who saw it. About 100 folks in the audience.

Gordon Fleming

Your song-video is beautifully written and presented and certainly evoked a passionate response from my wife and ! We both enjoyed the song for its relevance to the reality of our multi-faceted beginnings – and our on-going focus as a country; while speaking to the need to recognize the flawed and painful decisions of the past. And we liked the sing-along aspect of the chorus that honoured individuals and groups whose inspiring contributions were achieved through our united heritage of this great land. Thank you so much for sharing it with us

Marilyn Hay

Oh, Ellis, I LOVE the video, and I really appreciate the verse honouring the women in our history/culture... I also like that you've added what hasn't been so great in our history, the hurt and harm but the reconciliation and healing we're trying to undertake together. Seriously, the vid, the song, make me weep with pride and leave me so very grateful to be Canadian, to see what it is we stand for, both at home and around the world.

Rich and Patricia Vivone

Rich and I are mesmerized by your video. It raised the hair on our arms and damned near brought tears to our eyes. We think the photos fit the words extremely well and reinforce the lyrics. All in all, a terrific - and creative - message about our country. Love the addition of the contributions women have made in our history. For too long, that role has either been downplayed or worse, forgotten.

Janet Bingham – American

WE LOVE IT! I especially love how you talk about the First Canadians, then the next arrivals, and how all those who have arrived most recently join those who came before them to create the glorious unity in diversity that is modern Canada. WOW!

John Hosie – New Zealand

You have written a great set of lyrics and the music that they have been set to works well. I am blown away!!!

Ian Herbert - Australia

Wow!! Terrific. You have done a fantastic job. The words tell a whole story and must swell the chest of every Canadian with pride. I felt it, even though some of the names and history is not so well known to me....

Congratulations, just fabulous - very stirring and we're not even Canadians !

Michele and Louis Tenace

It is absolutely fabulous! I have forwarded it to just about everyone I know, for their enjoyment. Have you or the author considered sending it to our MP and the PMO? They might do something major with it.

Micheline Drevenok

I cried. Loved it. I will pass it on.

Ruth Cullen

... it is great. I am sending it on to an MP friend...and asked if he would have a contact to influence if it could be included in the Canada Day activities...I think it has a lot of merit and quality Canadian content.

Christine Campbell and John Bisson

That was beautiful!!

Colleen Wade

WOW!!!! Very nicely done. I'm very impressed!

Herman Hugenholtz

Like it a lot. Very comprehensive and inclusive. Definitely Canada Day material! Congrats on a great job!

Shane Nestruck - Winnipeg

Absolutely LOVE it!

Peter and Pamela Harle

As you watch it, just see if your chest doesn't swell with pride as the history and story of Canada and Canadians evolves. And as you listen you start to sing along, for - "We are Canadian"!

Resident – Retirement Home

I taught music for 61 years and I love it!

Sharon Gravelle

Last night my husband and I played bridge with ... as we do many nights. They showed us your video "We are Canadian!" I was so touched by this video and appreciated the lyrics and music.

It is absolutely beautiful and I wanted to tell you how much I love it.

I just viewed it again and I hope it becomes as popular as our national anthem. Thank you so much.

Dana Inkster

The incredibly beautiful song you wrote literally brings tears to my eyes! Thank you so much!!! What a gift when we need it most.

Harvey Jackson - Entertainer

I've been memorizing the words. The more I study your song the more I realize the depth of your work and preparation to write this beautiful song. My admiration for your work grows daily. Thank you kindly on behalf of all Canadians for this beautiful ballad!!

FROM YOUTUBE

Marian Breslin McDonald

Gorgeous ode to a great nation; inspiring!

Mr. Runsteve

What a brilliant song – the lyrics, music and singing are perfectly harmonized. Thank you for encapsulating so much of what makes me so honoured to be a Canadian.

D.O. Gibson

Wonderful song!

Gene Chu

I always loved "I Am Australian!" and wished we had a tribute song for Canada in the same vein. "We Are Canadian!" can be that song. Beautiful.

Graeme Geib

Absolutely beautiful!

Sound of Music

"Thank YOU Mr. Ellis Craig, for your passionate work in creating an amazing vocal (thanks also to Carey Blackwell for the music and singer Alan Sandeman) and visual history of our country! It needs to be shared regularly to remind us how fortunate we are to live in Canada."

To Be Continued. If you wish to add comments of your own please send to <pikelaker6@gmail.com> .

