



Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion
Centre canadien pour la diversité et l'inclusion

2024 DIVERSITY CALENDAR



01 2024 JANUARY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--------------|---|---|--------|--|
| 31 | 1 New Year's Day | 2 | 3 | 4 World Braille Day National Ribbon Skirt Day | 5 | 6 Epiphany |
| 7 Christmas / Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox / Eastern) | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Lohri |
| 14 Orthodox New Year | 15 Pongal Martin Luther King Jr Day | 16 Pongal | 17 Pongal Raoul Wallenberg Day | 18 Pongal | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Lincoln Alexander Day | 22 | 23 | 24 International Day of Education World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture | 25 Thaipusam | 26 | 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day |
| 28 | 29 National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

January

Alzheimer's Awareness Month (Canada)

Tamil Heritage Month (Canada)

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| 15 - 18 | Pongal | Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated by the Tamil community. It is a celebration to thank the Sun, Mother Nature and the various farm animals that help to contribute to a bountiful harvest. (Hinduism) |
| 1 | New Year's Day | The first day of the year of the modern Gregorian calendar. (International) |
| 4 | World Braille Day | Observed to raise awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people. Celebrated on Louis Braille's birthday, the inventor of braille. (International) |
| 4 | National Ribbon Skirt Day | National Ribbon Skirt Day was declared by parliament in 2022 after Isabella Kulak, a young girl from the Cote First Nation in Saskatchewan, was shamed for wearing a ribbon skirt at her school. Ribbon skirts represent an important part of the identity and history of Indigenous women and girls. On National Ribbon Skirt Day, Indigenous women and girls across Canada are encouraged to wear ribbon skirts to celebrate their culture, strength, and connection. (Canada) |
| 6 | Epiphany | A Christian festival that primarily commemorates the coming of the Wise Men (Magi) to the infant Jesus Christ. Celebrated on January 19 in some Orthodox churches that celebrate Christmas on January 7. (Christianity) |
| 7 | Christmas / Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox / Eastern) | The equivalent of December 25 on the Julian calendar. Many Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas day on or near this date. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 13 | Lohri | A popular wintertime Punjabi folk festival, celebrated primarily by Sikhs and Hindus from the Punjab region of Indian subcontinent. (Sikhism / Hinduism) |
| 14 | Orthodox New Year | The start of the new year under the Julian calendar. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 15 | Martin Luther King Jr Day | An American federal holiday marking the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. It falls on the third Monday of January, close to King's actual birthday on January 15. (United States) |
| 17 | Raoul Wallenberg Day | Raoul Wallenberg Day honours Raoul Wallenberg, Canada's first honorary citizen, who is credited with saving the lives of tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews. (Canada) |
| 21 | Lincoln Alexander Day | A day commemorating The Honourable Lincoln Alexander, who was a pioneer in the fight for racial equity in Canada as the first Black Member of Parliament in the House of Commons, the first Black federal Minister, and the first Black Chair of the Worker's Compensation Board of Ontario. (Canada) |
| 24 | International Day of Education | United Nations designated day to advance Sustainable Development Goal 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. (International) |
| 24 | World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture | Established by UNESCO, World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture celebrates the many vibrant cultures of the African continent and African Diasporas around the world and promotes them as an effective lever for sustainable development, dialogue and peace. (International) |
| 25 | Thaipusam | A Hindu festival celebrated by the Tamil community in India and by the Tamil diaspora worldwide. The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and wisdom over ignorance. (Hinduism) |
| 27 | International Holocaust Remembrance Day | Designated by the United Nations (UN), this day marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and commemorates the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism. (International) |
| 29 | National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia | A day commemorating the Islamophobic attack that took place at the Grand Mosque in Quebec City, which took the lives of six people and seriously injured 19 others. The Government of Canada established this commemorative day in 2021 to honour the victims and express solidarity with the survivors of this tragedy. (Canada) |

02 2024 FEBRUARY

- Black History Month (Canada)
- African Heritage Month (Nova Scotia)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 World Interfaith Harmony Week World Hijab Day Imbolc / Imbolg / Oimealc / Candlemas | 2 World Interfaith Harmony Week Groundhog Day | 3 World Interfaith Harmony Week |
| 4 World Interfaith Harmony Week White Cane Week World Cancer Day | 5 World Interfaith Harmony Week White Cane Week | 6 World Interfaith Harmony Week White Cane Week International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation Lailat al Miraj | 7 World Interfaith Harmony Week White Cane Week Lailat al Miraj | 8 White Cane Week | 9 White Cane Week Lunar New Year / Spring Festival | 10 White Cane Week Lunar New Year / Spring Festival |
| 11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science | 12 | 13 World Radio Day Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras | 14 Lent (Western) Vasant Panchami Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday | 15 Lent (Western) National Flag of Canada Day Parinirvana / Nirvana Day | 16 Lent (Western) | 17 Lent (Western) |
| 18 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week | 19 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week Family Day Islander Day Louis Riel Day Nova Scotia Heritage Day | 20 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week World Day of Social Justice | 21 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week International Mother Language Day | 22 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week | 23 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week | 24 Lent (Western) Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week Lantern Festival Mǎgha Pója Chótrul Düchen |
| 25 Lent (Western) | 26 Lent (Western) | 27 Lent (Western) | 28 Lent (Western) Pink Shirt Day | 29 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 1 | 2 |

February

[Black History Month \(Canada\)](#)

[African Heritage Month \(Nova Scotia\)](#)

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| 1 - 7 | World Interfaith Harmony Week | World Interfaith Harmony Week is an annual event observed during the first week of February, after General Assembly designation in 2010. The General Assembly pointed out that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of a culture of peace and established World Interfaith Harmony Week as a way to promote harmony between all people regardless of their faith. (International) |
| 4 - 10 | White Cane Week | White Cane Week, occurring the first full week of February, was created by the Canadian Council of the Blind to raise public awareness of the reality of life for Canadians living with vision loss. (Canada) |
| 14 - March 30 | Lent (Western) | A 40-day period of fasting (excluding Sundays) in preparation for Easter. This period is observed by abstaining from certain foods, drinks, and activities, increased prayer, personal improvement, and participating in charity (almsgiving). (Christianity) |
| 18 - 24 | Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week | Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week (ASAW) is an annual, international event meant to spread awareness and acceptance of aromantic spectrum identities and the issues we face, as well as making more people aware of our existence while celebrating it. (International) |
| 31 (sundown) - March 19 | Nineteen Day Fast | A period when adult Bahá'ís fast from sunrise to sunset each day, coinciding with the 19-day Bahá'í month of Alá (loftiness) and immediately preceding the Bahá'í new year. This period of fasting is a time of prayer, meditation, and spiritual rejuvenation. (Bahá'í) |
| 1 | World Hijab Day | Founded by Nazma Khan, World Hijab Day recognizes the millions of Muslim women who choose to wear the hijab and was created to foster religious tolerance and understanding by inviting women (non-Hijabi Muslims/non-Muslims) to experience the hijab for one day. (International) |
| 1 | Imbolc / Imbolg / Oimeic / Candlemas | Imbolc is a festival of the returning light when days are getting noticeably longer, and signs of new plant life emerge. "Imbolc" comes from an archaic Gaelic expression "in the belly", which signaled the first stirrings of life within the womb of mother earth. Traditionally, Imbolc is a time of cleansing and purification. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 2 | Groundhog Day | A popular tradition in Canada and the United States derived from Pennsylvania Dutch superstition. If a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow, winter is said to continue for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow, spring is said to arrive early. (International) |
| 4 | World Cancer Day | An international awareness day led by the Union for International Cancer Control to raise worldwide attention and inspire action for a cancer-free world. (International) |
| 6 | International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation | To promote the elimination of female genital mutilation, and to engender greater focus on human rights, gender equality, sexual education, and attention to the needs of women and girls who suffer from its consequences. (International) |
| 6 (sundown) - 7 | Lailat al Miraj | A Muslim holiday that commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's nighttime journey from Mecca to Jerusalem where he ascended to heaven, was purified, and given the instruction for Muslims to recite Salat (ritual prayer) five times a day. Also known as Isra and Mi'raj. Al Isra'wal Miraj or Laylat al Miraj. (Islam) |
| 9 (evening) - 10 | Lunar New Year / Spring Festival | Lunar New Year is the beginning of a calendar year based on the lunar calendar. While commonly known as Chinese New Year, the Lunar New Year is celebrated in many Asian countries including Mongolia, Korea, and Vietnam. In China, the Spring Festival is a celebration that begins on New Year's Eve of the lunar calendar and lasts for fifteen days, ending with the Lantern Festival. (International) |
| 10 | Losar (Tibetan New Year) | A new year's festival celebrated on the first day of the lunisolar Tibetan calendar, which corresponds to a date in February or March in the Gregorian calendar. It is one of the most festive periods of the year observed with many religious and cultural events. (Tibet) |
| 11 | International Day of Women and Girls in Science | A day designated for the dismantling of gender stereotypes – specifically to end institutional and systemic gender imbalances in science. (International) |
| 13 | World Radio Day | An international day for recognizing the enduring power of radio to promote the pluralism, representation, and diversity that is needed to build a more peaceful and inclusive world. (International) |

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| 13 | Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras | Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day or Mardi Gras, is the day before Ash Wednesday, signifying the start of Lent in Christian traditions. On this day, people historically "shrove" or confessed their sins before the fasting period of Lent. Shrove Tuesday and Mardi Gras are now commonly associated with indulging in rich foods to use up ingredients like eggs and butter before the Lenten fast. In New Orleans and other parts of the world with large Roman Catholic populations, Mardi Gras, Carnival, or Carnaval, is celebrated as a lively, colourful event marking the end of the festive season before Lent. (Christianity) |
| 14 | Vasant Panchami | A Hindu festival that highlights the coming of spring, and is dedicated to the Hindu Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, wisdom, learning, and art. (Hinduism) |
| 14 | Valentine's Day | A day of romance when people celebrate their love for one another. The origin of this holiday dates back to the 5th century and is named after a Christian martyr, St. Valentine. (International) |
| 14 | Ash Wednesday | Marks the first day of Lent. The name is derived from the symbolic use of ashes to signify penitence. (Christianity) |
| 15 | National Flag of Canada Day | A day that commemorates the inauguration of the Canadian flag in 1965. The day is marked by flying the flag, occasional public ceremonies, and educational programs in schools. (Canada) |
| 15 | Parinirvana / Nirvana Day | An annual Mahayana Buddhist festival that commemorates the death of Buddha and his entry into Nirvana, which is believed to be a release from the cycle of death and rebirth. Sometimes celebrated on February 8th. (Buddhism) |
| 19 | Family Day | Civic holiday in Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and New Brunswick, which celebrates the importance of family. (Canada) |
| 19 | Islander Day | A civic holiday observed in Prince Edward Island in celebration of family and community. (Canada) |
| 19 | Louis Riel Day | Civic holiday in Manitoba which commemorates the life of Louis Riel, Métis leader of the Red River Resistance of 1869-70 and the driving force behind Manitoba becoming Canada's fifth province. (Canada) |
| 19 | Nova Scotia Heritage Day | Civic holiday in Nova Scotia to remember the province's storied past and honour the remarkable people, places and events that have contributed to the province's unique heritage. (Canada) |
| 20 | World Day of Social Justice | A day which recognizes the International Labour Organization's 'Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization'. It is premised on the tenet that social development and social justice are indispensable for the achievement and maintenance of peace and security within and among nations. This is done by promoting gender equality, or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants or by working in concert to remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability. (International) |
| 21 | International Mother Language Day | A worldwide annual observance to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism. (International) |
| 24 | Lantern Festival | The Lantern Festival, celebrated in China and other Asian countries by decorating homes and streets with colourful lanterns, honours deceased ancestors and promotes reconciliation, peace, and forgiveness. The holiday occurs on the 15th day of the first month of the lunar calendar and marks the first full moon of the new lunar year and the end of the Spring Festival. (International) |
| 24 | Māgha Pūjā | An important Buddhist festival, celebrated on the full moon day of the third lunar month in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Sri Lanka and on the full moon day of Taunggyi in Myanmar. It celebrates a gathering between the Buddha and 1,250 of his first disciples. (Buddhism) |
| 24 | Chötrul Düchen | Chötrul Düchen, the "Festival of Miracles", takes place on the 15th day of the first Tibetan lunar month during the full moon. It is one of the four Buddhist festivals commemorating four events in the life of the Buddha and celebrates the first fifteen days of the year when Buddha displayed a different miracle on each day. (Buddhism) |
| 28 | Pink Shirt Day | An international awareness day to promote anti-bullying. (International) |

03 2024 MARCH



- Women's History Month (International)
- Irish Heritage Month (Canada)
- Bangladeshi Heritage Month (Ontario)
- Multiculturalism Month (Newfoundland and Labrador)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 1 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Zero Discrimination Day Self-harm Awareness Day Employee Appreciation Day | 2 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast |
| 3 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 4 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 5 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 6 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 7 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast | 8 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast International Women's Day Maha Shivaratri | 9 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast |
| 10 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan | 11 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week | 12 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week | 13 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week | 14 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week | 15 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week International Day to Combat Islamophobia | 16 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week |
| 17 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Ramadan Neurodiversity Celebration Week Saint Patrick's Day | 18 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Nowruz / Norouz (Bahá'í / Iranian / Zoroastrian / Persian New Year) | 19 Lent (Western) Nineteen Day Fast Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Nowruz / Norouz (Bahá'í / Iranian / Zoroastrian / Persian New Year) Spring Equinox Ostara / Eostre / Spring Equinox | 20 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) International Francophonie Day International Day of Happiness | 21 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination World Down Syndrome Day Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Awareness to Celebration Day | 22 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) World Water Day | 23 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Purim |
| 24 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Purim International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims Palm Sunday (Western) Holi | 25 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Holi Mohalla Holi International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade Feast of the Annunciation Khorwad Sal | 26 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Holi Mohalla Purple Day | 27 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Holi Mohalla | 28 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Holy Thursday / Maundy Thursday (Western) | 29 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) Good Friday (Western) | 30 Lent (Western) Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Week (Western) |
| 31 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) International Transgender Day of Visibility Easter (Western) Laylat al-Qadr (Shi' ah) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

| March | | |
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| Women's History Month (International) | | |
| Irish Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Bangladeshi Heritage Month (Ontario) | | |
| Multiculturalism Month (Newfoundland and Labrador) | | |
| 10 (sundown) - April 9 | Ramadan | In Islam, Ramadan is the holy month whereby Muslims fast during daylight hours. It is a period that aims to cleanse one's body and soul from impurities and re-focus oneself to the worship of God. Prayers begin in the evening and fasting begins on the next day. (Islam) |
| 11 - 17 | Neurodiversity Celebration Week | Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. It aims to transform how neurodivergent individuals are perceived and supported by providing schools, universities, and organisations with the opportunity to recognise the many talents and advantages of being neurodivergent, while creating more inclusive and equitable cultures that celebrate differences and empower every individual. (International) |
| 18 - April 27 | Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) | A 40-day period of fasting (including Sundays) in preparation for the feast of Pascha. This period is observed by abstaining from certain foods, drinks, and activities, increased prayer, personal improvement, and participating in charity (almsgiving). Fasting is continued during the Great and Holy Week between Lent and Pascha. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 24 - 30 | Holy Week (Western) | A period of continued fasting and religious observance following Lent, beginning on Palm Sunday and ending with Easter. (Christianity) |
| 25 - 27 | Hola Mohalla | This annual festival was started by the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, as a gathering of Sikhs for military exercises and mock battles on the day following the festival of Holi (sometimes coinciding with Holi). The festival exists to remind people of valor and defense preparedness. (Sikhism) |
| 1 | Zero Discrimination Day | Zero Discrimination Day celebrates the right of everyone to live a full and productive life—and live it with dignity. It highlights how people can become informed about and promote inclusion, compassion, peace, and a movement for change in order to end all forms of discrimination. (International) |
| 1 | Self-harm Awareness Day | Self-harm Awareness Day (also known as Self-injury Awareness Day) is dedicated to ending the stigma around self-harm and raising awareness about available supports and alternative coping methods. (International) |
| 1 | Employee Appreciation Day | Employee Appreciation Day falls on the first Friday of March and acts as a reminder of the importance of showing appreciation to employees and building a culture of appreciation. (International) |
| 8 | International Women's Day | A global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality. (International) |
| 8 | Maha Shivaratri | Sanskrit for "Great Night of Shiva", Maha Shivaratri is a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honour of the god Shiva. The festival is one of the one of the most significant Hindu spiritual festivals, and is observed by fasting, jagran (all-night vigil), and worship. (Hinduism) |
| 15 | International Day to Combat Islamophobia | In 2022, the UN General Assembly decided to proclaim March 15 the International Day to Combat Islamophobia and called for strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue on the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and the diversity of religions and beliefs. (International) |
| 17 | Saint Patrick's Day | St. Patrick's Day is a global celebration of Irish culture on March 17, the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. (International) |
| 18 (sundown) - 19 | Nowruz / Noruz (Bahá'í / Zoroastrian / Iranian / Persian New Year) | The word "Nowruz" (spelling varies by region: Now Ruz, Naw-Ruz, Now Roz, Novruz, Navruz, Nooruz, Nevruz, or Naurzy) translates to "new day". It marks the first day of spring, and is celebrated as the beginning of the new year by more than 300 million people all around the world. Nowruz has been celebrated for over 3,000 years in the Balkans, the Black Sea Basin, the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and other regions. Originally celebrated by the Zoroastrians, it is also a holy day in the Bahá'í, Sufi, and Ismaili faiths. (International) |



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| 19 | Spring Equinox | In the Northern Hemisphere, the Spring Equinox (also known as the vernal equinox or March Equinox) occurs when the sun crosses the equator line, heading north. This event marks the start of the spring season in the northern half of the globe. (International) |
| 19 | Ostara / Eostre / Spring Equinox | Ostara, named for the Norse goddess Eostre, celebrates the Spring Equinox and the warming days. Celebrations focus on the themes of fertility, birth, and new beginnings. After planning and gathering energy earlier in the year, Ostara marks a time for action. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 20 | International Francophonie Day | A day to celebrate the French language, culture, and values. (International) |
| 20 | International Day of Happiness | Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated the International Day of Happiness as a way to recognise the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. (International) |
| 21 | International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination | Declared by the UN, this day remembers the damaging effects of racial discrimination and is a reminder to continue building a world with justice and equality. (International) |
| 21 | World Down Syndrome Day | A day to raise public awareness of Down syndrome and the effective and meaningful inclusion and participation of all people with Down Syndrome in spaces where decisions are being made about matters relating to or affecting their lives. (International) |
| 21 | Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ Awareness to Celebration Day | Advocated by the Two-Spirit community and created in partnership with the Two-Spirit Program at the CBRC, this annual event will recognize and celebrate the diverse sexualities and gender expressions that exist within Indigenous communities. (Canada) |
| 22 | World Water Day | World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis. A core focus of World Water Day is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030. (International) |
| 23 (sundown) - 24 | Purim | The festival of Purim commemorates the heroism of Esther, and the salvation of the Jewish people from Haman in the Achaemenid Empire (Persian Era). Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism) |
| 24 | International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims | This day was started in remembrance of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador who was assassinated in 1980 for denouncing violations of human rights. Its purpose is to honour the memories of victims and heroes whose lives were devoted or lost in the pursuit of human rights or its theme therein. (International) |
| 24 | Palm Sunday (Western) | A Christian celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem the week prior to his death and resurrection, which marks the start of Holy Week. (Christianity) |
| 24 (evening) - 25 | Holi | A Hindu spring festival celebrated predominantly in India by both Hindu and non-Hindu people, also known as the "festival of colours" or the "festival of love". Holi represents the arrival of spring and the triumph of good over evil, and on this one day, the usual rankings of caste, gender, status, and age are ignored in favour of celebrating together by throwing colored water and powders on one another. (Hinduism) |
| 25 | International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade | This is a United Nations international observation that offers the opportunity to honour and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system. First observed in 2008, the international day also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today. (International) |
| 25 | Feast of the Annunciation | Annunciation commemorates the day Jesus's mother, Mary was visited by an angel to inform her that she was blessed and chosen to be the mother of Christ. (Christianity) |
| 25 | Khordad Sal | Khordad Sal is the birthday of Zoroaster (Zarathustra), the prophet and founder of Zoroastrianism. (Zoroastrian) |
| 26 | Purple Day | Purple Day is an international grassroots epilepsy awareness initiative created in Nova Scotia by Cassidy Megan. People are encouraged to wear purple on March 26 to promote epilepsy awareness worldwide. (International) |
| 28 | Holy Thursday / Maundy Thursday (Western) | Falling on the Thursday before Easter, Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. (Christianity) |
| 29 | Good Friday (Western) | A Christian holiday to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus. (Christianity) |



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| 31 | International Transgender Day of Visibility | The International Transgender Day of Visibility recognizes the struggles, sacrifices and achievements of those who fought, and continue to fight, for gender equity. This day highlights our friends, family, colleagues and neighbours who contribute to the diversity in Canada, and it encourages us to recognize that transgender and non-binary individuals continue to resist oppression by simply being exactly who they are. (International) |
| 31 | Easter (Western) | Also called 'Pascha', this is one of the holiest days in the Christian (Western) calendar. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from death, three days after his crucifixion. (Christianity) |
| 31 (sundown) - April 1 | Laylat al-Qadr (Shi' ah) | Laylat al-Qadr (Arabic: "Night of Power") is an Islamic festival that commemorates the night on which God first revealed the Qur 'ān to the Prophet Muhammad through the angel Gabriel (Jibril). It is most commonly observed on the 23rd night of Ramadan for Shi' ah Muslims and on the 27th for Sunni Muslims. (Shi' ah Islam) |

04 2024 APRIL

- Autism Acceptance Month (International)
- Celebrate Diversity Month (International)
- Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month (Canada)
- Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month (International)
- Sikh Heritage Month (Canada)
- Parkinson Awareness Month (Canada)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| 31 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Laylat al-Qadr (Shi' ah) Easter Monday (Western) | 1 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Laylat al-Qadr (Shi' ah) Easter Monday (Western) | 2 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) World Autism Awareness Day National Caregiver Day | 3 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) | 4 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Laylat al-Qadr (Sunni) | 5 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Laylat al-Qadr (Sunni) | 6 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) International Day of Sport for Development and Peace International Asexuality Day |
| 7 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda World Health Day | 8 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Birthday of Buddha | 9 Ramadan Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Day of Valour / Araw ng Kagitingan Ugadi / Yugadi Eid Al-Fitr | 10 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Eid Al-Fitr International Day of Pink | 11 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) | 12 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) | 13 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Vaisakhi / Baisakhi Sinhala and Tamil New Year |
| 14 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week Vishu | 15 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week | 16 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week | 17 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week Ram Navami | 18 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week | 19 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week | 20 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) National Volunteer Week Ridvan |
| 21 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week World Creativity and Innovation Day | 22 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach Earth Day | 23 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach St. George's Day | 24 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach Tharavada New Year Armenian Genocide Memorial Day | 25 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach Tharavada New Year Girls in ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Day | 26 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach Tharavada New Year | 27 Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern) Ridvan Canadian Fertility Awareness Week Passover / Pesach |
| 28 Ridvan Passover / Pesach Palm Sunday (Orthodox / Eastern) Day of Mourning World Day for Health and Safety at Work | 29 Ridvan Passover / Pesach Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) | 30 Ridvan Passover / Pesach Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) Journey to Freedom Day | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| April | | |
|--|--|---|
| Autism Acceptance Month (International) | | |
| Celebrate Diversity Month (International) | | |
| Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month (Canada) | | |
| Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Sikh Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Parkinson Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| 14 - 20 | National Volunteer Week | National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and thank Canada's 24 million volunteers. (Canada) |
| 22 (sundown) - 30 | Passover / Pesach | Passover celebrates the deliverance of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. The first two nights are commemorated with telling the story of the exodus from Egypt over a special meal called a Seder. (Judaism) |
| 20 (sundown) - May 2 | Ridván | "Ridván" translates to "paradise". The 12-day festival is the holiest time for Bahá'ís. It commemorates the 12 days that Baha'u'llah spent in the Garden of Ridvan in the last days of his exile in Baghdad and announced that he was the prophet whose coming had been foretold. Bahá'ís do not work on the first, ninth and twelfth day of Ridvan. (Bahá'í) |
| 21 - 27 | Canadian Fertility Awareness Week | A week to raise awareness and recognize the unique difficulties experienced by people affected by infertility. (Canada) |
| 24 - 26 | Theravada New Year | Celebrated for three days following the first full moon in April, Theravada Buddhists celebrate the new year by going to the temple, offering prayers, wearing new clothes, cleaning their homes, and hosting feasts. The date and length vary among different countries and the diaspora. (Buddhism) |
| 29 - May 4 | Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) | A period of continued fasting and religious observance following the Great Fast (Great Lent), beginning on Lazarus Saturday and ending with the feast of Pascha. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 1 | Easter Monday (Western) | Easter Monday commemorates the meeting of the women at Jesus' tomb with an angel who assured them that Jesus had been resurrected from death. It is observed as a holiday in some countries. (Christianity) |
| 2 | World Autism Awareness Day | The United Nations General Assembly unanimously declared April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day to highlight the need to help improve the quality of life of those with autism so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society. (International) |
| 2 | National Caregiver Day | Unanimously adopted by the Members of Parliament of Canada to recognize the importance of the "invisible" unpaid work, this day provides an opportunity for formal recognition of caregivers and their contributions. (Canada) |
| 4 (sundown) - 5 | Laylat al-Qadr (Sunni) | Laylat al-Qadr (Arabic: "Night of Power") is an Islamic festival that commemorates the night on which God first revealed the Qur'án to the Prophet Muhammad through the angel Gabriel (Jibríl). Laylat ul Qadr falls on odd nights during the last ten days of Ramadan (in the Hijri calendar). It is most commonly observed on the 23rd night of Ramadan for Shi' ah Muslims and on the 27th for Sunni Muslims, but an exact date is not specified and many Sunni Muslims will dedicate additional prayers on all odd nights during this period. (Sunni Islam) |
| 6 | International Day of Sport for Development and Peace | An international day which recognizes the power of sport to strengthen social ties, promote sustainable development, peace, solidarity, and respect. It is especially important in the current climate of pandemic to remind people to be active whilst experiencing containment measures. (International) |
| 6 | International Asexuality Day | International Asexuality Day is a coordinated worldwide campaign promoting the asexuality umbrella, including demisexual, grey-asexual and other ace identities. The four themes of International Asexuality Day are: advocacy, celebration, education, and solidarity. (International) |
| 7 | International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda | On April 7, UNESCO commemorates the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2003. The date marks the beginning of the genocide perpetrated against members of the Tutsi minority by the Hutu extremist-led government. Within just over 100 days, more than 1 million Tutsi were systematically murdered. Moderate Hutu and others who opposed the massacres were also killed during this period. (International) |



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| 7 | World Health Day | A global observance day where each year draws attention to a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. (International) |
| 8 | Birthday of Buddha | Commemorates the birth of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Buddha's birthday is celebrated by Mahayana Buddhists in East Asia and around the world on the eighth day of the fourth lunar month, April 8 th (Japan), or on the second Sunday of May (Taiwan). The exact date may vary depending on the calendars and calculations used in different traditions and countries. (Mahayana Buddhism) |
| 9 | Day of Valour / Araw ng Kagitingan | Day of Valour, also known as "Araw ng Kagitingan", commemorates the Fall of Bataan and the courage of Filipino and American defenders during WWII. (Philippines) |
| 9 | Ugadi / Yugadi | Ugadi / Yugadi is derived from two Sanskrit words, "yuga" (age) and "ādi" (beginning), to mean "the beginning of a new age". It is celebrated as the first day of the year as it is believed that it was on this day that Lord Brahma created the universe. (Hinduism) |
| 9 (sundown) - 10 | Eid Al-Fitr | A Muslim celebration to mark the end of Ramadan, the holy month of dawn to sunset fasting. This day is celebrated with feasts, gifts, and prayers in honour of God. Eid Al-Fitr falls on the sighting of the crescent moon at the end of the month of Ramadan, which may vary between 29, 30, or 31 days. The exact date remains uncertain until the night before and may differ among countries due to variations in moon sightings. Celebrations may last up to 3 days. (Islam) |
| 10 | International Day of Pink | Celebrated on the second Wednesday of April, this is a day when people around the world are encouraged to put on a pink shirt and stand in solidarity with the 2SLGBTQI+ community to continue fighting for equality and acceptance. (International) |
| 13 | Vaisakhi / Baisakhi | The first day of the solar year, this is an agricultural festival celebrating the harvest, especially in North India. Tamils and Sri Lankans celebrate their New Year on this day. In Kerala, South India this day is called Vishu. Especially important to the Sikhs, it marks this day in 1699, when the tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, established the order of 'Khalsa'. The festival is a mixture of feasting, dancing, and worship. (Sikhism) |
| 13 | Sinhala and Tamil New Year | In Sri Lanka, the Sinhalese and Tamil communities celebrate the new year, known as 'Aluth Avurudha' in Sinhala and 'Puththandu' in Tamil, as the sun moves from Pisces to Aries marking the end of the harvest season. The new year is celebrated by both communities through various rituals and customs. (Sri Lanka) |
| 14 | Vishu | Vishu is a spring festival observed by Malayali Hindus in Kerala and in adjacent areas of Tamil Nadu, India. Vishu (Sanskrit: "equal") celebrates the vernal equinox when day and night are roughly equal length. (Hinduism) |
| 17 | Ram Navami | Ram Navami is a Hindu celebration of commemorating the birth of Lord Rama, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu and son of King Dasharatha of Ayodhya. (Hinduism) |
| 21 | World Creativity and Innovation Day | A UN designated day to raise awareness of the role of creativity and innovation in all aspects of human development with special emphasis on the importance of cultural diversity for the growth of creative industries or sectors. (International) |
| 22 | Earth Day | Earth Day aims to raise awareness and demonstrate support of environmental protection, with many events held around the world. (International) |
| 23 | St. George's Day | This day is meant to celebrate the feast day of the Christian saint, St. George, who was a roman soldier and martyr. It is also observed as a provincial holiday in Newfoundland and Labrador. (Christianity) |
| 24 | Armenian Genocide Memorial Day | Armenian Genocide Memorial Day is a public holiday in Armenia and is observed by the Armenian diaspora to commemorate the victims of the Armenian genocide of 1915. (International) |
| 25 | Girls in ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Day | This is a designated day for the creation of a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider studies and careers in the growing field of information and communication technologies. (International) |
| 28 | Palm Sunday (Orthodox / Eastern) | A Christian celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem the week prior to his death and resurrection, which marks the start of the Great and Holy Week. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 28 | Day of Mourning | The National Day of Mourning, held annually in Canada on April 28, is dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives, suffered injury or illness on the job or a work-related tragedy. (Canada) |
| 28 | World Day for Health and Safety at Work | International day to raise awareness on the adoption of safe practices in workplaces and the role that occupational safety and health play. (International) |
| 30 | Journey to Freedom Day | A national day of commemoration of the exodus of Vietnamese refugees and their acceptance in Canada after the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. (Canada) |

05 2024 MAY

- Asian Heritage Month (Canada)
- Jewish Heritage Month (Canada)
- National Speech and Hearing Month (Canada)
- Vision Health Month (Canada)
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month (Canada)
- Dutch Heritage Month (Ontario)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 Ridván Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) Reitane / May Eve / May Day | 2 Ridván Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) Holy Thursday (Orthodox / Eastern) | 3 Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) World Press Freedom Day | 4 Great and Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern) |
| 5 Dutch Heritage Day South Asian Arrival Day Red Dress Day Easter / Pascha (Orthodox / Eastern) Yom HaShoah | 6 Yom HaShoah | 7 | 8 | 9 Feast of the Ascension | 10 | 11 Moose Hide Campaign Day |
| 12 Mother's Day | 13 | 14 | 15 International Day of Families | 16 International Day of Living Together in Peace Global Accessibility Awareness Day | 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia | 18 |
| 19 Québec Intergenerational Week Pentecost | 20 Québec Intergenerational Week Anti-Racism Awareness Week National Patriots' Day Victoria Day | 21 Québec Intergenerational Week Anti-Racism Awareness Week World Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development | 22 Québec Intergenerational Week Anti-Racism Awareness Week Declaration of the Báb | 23 Québec Intergenerational Week Anti-Racism Awareness Week Declaration of the Báb Vesak (Buddha Day) Saga Dawa Duchen | 24 Québec Intergenerational Week Anti-Racism Awareness Week Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day | 25 Québec Intergenerational Week Africa Day Lag Ba'Omer |
| 26 National AccessAbility Week Lag Ba'Omer | 27 National AccessAbility Week Ascension of Baha'ullah | 28 National AccessAbility Week Ascension of Baha'ullah | 29 National AccessAbility Week Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion | 30 National AccessAbility Week Provincial Francophonie Day | 31 National AccessAbility Week | 1 |

| May | | |
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| Asian Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Jewish Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| National Speech and Hearing Month (Canada) | | |
| Vision Health Month (Canada) | | |
| Sexual Assault Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| Dutch Heritage Month (Ontario) | | |
| 19 - 25 | Québec Intergenerational Week | Every year since 1987, Québec has celebrated and promoted initiatives that encourage exchanges between generations. Coordinated by Intergénération Québec, Québec Intergenerational Week is a unique opportunity to highlight and promote intergenerational activities in Québec. (Québec) |
| 20 - 26 | Anti-Racism Awareness Week | Anti-Racism Awareness Week is a chance for British Columbians to celebrate and learn about the province's diverse culture, reflect on biases, and stand together against racism. The dates were chosen due to the proximity to the anniversaries of the Komagata Maru and the murder of George Floyd, and Asian Heritage Month. (British Columbia) |
| 26 - June 1 | National AccessAbility Week | A week to celebrate the valuable contributions and accomplishments of Canadians with disabilities and to recognize the need to promote a culture of inclusion to combat the ongoing discrimination against persons with disabilities. (Canada) |
| 1 | Beltane / May Eve / May Day | Beltane celebrates love, lust, sexuality, sensuality, and the burgeoning life force. This is when plants are growing and animals have given birth. It takes its name from the Celtic God Bel, who unites with the Earth Goddess on this day. It was a midsummer fertility festival in Celtic paganism. It is a time to celebrate the season's warmth, romance, and indulgence. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 2 | Holy Thursday (Orthodox / Eastern) | Falling on the Thursday before Pascha, Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 3 | World Press Freedom Day | A designated day to remind governments of the need to respect their commitment to freedom of the press and a day of reflection among media professionals about issues of press freedom and professional ethics. (International) |
| 5 | Dutch Heritage Day | Dutch Heritage Day is a time to honour the sacrifices made by past members of the Canadian armed forces in the liberation of the Netherlands during the Second World War. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the many contributions that generations of Dutch Canadians have made—and continue to make—to this country we all know and love. (Canada) |
| 5 | South Asian Arrival Day | South Asian Arrival Day and South Asian Heritage Month recognize the presence of South Asian people in Ontario, celebrates their heritage, and commemorates their arrival from the Indian subcontinent to the Americas beginning on May 5, 1838. (Ontario) |
| 5 | Red Dress Day | Red Dress Day, also known as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People, is observed on May 5th. The day honours and brings awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people who have been subject to disproportionate violence in Canada. Red Dress Day was inspired by Métis artist Jaime Black's REDress Project installation, in which she hung empty, red dresses to represent the missing and murdered women. Red dresses have become symbolic of the crisis as a result of her installation. (Canada) |
| 5 | Easter / Pascha (Orthodox / Eastern) | One of the holiest days in the Christian (Eastern) calendar. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from death, three days after his crucifixion. (Orthodox Christianity) |
| 5 (sundown) - 6 | Yom HaShoah | Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) is an international day of commemoration, started in Israel, on which the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust are memorialized. (Judaism / international) |
| 9 | Feast of the Ascension | This day commemorates the Ascension of Jesus into heaven on the fortieth day after Easter. (Christianity) |



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| 11 | Moose Hide Campaign Day | The Moose Hide Campaign began as a BC-born Indigenous-led grassroots movement to engage men and boys in ending violence towards women and children. It has since grown into a nationwide movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians from local communities, First Nations, governments, schools, colleges/universities, police forces and many other organizations – all committed to taking action to end this violence. (Canada) |
| 12 | Mother's Day | This day is dedicated to honouring mothers and appreciating their role in families and community. (International) |
| 15 | International Day of Families | A day which provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic, and demographic processes affecting families. (International) |
| 16 | International Day of Living Together in Peace | A day that embraces the principle of peace, non-violent conflict resolution and the elimination of all forms of conflict and intolerance including those based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status. (International) |
| 16 | Global Accessibility Awareness Day | Global Accessibility Awareness Day is an awareness day focusing on digital access and inclusion for the more than one billion people who live with disabilities. On the 3rd Thursday of May, we encourage designers, developers, usability professionals, and everyone else to take an hour to experience first-hand the impact of digital accessibility (or lack thereof). (International) |
| 17 | International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia | The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia was created in 2004 to draw the attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people and all other people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, and sex characteristics. (International) |
| 19 | Pentecost | The annual Christian festival commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his ascension from earth to heaven on Ascension Day. It always falls on the seventh Sunday after Easter. (Christianity) |
| 20 | National Patriots' Day | Statutory holiday in Québec to commemorate democracy and patriotic struggles for freedom from British rule during 1837-1838. (Québec) |
| 20 | Victoria Day | Victoria Day is celebrated in honour of the birth of Queen Victoria, the first sovereign of Canada, post-Confederation. (Canada) |
| 21 | World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development | A day to educate people on the importance of cultural diversity and to raise awareness of the related issues faced in today's society. (International) |
| 22 (sundown) - 23 | Declaration of the Báb | This day honours the Báb, who was perceived as the messenger of the God and forerunner of Bahá'u'lláh, founder of the Bahá'í Faith. (Bahá'í) |
| 23 | Vesak (Buddha Day) | Commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Vesak is celebrated by Buddhists in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and around the world on the full moon of the second lunar month, known as Vesākha or Vaiśākha. The exact date may vary depending on the calendars and calculations used in different traditions and countries. (Buddhism) |
| 23 | Saga Dawa Düchen | Saga Dawa Düchen, the "Festival of Vaishakha", takes place on the 15th day of the fourth Tibetan lunar month during the full moon. It is one of the four Buddhist festivals commemorating four events in the life of the Buddha and celebrates Buddha Shakyamuni's enlightenment and parinirvana. (Buddhism) |
| 24 | Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day | A day to celebrate the pansexual and panromantic community and educate others. (International) |
| 25 | Africa Day | Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the founding of the Organization of African Unity on May 25, 1963. (International) |
| 25 (sundown) - 26 | Lag Ba'Omer | A day for welcoming the coming of spring. (Jewish) |
| 27 (sundown) - 28 | Ascension of Baha'u'llah | The day that Baha'u'llah, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, passed away in 1892. It is one of nine days in the year where work should be suspended. (Bahá'í) |



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| 29 | Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion | Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion is a day when people across Canada come together and wear red to create a visible display of solidarity: to show their support for disabled people and their families, celebrate the achievements of disabled Canadians, and to pledge their commitment to help create a fully accessible and inclusive society. Red Shirt Day is an Easter Seals initiative and was first celebrated in 2019. It takes place on the Wednesday of National AccessAbility Week each year. |
| 30 | Provincial Francophonie Day | Each year on May 30th, the traditional raising of the Franco-Newfoundland and Labrador flag takes place symbolically in each of the province's Francophone regions. This day is an opportunity to celebrate the language and culture of Francophones. (Newfoundland and Labrador) |

06 2024 JUNE



- Canadian Men's Health Month (Canada)
- Deafblind Awareness Month (Canada)
- Filipino Heritage Month (Canada)

- Indigenous History Month (Canada)
- Italian Heritage Month (Canada)
- Portuguese Heritage Month (Canada)
- Pride Month (International)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 National AccessAbility Week Global Day of Parents Intergenerational Day |
| 2 Canadian Environment Week | 3 Canadian Environment Week | 4 Canadian Environment Week Treaty Day (New Brunswick) | 5 Canadian Environment Week Clean Air Day | 6 Canadian Environment Week | 7 Canadian Environment Week | 8 Canadian Environment Week |
| 9 National Public Service Week | 10 National Public Service Week Action Anxiety Day / World Anxiety Day | 11 National Public Service Week Shavu'ot | 12 National Public Service Week Shavu'ot Independence Day, Philippines / Araw ng Kasarinlan | 13 National Public Service Week Shavu'ot International Albinism Awareness Day | 14 National Public Service Week Hajj | 15 National Public Service Week Hajj |
| 16 Hajj Eid al-Adha Father's Day | 17 Hajj Eid al-Adha | 18 Hajj Eid al-Adha International Day for Countering Hate Speech | 19 Hajj Eid al-Adha Juneteenth | 20 World Refugee Day Summer Solstice Litha / Midsummer / Summer Solstice | 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day | 22 |
| 23 International Widows' Day | 24 St. Jean Baptiste Day June Day | 25 | 26 | 27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

| June | | |
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| Canadian Men's Health Month (Canada) | | |
| Deafblind Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| Filipino Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Indigenous History Month (Canada) | | |
| Italian Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Portuguese Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Pride Month (International) | | |
| 2 - 8 | Canadian Environment Week | Established in 1971, Canadian Environment Week celebrates Canada's environmental accomplishments and encourages Canadians to contribute to conserving and protecting their environment. (Canada) |
| 9 - 15 | National Public Service Week | National Public Service Week (NPSW) was created in 1992, following the passage of the National Public Service Week: Serving Canadians Better Act. Its objective is to "recognize the value of the services rendered by federal public service employees" and to "acknowledge the contribution of federal public service employees to the federal administration." NPSW was designed to promote pride in and recognition of the public service of Canada by providing internal recognition, and by raising Canadians' awareness of the excellence of the public service. (Canada) |
| 11 (sundown) - 13 | Shavu'ot | A Jewish observance of the giving of the Torah, the biblical laws of Judaism, from God to the nation of Israel. (Judaism) |
| 14 (sundown) - 19 | Haji | One of the five pillars of Islam central to Muslim belief, Hajj is the pilgrimage to Mecca that every Muslim must make at least once in their lifetime if they are able; it is the most spiritual event that Muslims experience, observing rituals in the most sacred places in the Islamic world. (Islam) |
| 16 (sundown) - 19 | Eid al-Adha | Eid al-Adha, also known as the Feast of Sacrifice, is symbolic of the lessons of sacrifice, devotion, and willingness as told by the story of Prophet Ibrahim. As one of the most important holidays in Islam, every year, Muslims celebrate by gathering with family and loved ones to pray, showing gratitude for life's blessings, sharing festive meals, and providing food to those in need. (Islam) |
| 1 | Global Day of Parents | A day for appreciating all parents for their selfless commitment to children and their lifelong sacrifice towards nurturing this relationship. (International) |
| 1 | Intergenerational Day | A celebration of the mutual benefits of building relationships across generations. (Canada) |
| 4 | Treaty Day (New Brunswick) | Treaty Day honours the nation-to-nation relationship formed between the federal government and various Indigenous nations, as enshrined in historic treaties. In New Brunswick, this day commemorates the signing and importance of the peace and friendship treaties. (New Brunswick) |
| 5 | Clean Air Day | Clean Air Day is an annual event to recognize the importance of clean air for public health and the environment. It is an opportunity to encourage Canadians to do their part to help keep the air clean, as well as to create awareness of the Government of Canada's clean air initiatives. (Canada) |
| 10 | Action Anxiety Day / World Anxiety Day | An annual awareness and education day created in Vancouver, British Columbia, by Anxiety Canada. (Canada) |
| 12 | Independence Day, Philippines / Araw ng Kasarinlan | Also known as "Day of Freedom", it is an annual national holiday in the Philippines observed on June 12, commemorating the declaration of Philippine independence from Spain in 1898. (Philippines) |
| 13 | International Albinism Awareness Day | A day to stand in solidarity with people living with albinism through their triumphs and challenges. It is a day to stand up for the rights of persons with albinism to live a life that is free of stigma, discrimination, fear, and violence. (International) |
| 16 | Father's Day | A day to celebrate and honour fathers and recognize their contributions to their families and the community. (International) |
| 18 | International Day for Countering Hate Speech | In July 2021, the UN General Assembly highlighted global concerns over "the exponential spread and proliferation of hate speech" around the world and adopted a resolution on "promoting inter-religious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech". The resolution proclaimed June 18 as the International Day for Countering Hate Speech. (International) |



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| 19 | Juneteenth | Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of African American slaves and is also an opportunity to celebrate African-American culture. It has been celebrated annually on June 19 in various parts of the United States since 1865 and is now starting to be recognized in Canada because of our history of slavery. (United States) |
| 20 | World Refugee Day | A day which recognizes the rights of forcibly displaced persons be it refugees, asylum seekers, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and to remind the public that refugees can contribute to society and that every action counts in the effort to create a more just, inclusive, and equal world. (International) |
| 20 | Summer Solstice | In the Northern Hemisphere, the Summer Solstice (also known as the June Solstice) occurs when the sun travels along its northernmost path in the sky. The Summer Solstice is the day with the most hours of sunlight in the whole year, making it the "longest day" of the year. This marks the astronomical start of summer in the northern half of the globe. (International) |
| 20 | Litha / Midsummer / Summer Solstice | Litha, the Summer Solstice, marks the longest day and shortest night of the year. Litha celebrates the full height of the summer sun and the Sun God's warmth and energy pouring down on the crops as they ripen. It is a time to consider your priorities and focus your energy on where it will bring you the greatest harvest. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 21 | National Indigenous Peoples Day | This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Although these groups share many similarities, they each have their own distinct heritage, language, cultural practices, and spiritual beliefs. (Canada) |
| 23 | International Widows' Day | The United Nations observes June 23 as International Widows Day since 2011, to draw attention to the voices and experiences of widows and to galvanize the unique support that they need. (International) |
| 24 | St. Jean Baptiste Day | On June 24, on Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day and the National Day of Quebec, Francophones across the country show their pride by celebrating their language and their traditions. (Canada) |
| 24 | June Day | June Day was previously called Discovery Day, which commemorated the discovery of Newfoundland and Labrador in 1497 by John Cabot. However, the province has acknowledged that John Cabot didn't 'discover' Newfoundland and Labrador, and his arrival played a role in centuries of conflict between European colonists and Indigenous people. June Day is a provisional name for the holiday, and the government is consulting with Indigenous groups before choosing a new name. (Newfoundland and Labrador) |
| 27 | Canadian Multiculturalism Day | Multiculturalism day celebrates Canada's diverse cultures as well as the country's commitment to equality, democracy, and mutual respect. (Canada) |

07 2024 JULY

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 30 | 1 Canada Day Beaumont Hamel Memorial Day | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Islamic New Year / Hijri New Year |
| 7 Islamic New Year / Hijri New Year | 8 Martyrdom of the Bab | 9 Martyrdom of the Bab Nunavut Day Chikhor Düchen | 10 | 11 World Population Day Imamat Day | 12 Orangemen's Day | 13 |
| 14 International Non-Binary People's Day | 15 World Youth Skills Day | 16 Ashura | 17 Ashura | 18 Nelson Mandela Day | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) | 22 | 23 | 24 International Self-Care Day | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 World Hepatitis Day Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval | 29 | 30 International Day of Friendship | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

July

| Tibetan Heritage Month (Ontario) | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Canada Day | A day commemorating the enactment of the Constitution Act in 1867 thereby establishing Canada as a new federation with its own constitution. (Canada) |
| 1 | Beaumont Hamel Memorial Day | This day marks the anniversary of the fighting at Beaumont-Hamel during the First World War. (Newfoundland and Labrador) |
| 6 (sundown) - 7 | Islamic New Year / Hijri New Year | The first of Muharram marks the first day of the first month (Muharram) of the Islamic year. It is one of the four sacred months of the year, held to be the second holiest month after Ramadan. (Islam) |
| 8 (sundown) - 9 | Martyrdom of the Báb | Commemorates the anniversary of the execution of the Báb in 1850. (Bahá'í) |
| 9 | Nunavut Day | A day to commemorate the passing of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act and the Nunavut Act in 1993. It is a holiday in recognition of Nunavut's history and traditions. (Nunavut) |
| 9 | Chökhör Düchen | Chokhor Düchen, the "Festival of Turning the Wheel of Dharma", takes place on the fourth day of the sixth Tibetan lunar month. It is one of the four Buddhist festivals commemorating four events in the life of the Buddha and celebrates the day that the Buddha Shakyamuni turned the Wheel of Dharma for the first time, at Sarnath, by teaching the 'Four Noble Truths'. (Buddhism) |
| 11 | World Population Day | A day which is annually observed to reaffirm the human right to plan for a family. It encourages activities, events, and information to help make this right a reality throughout the world. (International) |
| 11 | Imamat Day | Imamat Day, also known as Khushali, is celebrated by Ismaili Muslims to mark the anniversary of the day that their present Imam (spiritual leader) succeeded his predecessor to become the Imam of the Time. (Ismaili Muslim) |
| 12 | Orangemen's Day | Orangemen's Day, July 12th, commemorates the day in July 1690 when the forces of constitutionalism won out over the forces of anti-Parliamentarianism at the River Boyne in Ireland: King William of Orange, the Protestant King of England defeated former King James, a Catholic. (Newfoundland and Labrador) |
| 14 | International Non-Binary People's Day | July 14 is recognized around the world as International Non-Binary People's Day. This occasion shines a light on those who identify as non-binary and celebrates the rich diversity of the community. (International) |
| 15 | World Youth Skills Day | The aim of World Youth Skills Day is to encourage youth to celebrate the value of acquiring and developing skills through technical and vocational education and training. (International) |
| 16 (sundown) - 17 | Ashura | The Day of Ashura is marked by Muslims as a whole, but for Shi' ah Muslims it is a major religious commemoration of the martyrdom at Karbala of Hussein, a grandson of the Prophet Muhammad. (Islam) |
| 18 | Nelson Mandela Day | Declared by the UN, Mandela Day is a day to honour the legacy of Nelson Mandela and his values, through volunteering and community service, to fight poverty and promote peace, reconciliation, and cultural diversity. (International) |
| 21 | Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) | This celebration marks the day when the Buddha started teaching. Dharma Day is considered a time to reflect on the scriptures and express gratitude for the Buddha's teachings. (Buddhism) |
| 24 | International Self-Care Day | International Self-Care Day raises awareness of the important role self-care plays in the health of Canadians and the sustainability of the health care system. (International) |
| 28 | World Hepatitis Day | This is a day which spotlights the importance of stepping up national and international efforts on hepatitis, encourage actions and engagement by individuals, partners and the public and highlight the need for a greater global response. (International) |
| 28 | Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval | In 2003, a Royal Proclamation recognized the wrongs suffered by the Acadians when they were forcibly deported from Acadie in 1755. July 28 was declared as the Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval beginning with the 250th anniversary in 2005. (Canada) |
| 30 | International Day of Friendship | The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities. (International) |

08 2024 AUGUST

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 World Breastfeeding Week Emancipation Day Lammas / Lughnasadh / Lughnasad | 2 World Breastfeeding Week | 3 World Breastfeeding Week |
| 4 World Breastfeeding Week | 5 World Breastfeeding Week Civic Holiday | 6 World Breastfeeding Week | 7 World Breastfeeding Week | 8 | 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People | 10 |
| 11 | 12 International Youth Day Tisha B'Av | 13 Tisha B'Av Obon | 14 Obon | 15 Obon The Assumption of Mary into Heaven National Acadian Day | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 Public Service Pride Week World Humanitarian Day Raksha Bandhan Discovery Day | 20 Public Service Pride Week | 21 Public Service Pride Week | 22 Public Service Pride Week | 23 Public Service Pride Week International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 International Overdose Awareness Day |

| August | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| 1 - 7 | World Breastfeeding Week | World Breastfeeding Week is a global campaign to raise awareness and galvanise action on themes related to breastfeeding. (International) |
| 13 - 15 | Obon | A Japanese Buddhist custom to honour one's spiritual ancestors. Obon is observed from the 13th to the 15th day of the 7th month. In the majority of Japan, Obon is celebrated between August 13-15, however the dates can vary depending on the region. (Buddhism) |
| 19 - 23 | Public Service Pride Week | Public Service Pride (PSP) is a movement that began in 2018 by a network of federal employees committed to making the public service a diverse, safe, respectful, and healthy workplace for 2SLGBTQ+ public servants. In 2019, the PSP Network launched the first ever Public Service Pride Week (PSPW) with the goal in mind to send a clear message to Canadians that their federal public service is diverse and inclusive. (Canada) |
| 1 | Emancipation Day | August 1 is now recognised across Canada as Emancipation Day, marking the end of slavery in the British Empire in 1834. Emancipation Day celebrates the strength and perseverance of Black communities in Canada. (Canada) |
| 1 | Lammas / Lughnasadh / Lughnasad | Lammas is a harvest festival when Pagans reap those things they have sown and celebrate the fruits of the mystery of Nature. At Lughnasadh, Pagans give thanks for the bounty of the Goddess as Queen of the Land. Its name is taken from the Celtic God Lugh, or Samildanach, which means 'he of many gifts'. The festival's themes are self-sacrifice for the community or individual initiation to a higher level of spiritual existence. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 5 | Civic Holiday | The August Civic Holiday is known by a variety of names across Canada and is celebrated according to local municipal traditions and history. (Canada) |
| 9 | International Day of the World's Indigenous People | Pronounced by the UN, this is a day to promote and protect the rights of the world's Indigenous populations and recognize the achievements and contributions that Indigenous peoples make to improve world issues such as environmental protection. (International) |
| 12 | International Youth Day | Held on August 12, this is a day to celebrate and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions, and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal, and equitable engagement. (International) |
| 12 (sundown) - 13 | Tisha B'Av | Tisha B'Av is a period of fasting, lamentation, and prayer to remember the destruction of the First and Second Temples of Jerusalem, as well as other tragedies that have occurred on this day. It is described as the saddest day on the Jewish calendar. (Judaism) |
| 15 | The Assumption of Mary into Heaven | (often shortened to the Assumption) This refers to Mary's death and ascent to heaven and is celebrated by Catholic and Orthodox Churches. (Christianity) |
| 15 | National Acadian Day | Since 1881, Acadians have celebrated National Acadian Day on August 15. The federal and provincial governments officially recognized National Acadian Day in 2003 and 2004 respectively. It is a day marked by colourful community festivals and family events that bring Acadian culture and history to life. (Canada) |
| 19 | World Humanitarian Day | This day is dedicated to humanitarians worldwide, as well as to increase public understanding of humanitarian assistance activities. (International) |
| 19 | Raksha Bandhan | The Hindu festival celebrates the love, bond and duty that exists between brothers and sisters. It can also be used to celebrate any brother-sister-like relationships even for those who are not biologically related. (Hinduism) |
| 19 | Discovery Day | Discovery Day is a provincial holiday celebrated on the third Monday in August in the Yukon. It commemorates the discovery of gold by George Carmack, Kate Carmack, Skookum Jim, and Dawson Charlie in 1896. (Yukon) |
| 23 | International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition | A day designated by the UNESCO to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade. (International) |
| 31 | International Overdose Awareness Day | A day to remember without stigma those who have died and to acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. (International) |

09 2024 SEPTEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 1 | 2 Labour Day | 3 | 4 | 5 Onam International Day of Charity | 6 Onam Ganesh Chaturthi | 7 Onam Ukrainian Heritage Day |
| 8 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week International Literacy Day | 9 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week | 10 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week World Suicide Prevention Day | 11 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week Ethiopian New Year / Enkutatash | 12 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week | 13 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week | 14 Onam Mennonite Heritage Week |
| 15 Onam Mawlid al-Nabi / Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi | 16 Onam Mawlid al-Nabi / Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi | 17 Onam Mid-Autumn Festival (Moon Cake Festival) | 18 International Equal Pay Day | 19 | 20 | 21 International Day of Peace |
| 22 Gender Equality Week Fall Equinox Habon / Harvest Home / Fall Equinox | 23 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People International Day of Sign Languages BI Visibility Day | 24 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People | 25 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People Franco-Ontarian Day | 26 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People Krishna Janmashtami | 27 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People | 28 Gender Equality Week International Week of Deaf People |
| 29 International Week of Deaf People | 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

September

Acne Awareness Month (Canada)

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|-------------------|--|---|
| 5 - 17 | Onam | Onam is a Hindu festival celebrated by the people of Kerala in India and its neighbouring states. Lasting for four to ten days, it is a harvest festival commemorating the homecoming of the legendary Emperor Mahabali from Patala (the underworld) who visits every Malayali home and during this time. (Hinduism) |
| 8 - 14 | Mennonite Heritage Week | On May 29, 2019, the Government of Canada adopted a motion to officially declare the second week of September as Mennonite Heritage Week. This week is an opportunity to learn more about Mennonite Canadians, their unique history, their vibrant culture, and their contributions that have helped shape our country. (Canada) |
| 23 - 29 | International Week of Deaf People | The International Week of Deaf People was first celebrated in September 1958 and has since evolved into a global movement of deaf unity and concerted advocacy to raise awareness of the issues deaf people face in their everyday lives. (International) |
| 22 - 28 | Gender Equality Week | Gender Equality Week, the fourth week in September, is an opportunity to raise awareness of the important contributions women and gender diverse communities have made to the growth, development, character and identity of Canada; to celebrate the significant achievements and accomplishments that we have made in advancing gender equality; and to reconfirm our commitment to address persistent gender equality gaps in our country. (Canada) |
| 2 | Labour Day | Labour Day, the first Monday in September, has been a statutory holiday in Canada since 1894. It originated in the first workers' rallies of the Victorian era. (Canada) |
| 5 | International Day of Charity | This is a UN designated day which promotes charitable efforts made to alleviate poverty worldwide. (International) |
| 6 | Ganesh Chaturthi | This Hindu festival honours one of Hinduism's major deities, Ganesh, the elephant-headed god. He is known as the 'remover of all obstacles' and is invoked at the beginning of all new undertakings. The date of this holiday may vary depending on region. (Hinduism) |
| 7 | Ukrainian Heritage Day | Ukrainian Heritage Day was created in March 2011, when the Ontario Legislature unanimously passed Bill-155 – the Ukrainian Heritage Day Act, which proclaimed September 7 of each year Ukrainian Heritage Day. September 7, 1891 is the date on which the first Ukrainian immigrants, Vasyt Eleniak and Ivan Pylypiw, arrived in Canada. (Ontario) |
| 8 | International Literacy Day | A day to raise people's awareness of and concern for literacy issues in the world. (International) |
| 10 | World Suicide Prevention Day | World Suicide Prevention Day is observed on September 10 each year to raise awareness of suicide and to promote action through proven means that will reduce the number of suicides and suicide attempts globally. (International) |
| 11 | Ethiopian New Year / Enkutatash | Enkutatash is the name for the Ethiopian New Year in Amharic, it is also called Rī'se Awde Amet which means the Head of the Holy days. Ethiopia ushers her new year on September 11, which is the first day of the Ethiopian month of Meskerem. (Ethiopia) |
| 15 (sundown) - 16 | Mawlid al-Nabi / Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi | Anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. Some Muslims mark this occasion by special prayers, whilst other Muslims may mark the occasion by dedicating more time to reading the Qur'an. (Islam) |
| 17 | Mid-Autumn Festival (Moon Cake Festival) | A harvest festival occurring on the 15th day of the eighth month of the Han Calendar. It is commonly referred to as the Moon Cake Festival due to the full moon observed that evening. It is celebrated in China (Zhōngqiū Jié in Mandarin and Jūng-chāu Jit in Cantonese) and Vietnam (Tết Trung Thu or Children's Festival), and similar festivals are celebrated on the same day in Korea (Chuseok), Japan (Tsukimi), and in Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia where it is sometimes called the Lantern Festival. (International) |
| 18 | International Equal Pay Day | International Equal Pay Day, celebrated on September 18, represents the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value. It further builds on the United Nations commitment to human rights and against all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against women and girls. |
| 21 | International Day of Peace | This is a day to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. It is also considered to be a day of ceasefire – personal or political. (International) |
| 22 | Fall Equinox | In the Northern Hemisphere, the Fall Equinox (also known as the Autumnal Equinox or September Equinox) occurs when the sun crosses the equator line, heading south. This event marks the start of the fall or autumn season in the northern half of the globe. (International) |



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| 22 | Mabon / Harvest Home / Fall Equinox | Mabon, the Fall Equinox, is the second harvest festival. It is when days and nights are of approximately equal length. The holiday is named for Mabon, who appeared in The Mabinogion, a collection of Welsh myths. It is a time to count your blessings and show gratitude for those who have helped you on the year's journey. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 23 | International Day of Sign Languages | The International Day of Sign Languages is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users. Celebrated annually across the world on 23 September every year along with the International Week of Deaf People. (International) |
| 23 | Bi Visibility Day | Marked each year since 1999, Bi Visibility Day raises bi awareness and challenges bisexual & biromantic erasure. (International) |
| 25 | Franco-Ontarian Day | There are more than 622,000 Francophones and 1.5 million Ontarians who can speak French, making Ontario Canada's largest Francophone community outside of Quebec. September 25 is Franco-Ontarian Day, a time to celebrate your community and its history. It was officially named Franco-Ontarian Day in 2010. (Ontario) |
| 26 | Krishna Janmashami | Celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna and his rescue from potential death by the demon Kasha. Lord Krishna was born in a prison, then carried by his father to another village where he was secretly exchanged with a cow herder's daughter for his safety. (Hinduism) |
| 30 | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day | The day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. The creation of this federal statutory holiday was through legislative amendments made by Parliament. September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day, a day to wear an orange shirt as a way to remember the story of Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, whose orange shirt was taken away from her when she was sent to a residential school at age six. The date was chosen because this was the time of year children were taken from their homes and placed in residential schools. (Canada) |

10 2024 OCTOBER

- ADHD Awareness Month (International)
- Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) Awareness Month (International)
- Autism Awareness Month (International)
- Canadian Islamic History Month (Canada)
- Disability Employment Awareness Month (Canada)
- German Heritage Month (Canada)
- Global Diversity Awareness Month (International)
- Healthy Workplace Month (Canada)
- Hispanic Heritage Month (Ontario)
- Latin American Heritage Month (Canada)
- Mark It Read for Dyslexia Awareness Month (Canada)
- Mi'kmaq History Month (Nova Scotia)
- Women's History Month (Canada)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 29 | 30 | 1 International Day of Older Persons / National Seniors Day Treaty Day (Nova Scotia) | 2 Rosh HaShanah | 3 Rosh HaShanah Navratri / Navaratri | 4 Rosh HaShanah Navratri / Navaratri National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls St. Francis Day | 5 Navratri / Navaratri World Teachers' Day |
| 6 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week | 7 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week | 8 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week International Lesbian Day | 9 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week | 10 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week World Mental Health Day | 11 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week International Day of the Girl Child National Coming Out Day Yom Kippur | 12 Navratri / Navaratri Mental Illness Awareness Week Yom Kippur Dussehra / Vijaydashami |
| 13 | 14 Thanksgiving | 15 International Day of Rural Women | 16 Sukkot International Pronouns Day | 17 Sukkot | 18 Sukkot Persons Day | 19 Sukkot |
| 20 Sukkot Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week | 21 Sukkot Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week | 22 Sukkot Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week International Stuttering Awareness Day | 23 Sukkot Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week Shemini Atzeret Shemini Atzeret | 24 Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week Shemini Atzeret Simchat Torah | 25 Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week Simchat Torah | 26 Invisible Disabilities Week Workplace Bullying Awareness Week Ace Week Intersex Awareness Day |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas | 31 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Halloween Samhain / Samhuinn / Hallow's | 1 | 2 |

| October | | |
|--|---|---|
| ADHD Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Autism Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Canadian Islamic History Month (Canada) | | |
| Disability Employment Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| German Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Global Diversity Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Healthy Workplace Month (Canada) | | |
| Hispanic Heritage Month (Ontario) | | |
| Latin American Heritage Month (Canada) | | |
| Mark it Read for Dyslexia Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| Mi'kmaq History Month (Nova Scotia) | | |
| Women's History Month (Canada) | | |
| 2 (sundown) - 4 | Rosh HaShanah | Rosh HaShanah celebrates the creation of the universe. (Judaism) |
| 3 - 12 | Navratri / Navaratri | A Hindu festival of nine nights in worship of the Hindu goddess Durga, celebrated with various traditions and rituals in honour of a different form of the goddess each night. (Hinduism) |
| 6 - 12 | Mental Illness Awareness Week | Mental Illness Awareness Week is an annual national public education campaign designed to help open the eyes of Canadians to the reality of mental illness. (Canada) |
| 16 (sundown) - 23 | Sukkot | Sukkot begins five days after Yom Kippur and lasts seven days. Sukkot is one of the three pilgrimage holidays (along with Passover and Shavu'ot), which commemorates the historical pilgrimage to Jerusalem to celebrate the harvest. (Judaism) |
| 20 - 26 | Invisible Disabilities Week | The Invisible Disabilities Association began hosting Invisible Disabilities Week (IDW) in 2014. The goal of IDW is to spread awareness, education, and support around the world for those living with invisible disabilities. (International) |
| 20 - 26 | Workplace Bullying Awareness Week | Workplace Bullying Awareness Week aims to provide education and awareness of how workplace bullying affects our lives and our work. (International) |
| 20 - 26 | Ace Week | Ace Week, formerly Asexual Awareness Week, is an international campaign dedicated to raising awareness and expanding education of asexuality. The week gives all of us an opportunity to celebrate how far our community has come and to dream about the future we will create together. (International) |
| 30 (sundown) - Nov 4 | Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas | Diwali, also known as Deepavali or the Festival of Lights, is a festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists around the world. Diwali takes place on the day of the New Moon in the Hindu month of "Kartika". Diwali is a variation of the Sanskrit word "deepavali" meaning "row of lights" and refers to the earthen lamps or "diyas" that families place around their homes during the celebrations. Sikhs refer to this day as Bandi Chhor Divas, which directly translates to "Prisoner Release Day" and marks the release of the sixth guru, Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji, and 52 kings from Fort Gwalior prison and their arrival at the Golden Temple in Amritsar, India. Jains celebrate Diwali to mark the attainment of "moksha" or spiritual liberation. It is believed that many gods were present on the night when Mahavira reached moksha and that their presence illuminated the darkness. (Hinduism/Sikhism/Jainism/Buddhism) |



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| 1 | International Day of Older Persons / National Seniors Day | An international day to recognize the contributions of older persons / seniors and examine the issues that affect their lives. (International) |
| 1 | Treaty Day (Nova Scotia) | Treaty Day, held annually on October 1, marks the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia. The purpose of Treaty Day is to promote public awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage for all Nova Scotians. (Nova Scotia) |
| 4 | National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls | This is a day to stand in solidarity with Indigenous families and communities to honour the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls whose lives have been cut short by violence. (Canada) |
| 4 | St. Francis Day | Feast day for St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and environment celebrated by many Catholic denominations. (Christianity) |
| 5 | World Teachers' Day | A day that celebrates the role teachers play in providing quality education to all levels. This enables children and adults of all ages to learn to take part in and contribute to their local community and global society. (International) |
| 8 | International Lesbian Day | Celebrated on October 8 each year, International Lesbian Day is a day to honour the contributions of lesbians to the women's rights and 2SLGBTQI+ rights movements. It also serves to raise awareness of the unique issues that lesbians experience in their daily lives. (International) |
| 10 | World Mental Health Day | A day with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. (International) |
| 11 | International Day of the Girl Child | This is a day which promotes girls' rights and highlights gender inequalities that remain between girls and boys. This day gives governments and organizations the opportunity to raise public awareness about gender bias and discrimination directed at girls. (International) |
| 11 | National Coming Out Day | National Coming Out Day in the United States was established in 1988 on the second anniversary of the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay rights. Now expanded into Canada, this day serves as an opportunity to celebrate 2SLGBTQI+ identities, decrease stigma, increase awareness, and advocate for change. For some 2SLGBTQI+ folks this day is an opportunity to celebrate their identities publicly. (International) |
| 11 (sundown) - 12 | Yom Kippur | The Jewish Day of Atonement which comprises a 25-hour fast whereby people refrain from working, eating, and drinking. Synagogue services are also attended in worship of this sacred day. (Judaism) |
| 12 | Dussehra / Vijaydashami | A Hindu celebration on the last day of Navaratri, celebrating the victory of good over evil. (Hinduism) |
| 14 | Thanksgiving | A day of giving thanks to the harvest and blessings of the previous year. (Canada) |
| 15 | International Day of Rural Women | International Day of Rural Women recognizes the critical role and contribution of rural women, including Indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty. (International) |
| 16 | International Pronouns Day | International Pronouns Day is about respect, sharing, education and normalizing personal pronouns. (International) |
| 18 | Persons Day | Persons Day in Canada marks the day in 1929 when the historic decision to include women in the legal definition of "persons" was handed down by Canada's highest court of appeal. This gave some women the right to be appointed to the Senate of Canada and paved the way for women's increased participation in public and political life. Though this decision did not include all women, such as Indigenous women and women of Asian heritage and descent, it did mark critical progress in the advancement of gender equality in Canada. (Canada) |
| 22 | International Stuttering Awareness Day | International Stuttering Awareness Day is intended to raise public awareness of stuttering, which affects one percent of the world's population. (International) |
| 23 (sundown) - 24 | Shemini Atzeret | Shemini Atzeret commemorates the special bond between God and his peoples. (Judaism) |
| 24 (sundown) - 25 | Simchat Torah | A Jewish holiday that marks the completion of the annual Torah readings and begins a new reading cycle. (Judaism) |
| 26 | Intersex Awareness Day | A day to encourage dialogue and raise awareness on the human rights violations faced by intersex people. (International) |



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| 31 | Halloween | Halloween, which takes place on October 31, is thought to have originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, though it shares important ties with various other celebrations from several faiths and cultures, including Día de los Muertos (or the Day of the Dead), All Saints Day, and All Souls Day. Halloween made its way over to the United States with British and Irish colonists, eventually becoming the holiday we know today, with traditions of door-to-door trick-or-treating and decorations. (International) |
| 31 (evening) - November 1 | Samhain / Samhuinn / Hallows | Samhain is the festival of the dead. It is the most solemn of the sabbats but is not a time of fear. It is a time to understand more deeply that life and death are part of a sacred whole, as Pagans celebrate death as part of life. Samhain is the third harvest - the animal harvest - when domesticated animals not likely to make it through the winter were killed and their meat preserved for winter. It is also a time for remembering ancestors and those who have died in the past year. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |

11 2024 NOVEMBER

- Diabetes Awareness Month (International)
- Family Violence Prevention Month (Alberta and Northwest Territories)
- Financial Literacy Month (Canada)
- Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (Canada)
- National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Canada)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Samhain / Samhuinn / Hallows All Saints' Day Day of the Dead Birth of the Bab | 2 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Day of the Dead Birth of the Bab Birth of Baha'u'llah All Souls Day |
| 3 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Treaties Recognition Week Birth of Baha'u'llah | 4 Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Treaties Recognition Week | 5 Treaties Recognition Week Veterans' Week | 6 Treaties Recognition Week Veterans' Week | 7 Treaties Recognition Week Veterans' Week | 8 Treaties Recognition Week Veterans' Week Indigenous Veterans Day | 9 Treaties Recognition Week Veterans' Week |
| 10 Veterans' Week | 11 Veterans' Week Remembrance Day | 12 | 13 | 14 World Diabetes Day | 15 Guru Nanak Gurpurab | 16 International Day for Tolerance |
| 17 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week | 18 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week | 19 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week International Men's Day | 20 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week Transgender Day of Remembrance National Child Day | 21 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week | 22 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week Lha Bab Düchen National Housing Day | 23 National Addictions Awareness Week Restorative Justice Week Canada History Week Holodomor Memorial Day |
| 24 Canada History Week | 25 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women | 26 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence | 27 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence | 28 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence | 29 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence | 30 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence |

| November | | |
|--|---|---|
| Diabetes Awareness Month (International) | | |
| Family Violence Prevention Month (Alberta and Northwest Territories) | | |
| Financial Literacy Month (Canada) | | |
| Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Canada) | | |
| 3 - 9 | Treaties Recognition Week | Treaties Recognition Week honours the importance of treaties and helps Ontario students and residents understand the significance of treaty rights, treaty relationships and their relevance today. (Ontario) |
| 5 - 11 | Veterans' Week | Every year during the lead up to Remembrance Day on November 11, we honour those who have served Canada in times of war, military conflict and peace. (Canada) |
| 17 - 23 | National Addictions Awareness Week | National Addictions Awareness Week highlights solutions to help address harms related to alcohol and other drugs. It provides an opportunity for people in Canada to learn more about prevention, to talk about treatment and recovery, and to bring forward solutions for change. (Canada) |
| 17 - 23 | Restorative Justice Week | Restorative Justice Week is recognized every year during the third week of November to acknowledge the impacts and achievements of the RJ approach and its application in Canada. RJ Week is an opportunity to explore how RJ can deal with harm in different situations: families, neighbourhoods, schools, workplaces, etc. It allows us to think about how RJ values and principles can be applied to everyday challenges. (Canada) |
| 18 - 24 | Canada History Week | Canada History Week provides all Canadians with opportunities to learn more about the people and events that have shaped the country that we know today. (Canada) |
| 25 - December 10 | 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence | Every year, from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to December 10 (World Human Rights Day), Canadians observe the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. It is an opportunity to come together to call out, speak up and renew our commitment to end gender-based violence. (Canada) |
| 1 | All Saints' Day | All Saint's Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, Halloween, Feast of All Saints, or Solemnity of All Saints, is a Christian festival celebrated in honour of all the saints, known and unknown. (Christianity) |
| 1 (evening) - 2 | Day of the Dead | In Mexico and, to a lesser degree, elsewhere in Latin America, the Day of the Dead (or Día de los Muertos) is an opportunity for family and friends to honor and remember deceased loved ones. The observation of the day likely has roots in the rituals of the pre-Hispanic people of Mexico. After Spanish colonization and the arrival of Catholicism, the holiday became intertwined with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. (International) |
| 1 (sundown) - 2 | Birth of the Báb | Celebrates the birth of the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í community. In the Bahá'í calendar, the Birth of the Báb and the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh are celebrated one after the other in one festival referred to as the "Twin Holy Days". (Bahá'í) |
| 2 (sundown) - 3 | Birth of Bahá'u'lláh | Celebrates the birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Baha'i faith. In the Bahá'í calendar, the Birth of the Báb and the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh are celebrated one after the other in one festival referred to as the "Twin Holy Days". (Bahá'í) |
| 2 | All Souls Day | In Christianity, All Souls' Day commemorates All Souls, the Holy Souls, or the Faithful Departed; that is, the souls of Christians who have died. (Christianity) |
| 8 | Indigenous Veterans Day | A day to honour the important contributions made by First Nations, Inuit and Métis Veterans in service to Canada. (Canada) |
| 11 | Remembrance Day | Commemorates the members of the armed forces who have sacrificed their lives during the World Wars and other military efforts in history and currently. (Canada) |
| 14 | World Diabetes Day | World Diabetes Day (WDD) was created in 1991 by IDF and the World Health Organization in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes. World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006 with the passage of United Nation Resolution 61/225. It is marked every year on November 14, the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922. (International) |



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| 15 | Guru Nanak Gurburab | One of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism, Gurburab celebrates the birth of the first Sikh guru Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikhism. Guru Nanak is highly revered by the Sikh community and was one of the most celebrated Sikh gurus. (Sikhism) |
| 16 | International Day for Tolerance | In 1996, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming November 16 as International Day for Tolerance. This action followed the adoption of a Declaration of Principles on Tolerance by UNESCO's Member States on November 16, 1995. Among other things, the Declaration affirms that tolerance is neither indulgence nor indifference. It is respect and appreciation of the rich variety of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. (International) |
| 19 | International Men's Day | International Men's Day celebrates the positive value men bring to the world, their families, and communities, highlights positive role models, and raises awareness of men's well-being and mental health. One of the six pillars of International Men's Day is to improve gender relations and promote gender equality for men and women. (International) |
| 20 | Transgender Day of Remembrance | A day to memorialize those who have been murdered as a result of transphobia and to bring attention to the continued violence endured by the transgender community. (International) |
| 20 | National Child Day | Canada has declared November 20th as National Child Day to celebrate the rights of children. November 20th was chosen as the day to celebrate National Child Day because the United Nations adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on November 20, 1989. (Canada) |
| 22 | Lha Bab Düchen | Lha Bab Düchen, the "Festival of the Descent from Heaven", takes place on the 22nd day of the ninth Tibetan lunar month. It is one of the four Buddhist festivals commemorating four events in the life of the Buddha and celebrates the anniversary of Buddha Shakyamuni's descent from heaven after repaying the kindness of his mother by liberating her from Samsara and teaching Dharma to the gods. (Buddhism) |
| 22 | National Housing Day | Each year, National Housing Day is held on November 22. It's a day to recognize the important work done by housing partners across Canada to improve access to housing for everyone in Canada. (Canada) |
| 23 | Holodomor Memorial Day | Holodomor Memorial Day is commemorated each year to remember the millions of Ukrainians who were starved to death in Ukraine in 1932 and 1933 during the Holodomor Famine-Genocide. (International) |
| 25 | International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women | Designated by the UN, this is a day to raise awareness of the fact that women around the world are subject to multiple forms of violence. Women's rights activists have observed 25 November as a day against gender-based violence since 1981. This date was selected to honour the Mirabal sisters, three political activists from the Dominican Republic who were brutally murdered in 1960 by order of the country's ruler, Rafael Trujillo (1930-1961). (International) |

12 2024 DECEMBER

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent World AIDS Day | 2 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent International Day for the Abolition of Slavery | 3 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent International Day of Persons with Disabilities | 4 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent | 5 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent International Volunteer Day | 6 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women St. Nicholas Day / Feast of Saint Nicholas | 7 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent |
| 8 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent Bodhi Day / Rōhatsu Pansexual Pride Day | 9 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent | 10 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Advent Human Rights Day | 11 Advent | 12 Advent | 13 Advent Saligrah / Saligrah Khushiali / Aga Khan's Birthday | 14 Advent |
| 15 Advent | 16 Advent Day of Reconciliation | 17 Advent | 18 Advent International Migrants Day | 19 Advent | 20 Advent International Human Solidarity Day | 21 Advent Winter Solstice Yule / Winter Solstice |
| 22 Advent | 23 Advent | 24 Advent Chanukah / Hanukkah Christmas Eve | 25 Chanukah / Hanukkah Christmas Day | 26 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa Boxing Day Zartosh't No-Diso / Death of Prophet Zarathustra | 27 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa | 28 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa |
| 29 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa | 30 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa | 31 Chanukah / Hanukkah Kwanzaa | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |



December

Universal Human Rights Month (International)

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| 1 - 24 | Advent | Advent marks a month-long period of preparation and anticipation for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. (Christianity) |
| 24 (sundown) - Jan 2 | Chanukah / Hanukkah | Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish holiday in celebrating the success of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire, and the liberating and rededication of Holy Temple in Jerusalem. (Judaism) |
| 26 - January 1 | Kwanzaa | Kwanzaa is an African-American cultural holiday that has been adopted around the world including in Canada to celebrate African family, community and culture. (International) |
| 1 | World AIDS Day | Designated on December 1 every year since 1988, is an international day dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease. (International) |
| 2 | International Day for the Abolition of Slavery | International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is annually held on December 2 to raise awareness of the atrocities of modern slavery. It is not to be confused with another UN day, the International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition. (International) |
| 3 | International Day of Persons with Disabilities | Promoted by the UN, this day is to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities. (International) |
| 5 | International Volunteer Day | The United Nations Volunteers Programme coordinates International Volunteer Day on December 5 every year to recognize and promote the tireless work, not just of UN Volunteers, but of volunteers across the globe. (International) |
| 6 | The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women | This is a day to remember those who have been victims of gender-based violence and those we have lost. It is also a time to take action to prevent and respond to gender-based violence by remembering and learning from our past, listening to survivors and speaking out against harmful behavior. (Canada) |
| 6 | St. Nicholas Day / Feast of Saint Nicholas | The tradition of Saint Nicholas Day, usually on December 6 (December 19 on the Julian calendar), is a festival for children in many countries in Europe related to surviving legends of the saint, and particularly his reputation as a bringer of gifts. The American Santa Claus, as well as the British Father Christmas, derive from these legends, and the name "Santa Claus" is derived in part from the Dutch Sinterklaas. (International) |
| 8 | Bodhi Day / Rōhatsu | Bodhi Day celebrates the day Siddhartha Gautama, Sakyamuni Buddha, achieved enlightenment. Known as Rōhatsu or Jodo-e in Japan and elsewhere by other names, this holiday is widely observed in the Mahayana traditions of East Asia and across the globe. In regions that follow the lunar calendar, this date varies year to year. In regions that follow the Gregorian calendar, Bodhi Day is celebrated on December 8th. (Buddhism) |
| 8 | Pansexual Pride Day | Pansexual Pride Day celebrates the strides taken by the pansexual and panromantic community to be accepted and understood. (International) |
| 10 | Human Rights Day | A day to honour the UN General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, on December 10, 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the first global enunciation of human rights. (Internationale) |
| 13 | Saligrah / Saligrah Khushali / Aqa Khan's Birthday | The date of birth of the present and living Imam, spiritual leader of the Shia Ismaili Muslims and 49th hereditary Imam, His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan. (Ismali Muslim) |
| 16 | Day of Reconciliation | This holiday came into effect in 1994 after the end of Apartheid. It is intended to celebrate the end of apartheid and foster reconciliation between different racial groups. (South Africa) |
| 18 | International Migrants Day | Declared by the UN, this is a day to honour the international convention on the protection of the rights of migrants. (International) |
| 20 | International Human Solidarity Day | This is annually held on December 20 to celebrate unity in diversity. It also aims to remind people of the importance of solidarity in working towards eradicating poverty. (International) |
| 21 | Winter Solstice | In the Northern Hemisphere, the Winter Solstice occurs when the sun travels along its southernmost path in the sky. The Winter Solstice is the day with the fewest hours of sunlight in the whole year, making it the "shortest day" of the year. This marks the astronomical start of winter in the northern half of the globe. (International) |



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| 21 | Yule / Winter Solstice | Yule celebrates the winter solstice and marks the sun's rebirth. Candles, lights, round sun-shaped decorations, and evergreen plants remind people in mid-winter that warmth and life will return. Giving and receiving are heavy themes at Yule, as well as rebirth and fresh beginnings. (Paganism/Wicca/Druid) |
| 24 | Christmas Eve | Christmas Eve is the evening before Christmas and is often observed with a long meal, usually with family, sometimes accompanied by other celebrations such as midnight mass. (Christianity) |
| 25 | Christmas Day | A holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is recognized as a public holiday in many nations around the world and is also celebrated secularly by many non-Christians. (Christianity) |
| 26 | Boxing Day | The day after Christmas Day was traditionally celebrated as the day tradesmen and servants would receive gifts from their employers. (International) |
| 26 | Zartosht No-Diso / Death of Prophet Zarathustra | This day marks the death of the founder of the Zoroastrian faith. (Zoroastrianism) |