

# 2023

Diversity calendar



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

# 2023 Diversity Calendar

Last updated: September 2022

It is our goal to create a comprehensive and accurate multicultural calendar that encompasses and represents the diversity of Canada. However, there may be some cultural and religious celebrations that are missing from this calendar.

This is not an exhaustive list of observances. If you notice something that should be added or updated in this calendar, please reach out to us at [research@ccdi.ca](mailto:research@ccdi.ca).

This calendar will be updated on a yearly basis.



- Alzheimer's Awareness Month (Canada)
- Tamil Heritage Month (Canada)

2023

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

## January

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <a href="#">Alzheimer's Awareness Month (Canada)</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">Tamil Heritage Month (Canada)</a>        |  |  |
| 15 - 18  | <a href="#">Pongal</a>   | 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  | <a href="#">New Year's Day</a>   | The first day of the year of the modern Gregorian calendar. (International)  |
| 4  | <a href="#">World Braille Day</a>                                      | 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)  |
| 6  | <a href="#">Epiphany</a>   | 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  | <a href="#">Christmas / Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox / Eastern)</a> | The equivalent of December 25 on the Julian calendar. Many Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas day on or near this date. (Orthodox Christianity)   |
| 13   | <a href="#">Lohri</a>  | A popular wintertime Punjabi folk festival, celebrated primarily by Sikhs and Hindus from the Punjab region of Indian subcontinent. (Sikhism / Hinduism)   |
| 14   | <a href="#">Orthodox New Year</a>                                      | The start of the new year under the Julian calendar. (Orthodox Christianity)   |
| 16   | <a href="#">Martin Luther King Jr Day</a>                              | 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   | <a href="#">Raoul Wallenberg Day</a>                                   | 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   | <a href="#">Lincoln Alexander Day</a>                                  | 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)  |
| 22   | <a href="#">Lunar New Year / Spring Festival</a>                       | 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 Years Eve of the lunar calendar and lasts for fifteen days, ending with the Lantern Festival. (International) |
| 24   | <a href="#">International Day of Education</a>                         | 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 | <a href="#">World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture</a>   | 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)  |
| 26 | <a href="#">Vasant Panchami</a>  | 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)   |
| 27 | <a href="#">International Holocaust Remembrance Day</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia</a> | 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) |

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

2023

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
|   |   |   | <b>1</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u><br><u>World Hijab Day</u> | <b>2</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u><br><u>Groundhog Day</u> | <b>3</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u> | <b>4</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u><br><u>World Cancer Day</u> |
| <b>5</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u><br><u>Lantern Festival</u><br><u>Thaipusam</u> | <b>6</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u><br><u>International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation</u>  | <b>7</b><br><u>White Cane Week</u><br><u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u>                      | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b><br><u>International Day of Women and Girls in Science</u>                                   |
| <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b><br><u>World Radio Day</u>   | <b>14</b><br><u>Valentine's Day</u>   | <b>15</b><br><u>National Flag of Canada Day</u><br><u>Parinirvana / Nirvana Day</u>                  | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br><u>Maha Shivaratri</u><br><u>Lailat al Miraj</u>   |
| <b>19</b>   | <b>20</b><br><u>World Day of Social Justice</u><br><u>Family Day</u><br><u>Islander Day</u><br><u>Louis Riel Day</u><br><u>Nova Scotia Heritage Day</u> | <b>21</b><br><u>International Mother Language Day</u><br><u>Losar (Tibetan New Year)</u>        | <b>22</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u><br><u>Pink Shirt Day</u><br><u>Ash Wednesday</u>                  | <b>23</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u>   | <b>24</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u>   | <b>25</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u>  |
| <b>26</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u>  | <b>27</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u><br><u>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)</u>   | <b>28</b><br><u>Lent (Western)</u><br><u>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)</u> |  |  |  |   |

## February

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <a href="#">Black History Month (Canada)</a>         |  |   |
| <a href="#">African Heritage Month (Nova Scotia)</a> |  |   |
| 1 - 7  | <a href="#">White Cane Week</a>                                    | 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)   |
| 1 - 7  | <a href="#">World Interfaith Harmony Week</a>                      | 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) |
| 22 - April 8   | <a href="#">Lent (Western)</a>                                     | 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)   |
| 27 - April 2   | <a href="#">Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)</a> | 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 Holy Week between Lent and Pascha. (Orthodox Christianity)  |
| 1  | <a href="#">World Hijab Day</a>                                    | 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)   |
| 2  | <a href="#">Groundhog Day</a>                                      | 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  | <a href="#">World Cancer Day</a>                                   | 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)   |
| 5  | <a href="#">Lantern Festival</a>                                   | 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)                              |
| 5  | <a href="#">Thaipusam</a>  | 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)  |



|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 6  | <a href="#">International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation</a> | 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)  |
| 11 | <a href="#">International Day of Women and Girls in Science</a>                   | A day designated for the dismantling of gender stereotypes – specifically to end institutional and systemic gender imbalances in science. (International)   |
| 13 | <a href="#">World Radio Day</a>   | 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)   |
| 14 | <a href="#">Valentine's Day</a>   | 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)   |
| 15 | <a href="#">National Flag of Canada Day</a>                                       | 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 | <a href="#">Parinirvana / Nirvana Day</a>   | An annual Mahayana Buddhist festival that commemorates of the death of Buddha and his entry into Nirvana, which is believed to be a release from the cycle of death and rebirth. (Buddhism)   |
| 18 | <a href="#">Maha Shivaratri</a>   | 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)  |
| 18 | <a href="#">Lailat al Miraj</a>   | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">World Day of Social Justice</a>                                       | 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) |
| 20 | <a href="#">Family Day</a>  | Civic holiday in Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and New Brunswick, which celebrates the importance of family. (Canada)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">Islander Day</a>  | A civic holiday observed in Prince Edward Island in celebration of family and community. (Canada)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">Louis Riel Day</a>  | 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)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">Nova Scotia Heritage Day</a>  | 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)  |
| 21 | <a href="#">International Mother Language Day</a>                                 | A worldwide annual observance to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism. (International)   |





|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 21 | <a href="#">Losar (Tibetan New Year)</a> | 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 the most festive periods of the year observed with many religious and cultural events. (Tibet) |
| 22 | <a href="#">Pink Shirt Day</a>           | An international awareness day to promote anti-bullying. (International)  |
| 22 | <a href="#">Ash Wednesday</a>            | Marks the first day of Lent. The name is derived from the symbolic use of ashes to signify penitence. (Christianity)  |

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

2023

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|   |  |   | <b>1</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Zero Discrimination Day<br>Self-harm Awareness Day                     | <b>2</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast                 | <b>3</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Employee Appreciation Day   | <b>4</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast   |
| <b>5</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast                     | <b>6</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Magha Puja  | <b>7</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Chötrul Düchen<br>Purim  | <b>8</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Hola Mohalla<br>International Women's Day<br>Holi | <b>9</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Hola Mohalla | <b>10</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Hola Mohalla   | <b>11</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast  |
| <b>12</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast                    | <b>13</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast   | <b>14</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast  | <b>15</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>International Day to Combat Islamophobia         | <b>16</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast                | <b>17</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>Saint Patrick's Day  | <b>18</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast  |
| <b>19</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast                    | <b>20</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nineteen Day Fast<br>International Francophonie Day<br>Spring Equinox<br>International Day of Happiness | <b>21</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Nowruz / Norouz (Bahá'í / Zoroastrian / Iranian / Persian New Year)<br>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination<br>World Down Syndrome Day | <b>22</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>Ugadi / Yugadi<br>World Water Day                          | <b>23</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan                          | <b>24</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims | <b>25</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade<br>Feast of the Annunciation |
| <b>26</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>Khordad Sal<br>Purple Day | <b>27</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan   | <b>28</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan  | <b>29</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan   | <b>30</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>Ram Navami            | <b>31</b><br>Lent (Western)<br>Great Lent, or the Great Fast (Orthodox / Eastern)<br>Ramadan<br>International Transgender Day of Visibility  |   |

## March

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">Women's History Month (International)</a>              |   |   |
| <a href="#">Irish Heritage Month (Canada)</a>                      |   |   |
| <a href="#">Bangladeshi Heritage Month (Ontario)</a>               |   |   |
| <a href="#">Multiculturalism Month (Newfoundland and Labrador)</a> |   |   |
| 2 - 20   | <a href="#">Nineteen Day Fast</a>         | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Bahá'í)  |
| 8 - 10   | <a href="#">Hola Mohalla</a>              | 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)                                       |
| 22 - April 20  | <a href="#">Ramadan</a>                   | 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. (Islam)   |
| 1  | <a href="#">Zero Discrimination Day</a>   | 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  | <a href="#">Self-harm Awareness Day</a>   | 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)   |
| 3  | <a href="#">Employee Appreciation Day</a> | 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)  |
| 6  | <a href="#">Magha Puja</a>                | 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 Tabaung in Myanmar. It celebrates a gathering between the Buddha and 1,250 of his first disciples. (Buddhism)   |
| 7  | <a href="#">Chötrul Düchen</a>            | 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) |
| 7  | <a href="#">Purim</a>                     | 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)   |
| 8  | <a href="#">International Women's Day</a> | 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  | <a href="#">Holi</a>  | 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)   |
| 15 | <a href="#">International Day to Combat Islamophobia</a>                            | 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 | <a href="#">Saint Patrick's Day</a>   | 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)  |
| 20 | <a href="#">International Francophonie Day</a>                                      | A day to celebrate the French language, culture, and values. (International)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">Spring Equinox</a>  | 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)   |
| 20 | <a href="#">International Day of Happiness</a>                                      | 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 | <a href="#">Nowruz / Norouz (Bahá'í / Zoroastrian / Iranian / Persian New Year)</a> | The word "Nowruz" (spelling varies by region: Now Ruz, Naw-Ruz, Now Roz, Novruz, Navruz, Nooruz, Nevruz, or Nauryz) 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) |
| 21 | <a href="#">International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</a>      | 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 | <a href="#">World Down Syndrome Day</a>   | 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)  |
| 22 | <a href="#">Ugadi / Yugadi</a>  | 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)   |



|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 22 | <a href="#">World Water Day</a>  | 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)   |
| 24 | <a href="#">International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims</a> | 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 denial therein. (International)   |
| 25 | <a href="#">International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade</a>                         | 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 | <a href="#">Feast of the Annunciation</a>  | 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)  |
| 26 | <a href="#">Khordad Sal</a>  | Khordad Sal is the birthday of Zoroaster (Zarathustra), the prophet and founder of Zoroastrianism. (Zoroastrian)   |
| 26 | <a href="#">Purple Day</a>   | 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)   |
| 30 | <a href="#">Ram Navami</a>   | 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)   |
| 31 | <a href="#">International Transgender Day of Visibility</a>  | 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) |

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

2023

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

## April

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">Autism Acceptance Month (International)</a>                          |   |   |
| <a href="#">Celebrate Diversity Month (International)</a>                        |   |   |
| <a href="#">Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month (Canada)</a> |   |   |
| <a href="#">Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month</a>                    |   |   |
| <a href="#">Sikh Heritage Month (Canada)</a>                                     |   |   |
| <a href="#">Parkinson Awareness Month (Canada)</a>                               |   |   |
| 2 - 8  | <a href="#">Holy Week (Orthodox / Eastern)</a>      | A period of continued fasting and religious observance following the Great Fast (Great Lent), beginning on Palm Sunday and ending with the feast of Pascha. (Christianity)  |
| 6 - 13   | <a href="#">Passover / Pesach</a>                   | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 6 - 8  | <a href="#">Theravada New Year</a>                  | Celebrated for three days following the first full moon in April, Theravadan 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)  |
| 16 - 22  | <a href="#">National Volunteer Week</a>             | National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and thank Canada's 24 million volunteers. (Canada)   |
| 21 - May 2   | <a href="#">Ridván</a>                              | "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 Ridván 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 Ridván. Begins at previous sundown. (Bahá'í) |
| 23 - 29  | <a href="#">Canadian Infertility Awareness Week</a> | A week to raise awareness and recognize the unique difficulties experienced by people affected by infertility. (Canada)   |
| 2  | <a href="#">World Autism Awareness Day</a>          | 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  | <a href="#">Palm Sunday</a>                         | A Christian celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem the week prior to his death and resurrection, which marks the start of Holy Week. (Christianity)   |
| 4  | <a href="#">National Caregiver Day</a>              | 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)  |



|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 6  | <a href="#">Holy Thursday / Maundy Thursday (Western)</a>  | Falling on the Thursday before Easter, Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. (Christianity)   |
| 6  | <a href="#">International Day of Sport for Development and Peace</a>                             | 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  | <a href="#">International Asexuality Day</a>   | 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  | <a href="#">Good Friday (Western)</a>  | A Christian holiday to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus. (Christianity)   |
| 7  | <a href="#">International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda</a> | 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) |
| 7  | <a href="#">World Health Day</a>   | A global observance day where each year draws attention to a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. (International)   |
| 8  | <a href="#">Vesak (Buddha Day)</a>   | "Vesak", the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May, is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists around the world. It was on the Day of Vesak two and a half millennia ago, in the year 623 B.C., that the Buddha was born. It was also on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha attained enlightenment, and it was on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha in his eightieth year passed away. (Buddhism)  |
| 9  | <a href="#">Easter (Western)</a>   | 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)   |
| 9  | <a href="#">Day of Valour / Araw ng Kagitingan</a>   | 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)  |
| 10 | <a href="#">Easter Monday (Western)</a>  | 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)   |
| 12 | <a href="#">International Day of Pink</a>  | 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 LGBTQ2S+ community to continue fighting for equality and acceptance. (International)   |
| 13 | <a href="#">Holy Thursday (Orthodox / Eastern)</a>   | Falling on the Thursday before Easter, Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ. (Christianity)   |
| 14 | <a href="#">Vaisakhi / Baisakhi</a>  | 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)   |

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 14 | <a href="#">Sinhala and Tamil New Year</a>                                  | 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)  |
| 15 | <a href="#">Vishu</a>   | 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)  |
| 16 | <a href="#">Easter / Pascha (Orthodox / Eastern)</a>                        | One of the holiest days in the Christian (Eastern) calendar. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from death, three days after his crucifixion. (Christianity)   |
| 18 | <a href="#">Laylat al-Qadr (Shi' ah)</a>                                    | 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 (Jibrīl). It is most commonly observed on the 23rd night of Ramadan for Shi' ah Muslims and on the 27th for Sunni Muslims. It begins the previous evening. (Shi' ah Islam) |
| 18 | <a href="#">Yom HaShoah</a>   | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism / international)  |
| 21 | <a href="#">Eid Al-Fitr</a>   | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam)   |
| 21 | <a href="#">World Creativity and Innovation Day</a>                         | 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 | <a href="#">Earth Day</a>   | Earth Day aims to raise awareness and demonstrate support of environmental protection, with many events held around the world. (International)  |
| 22 | <a href="#">Laylat al-Qadr (Sunni)</a>                                      | 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 (Jibrīl). It is most commonly observed on the 23rd night of Ramadan for Shi' ah Muslims and on the 27th for Sunni Muslims. It begins the previous evening. (Sunni Islam)   |
| 23 | <a href="#">St. George's Day</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">Armenian Genocide Memorial Day</a>                              | 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)   |
| 27 | <a href="#">Girls in ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Day</a> | 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 | <a href="#">Day of Mourning</a>                         | 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 | <a href="#">World Day for Health and Safety at Work</a> | International day to raise awareness on the adoption of safe practices in workplaces and the role that occupational safety and health play. (International)   |
| 30 | <a href="#">Journey to Freedom Day</a>                  | 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)  |

2023

- 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   |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|  | <b>1</b><br>Ridván   | <b>2</b><br>Ridván  | <b>3</b><br>World Press Freedom Day  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b><br>Dutch Heritage Day<br>South Asian Arrival Day  | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b><br>Lag Ba'Omer   | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b>  | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b>  |
| <b>14</b><br>Mother's Day  | <b>15</b><br>International Day of Families   | <b>16</b><br>International Day of Living Together in Peace  | <b>17</b><br>International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia   | <b>18</b><br>Feast of the Ascension  | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>21</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>International Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development | <b>22</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>National Patriots' Day<br>Victoria Day               | <b>23</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week                            | <b>24</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day<br>Declaration of the Báb | <b>25</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>Africa Day | <b>26</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>Shavu'ot<br>Birthday of Buddha | <b>27</b><br>Québec Intergenerational Week<br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>Shavu'ot |
| <b>28</b><br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>National AccessAbility Week<br>Pentecost                                  | <b>29</b><br>Anti-Racism Awareness Week<br>National AccessAbility Week<br>Ascension of Baha'u'llah | <b>30</b><br>National AccessAbility Week<br>Provincial Francophonie Day (Newfoundland and Labrador) | <b>31</b><br>National AccessAbility Week   |  |  |  |

## May

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">Asian Heritage Month (Canada)</a>              |   |   |
| <a href="#">Jewish Heritage Month (Canada)</a>             |   |   |
| <a href="#">National Speech and Hearing Month (Canada)</a> |   |   |
| <a href="#">Vision Health Month (Canada)</a>               |   |   |
| <a href="#">Sexual Assault Awareness Month (Canada)</a>    |   |   |
| <a href="#">Dutch Heritage Month (Ontario)</a>             |   |   |
| 21 - 27  | <a href="#">Québec Intergenerational Week</a> | Every year since 1987, Québec has celebrated and promoted initiatives that encourage exchanges between generations. Coordinated by Intergénérations Québec, Québec Intergenerational Week is a unique opportunity to highlight and promote intergenerational activities in Quebec. (Québec)   |
| 23 - 29  | <a href="#">Anti-Racism Awareness Week</a>    | 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 - 27  | <a href="#">Shavu'ot</a>                      | A Jewish observance of the giving of the Torah, the biblical laws of Judaism, from God to the nation of Israel. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 28 - June 3  | <a href="#">National AccessAbility Week</a>   | 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)  |
| 3  | <a href="#">World Press Freedom Day</a>       | 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  | <a href="#">Dutch Heritage Day</a>            | 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  | <a href="#">South Asian Arrival Day</a>       | 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)  |
| 9  | <a href="#">Lag Ba'Omer</a>                   | A day for welcoming the coming of spring. Begins at previous sundown. (Jewish)  |

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 14 | <a href="#">Mother's Day</a>   | This day is dedicated to honouring mothers and appreciating their role in families and community. (International)   |
| 15 | <a href="#">International Day of Families</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">International Day of Living Together in Peace</a>                          | 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)                  |
| 17 | <a href="#">International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia</a>        | 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) |
| 18 | <a href="#">Feast of the Ascension</a>   | This day commemorates the Ascension of Jesus into heaven on the fortieth day after Easter. (Christianity)   |
| 21 | <a href="#">International Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development</a> | 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 | <a href="#">National Patriots' Day</a>   | Statutory holiday in Québec to commemorate democracy and patriotic struggles for freedom from British rule during 1837-1838. (Québec)   |
| 22 | <a href="#">Victoria Day</a>   | Victoria Day is celebrated in honour of the birth of Queen Victoria, the first sovereign of Canada, post-Confederation. (Canada)  |
| 24 | <a href="#">Pansexual and Panromantic Visibility Day</a>                               | A day to celebrate the pansexual and panromantic community and educate others. (International)  |
| 24 | <a href="#">Declaration of the Báb</a>   | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Bahá'í)  |
| 25 | <a href="#">Africa Day</a>   | Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the founding of the Organization of African Unity on May 25, 1963. (International)  |
| 26 | <a href="#">Birthday of Buddha</a>   | On April 8, Mahayana Buddhists celebrate the commemoration of the birth of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, thought to have lived in India from 563 B.C. to 483 B.C. (Buddhism)   |
| 28 | <a href="#">Pentecost</a>  | 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)  |
| 29 | <a href="#">Ascension of Baha'u'llah</a>   | The day that Baha'u'llah, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, passed away in 1892. Bahá'ís honor this holy day with prayers and selections from the Bahá'í Writings. It is also one of nine days in the year where work should be suspended. Begins at previous sundown. (Bahá'í)  |



|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 30 | <a href="#">Provincial Francophonie Day (Newfoundland and Labrador)</a> | 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) |
|----|---|---|



- 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)

2023

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

## June

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <a href="#">Canadian Men's Health Month (Canada)</a> |  |   |
| <a href="#">Deafblind Awareness Month (Canada)</a>   |  |   |
| <a href="#">Filipino Heritage Month (Canada)</a>     |  |   |
| <a href="#">Indigenous History Month (Canada)</a>    |  |   |
| <a href="#">Italian Heritage Month (Canada)</a>      |  |   |
| <a href="#">Portuguese Heritage Month (Canada)</a>   |  |   |
| <a href="#">Pride Month (International)</a>          |  |   |
| 4 - 10   | <a href="#">Canadian Environment Week</a>              | Established in 1971, Canadian Environment Week celebrates Canada's environmental accomplishments and encourages Canadians to contribute to conserving and protecting their environment. (Canada)  |
| 29 - July 2  | <a href="#">Eid al-Adha</a>                            | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam) |
| 1  | <a href="#">Global Day of Parents</a>                  | A day for appreciating all parents for their selfless commitment to children and their lifelong sacrifice towards nurturing this relationship. (International)  |
| 1  | <a href="#">Intergenerational Day</a>                  | A celebration of the mutual benefits of building relationships across generations. (Canada)   |
| 4  | <a href="#">Treaty Day</a>                             | 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)  |
| 4  | <a href="#">Saga Dawa Düchen</a>                       | 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)  |
| 7  | <a href="#">Clean Air Day</a>                          | 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   | <a href="#">Action Anxiety Day / World Anxiety Day</a> | An annual awareness and education day created in Vancouver, British Columbia, by Anxiety Canada. (Canada)   |

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 12 | <a href="#">Independence Day, Philippines / Araw ng Kasarinlán</a> | 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 | <a href="#">International Albinism Awareness Day</a>               | 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)  |
| 18 | <a href="#">Father's Day</a>                                       | A day to celebrate and honour fathers and recognize their contributions to their families and the community. (International)   |
| 18 | <a href="#">International Day for Countering Hate Speech</a>       | 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) |
| 19 | <a href="#">Juneteenth</a>   | 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 | <a href="#">World Refugee Day</a>                                  | 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)   |
| 21 | <a href="#">National Indigenous Peoples Day</a>                    | 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)   |
| 21 | <a href="#">Summer Solstice</a>                                    | 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)      |
| 23 | <a href="#">International Widows' Day</a>                          | 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 | <a href="#">St. Jean Baptiste Day</a>                              | 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)   |



|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 26 | <a href="#">June Day</a>                      | 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 | <a href="#">Canadian Multiculturalism Day</a> | Multiculturalism day celebrates Canada's diverse cultures as well as the country's commitment to equality, democracy, and mutual respect. (Canada)  |

2023

| Sunday  |  | Monday   |                       | Tuesday   |  | Wednesday                    |  | Thursday                                      |  | Friday   |  | Saturday   |
|---|--|--|-----------------------|---|--|------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|   |  |  |                       |   |  |                              |  |   |  |  |  | <b>1</b><br>Hajj<br>Eid al-Adha<br>Canada Day<br>Beaumont Hamel Memorial Day |
| <b>2</b><br>Eid al-Adha                         |  | <b>3</b><br>Asala (Dharma Day)                       |                       | <b>4</b>  |  | <b>5</b>                     |  | <b>6</b>                                      |  | <b>7</b>   |  | <b>8</b>   |
| <b>9</b><br>Nunavut Day<br>Martyrdom of the Báb |  | <b>10</b>  |                       | <b>11</b><br>World Population Day<br>Imamat Day |  | <b>12</b><br>Orangemen's Day |  | <b>13</b>                                     |  | <b>14</b><br>International Non-Binary People's Day   |  | <b>15</b><br>World Youth Skills Day  |
| <b>16</b>                                       |  | <b>17</b>  |                       | <b>18</b><br>Nelson Mandela Day                 |  | <b>19</b><br>Muharram        |  | <b>20</b><br>Muharram                         |  | <b>21</b><br>Muharram<br>Chokhor Düchen  |  | <b>22</b><br>Muharram  |
| <b>23</b><br>Muharram                           | <b>30</b><br>Muharram<br>International Day of Friendship | <b>24</b><br>Muharram<br>International Self-Care Day | <b>31</b><br>Muharram | <b>25</b><br>Muharram                           |  | <b>26</b><br>Muharram        |  | <b>27</b><br>Muharram<br>Tisha B'Av<br>Ashura |  | <b>28</b><br>Muharram<br>World Hepatitis Day<br>Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval |  | <b>29</b><br>Muharram  |

## July

|                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 19 - August 17      | <a href="#">Muharram</a>                              | The first month of the Islamic calendar, during which warfare is forbidden. It is one of the four sacred months of the year, held to be the second holiest month after Ramadan. (Islam)  |
| June 27 -<br>July 1 | <a href="#">Hajj</a>                                  | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam) |
| 1                   | <a href="#">Canada Day</a>                            | A day commemorating the enactment of the Constitution Act in 1867 thereby establishing Canada as a new federation with its own constitution. (Canada)  |
| 1                   | <a href="#">Beaumont Hamel Memorial Day</a>           | This day marks the anniversary of the fighting at Beaumont-Hamel during the First World War. (Newfoundland and Labrador)   |
| 3                   | <a href="#">Asala (Dharma Day)</a>                    | 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)   |
| 9                   | <a href="#">Nunavut Day</a>                           | 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                   | <a href="#">Martyrdom of the Báb</a>                  | Commemorates the anniversary of the execution of the Báb in 1850. (Bahá'í)   |
| 11                  | <a href="#">World Population Day</a>                  | 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                  | <a href="#">Imamat Day</a>                            | 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                  | <a href="#">Orangemen's Day</a>                       | 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                  | <a href="#">International Non-Binary People's Day</a> | 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                  | <a href="#">World Youth Skills Day</a>                | 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)   |
| 18                  | <a href="#">Nelson Mandela Day</a>                    | 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 | <a href="#">Chokhor Düchen</a>                             | 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) |
| 24 | <a href="#">International Self-Care Day</a>                | 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)  |
| 27 | <a href="#">Tisha B'Av</a>                                 | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 27 | <a href="#">Ashura</a>                                     | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam)   |
| 28 | <a href="#">World Hepatitis Day</a>                        | 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 | <a href="#">Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval</a> | 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 | <a href="#">International Day of Friendship</a>            | 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)  |



2023

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

## August

|         |  |   |
|---------|--|---|
| 1 - 7   | <a href="#">World Breastfeeding Week</a>   | World Breastfeeding Week is a global campaign to raise awareness and galvanise action on themes related to breastfeeding. (International)   |
| 13 - 15 | <a href="#">Obon</a>   | A Japanese Buddhist custom to honour one's spiritual ancestors. For areas which follow the lunar calendar, Obon is celebrated from August 13-15. (Buddhism)   |
| 21 - 25 | <a href="#">Public Service Pride Week</a>  | 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 LGBTQ2S+ 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       | <a href="#">Emancipation Day</a>   | 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)  |
| 7       | <a href="#">Civic Holiday</a>  | 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       | <a href="#">International Day of the World's Indigenous People</a>                         | 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      | <a href="#">International Youth Day (IYD)</a>  | 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)   |
| 15      | <a href="#">The Assumption of Mary into Heaven</a>   | (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      | <a href="#">National Acadian Day</a>   | 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      | <a href="#">World Humanitarian Day</a>   | This day is dedicated to humanitarians worldwide, as well as to increase public understanding of humanitarian assistance activities. (International)  |
| 21      | <a href="#">Discovery Day</a>  | 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      | <a href="#">International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition</a> | A day designated by the UNESCO to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade. (International)  |



|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 30 | <a href="#">Raksha Bandhan</a>                       | 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) |
| 31 | <a href="#">International Overdose Awareness Day</a> | A day to remember without stigma those who have died and to acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. (International)   |

■ Acne Awareness Month (Canada)

# 2023

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

## September

| <u>Acne Awareness Month (Canada)</u> |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 6 - 7                                | <a href="#"><u>Krishna Janmashtami</u></a>               | Celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna and his rescue from potential death by the demon Kasna. 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)  |
| 10 - 16                              | <a href="#"><u>Mennonite Heritage Week</u></a>           | 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)   |
| 18 - 24                              | <a href="#"><u>International Week of Deaf People</u></a> | 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)  |
| 24 - 30                              | <a href="#"><u>Gender Equality Week</u></a>              | 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) |
| 30 -<br>October 6                    | <a href="#"><u>Sukkot</u></a>                            | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)  |
| 4                                    | <a href="#"><u>Labour Day</u></a>                        | 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                                    | <a href="#"><u>International Day of Charity</u></a>      | This is a UN designated day which promotes charitable efforts made to alleviate poverty worldwide. (International)   |
| 7                                    | <a href="#"><u>Ukrainian Heritage Day</u></a>            | 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, Vasyl Eleniak and Ivan Pylypiw, arrived in Canada. (Ontario)   |
| 8                                    | <a href="#"><u>International Literacy Day</u></a>        | A day to raise people's awareness of and concern for literacy issues in the world. (International)   |
| 10                                   | <a href="#"><u>World Suicide Prevention Day</u></a>      | 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)   |
| 17                                   | <a href="#"><u>Rosh HaShanah</u></a>                     | Rosh HaShanah celebrates the creation of the universe. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 18 | <a href="#">International Equal Pay Day</a>              | 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.  |
| 19 | <a href="#">Ganesh Chaturthi</a>                         | 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. (Hinduism)   |
| 21 | <a href="#">International Day of Peace</a>               | 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)   |
| 23 | <a href="#">International Day of Sign Languages</a>      | 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 | <a href="#">Bi Visibility Day</a>                        | Marked each year since 1999, Bi Visibility Day raises bi awareness and challenges bisexual & biromantic erasure. (International)  |
| 23 | <a href="#">Fall Equinox</a>                             | 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)  |
| 25 | <a href="#">Franco-Ontarian Day</a>                      | 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)   |
| 25 | <a href="#">Yom Kippur</a>                               | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 27 | <a href="#">Mawlid al-Nabī / Eid-Maulad-un-Nabi</a>      | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Islam)   |
| 29 | <a href="#">Mid-Autumn Festival (Moon Cake Festival)</a> | 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) |



|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 30 | <a href="#">National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day</a> | <p>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)</p> |
|----|--|---|

2023

- ADHD 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  |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| <b>1</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week<br>International Day of Older Persons / National Seniors Day<br>Treaty Day            | <b>2</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week   | <b>3</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week   | <b>4</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week<br>National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls<br>St. Francis Day | <b>5</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week<br>World Teacher Day                              | <b>6</b><br>Sukkot<br>Mental Illness Awareness Week   | <b>7</b><br>Mental Illness Awareness Week<br>Shemini Atzeret  |
| <b>8</b><br>Simchat Torah   | <b>9</b><br>Thanksgiving  | <b>10</b><br>World Mental Health Day  | <b>11</b><br>International Day of the Girl Child<br>National Coming Out Day  | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b>   |
| <b>15</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week<br>International Day of Rural Women | <b>16</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week<br>Birth of the Báb | <b>17</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week<br>Birth of Bahá'u'lláh | <b>18</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week<br>International Pronouns Day<br>Persons Day   | <b>19</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week | <b>20</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week | <b>21</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Invisible Disabilities Week<br>Workplace Bullying Awareness Week |
| <b>22</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>International Stuttering Awareness Day   | <b>23</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)   | <b>24</b><br>Navratri (Navaratri)<br>Dussehra   | <b>25</b>  | <b>26</b><br>Intersex Awareness Day   | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b>   |
| <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b><br>Halloween  |  |   |   |   |



## October

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">ADHD Awareness Month (International)</a>               |   |   |
| <a href="#">Autism Awareness Month (International)</a>             |   |   |
| <a href="#">Canadian Islamic History Month (Canada)</a>            |   |   |
| <a href="#">Disability Employment Awareness Month (Canada)</a>     |   |   |
| <a href="#">German Heritage Month (Canada)</a>                     |   |   |
| <a href="#">Global Diversity Awareness Month (International)</a>   |   |   |
| <a href="#">Healthy Workplace Month (Canada)</a>                   |   |   |
| <a href="#">Hispanic Heritage Month (Ontario)</a>                  |   |   |
| <a href="#">Latin American Heritage Month (Canada)</a>             |   |   |
| <a href="#">Mark it Read for Dyslexia Awareness Month (Canada)</a> |   |   |
| <a href="#">Mi'kmaq History Month (Nova Scotia)</a>                |   |   |
| <a href="#">Women's History Month (Canada)</a>                     |   |   |
| 1 - 7  | <a href="#">Mental Illness Awareness Week</a>                             | 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. (International)   |
| 15 - 24  | <a href="#">Navratri (Navaratri)</a>                                      | 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)   |
| 15 - 21  | <a href="#">Invisible Disabilities Week</a>                               | 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) |
| 15 - 21  | <a href="#">Workplace Bullying Awareness Week</a>                         | Workplace Bullying Awareness Week aims to provide education and awareness of how workplace bullying affects our lives and our work. (International)   |
| 1  | <a href="#">International Day of Older Persons / National Seniors Day</a> | An international day to recognize the contributions of older persons / seniors and examine the issues that affect their lives. (International)  |
| 1  | <a href="#">Treaty Day</a>  | 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'kmaw culture and heritage for all Nova Scotians. (Nova Scotia)     |

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 4  | <a href="#">National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls</a> | 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  | <a href="#">St. Francis Day</a>  | Feast day for St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and environment celebrated by many Catholic denominations. (Christianity)   |
| 5  | <a href="#">World Teacher Day</a>  | 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)   |
| 7  | <a href="#">Shemini Atzeret</a>  | Shemini Atzeret commemorates the special bond between God and his peoples. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 8  | <a href="#">Simchat Torah</a>  | A Jewish holiday that marks the completion of the annual Torah readings and begins a new reading cycle. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)  |
| 9  | <a href="#">Thanksgiving</a>   | A day of giving thanks to the harvest and blessings of the previous year. (Canada)   |
| 10 | <a href="#">World Mental Health Day</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">International Day of the Girl Child</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">National Coming Out Day</a>  | 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 LGBTQ2S+ identities, decrease stigma, increase awareness, and advocate for change. For some LGBTQ2S+ folks this day is an opportunity to celebrate their identities publicly. (International) |
| 15 | <a href="#">International Day of Rural Women</a>   | 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 | <a href="#">Birth of the Báb</a>   | 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)  |
| 17 | <a href="#">Birth of Bahá'u'lláh</a>   | 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)   |
| 18 | <a href="#">International Pronouns Day</a>   | International Pronouns Day is about respect, sharing, education and normalizing personal pronouns. (International)   |



|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 18 | <a href="#">Persons Day</a>                            | 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 | <a href="#">International Stuttering Awareness Day</a> | International Stuttering Awareness Day is intended to raise public awareness of stuttering, which affects one percent of the world's population. (International)   |
| 24 | <a href="#">Dussehra</a>                               | A Hindu celebration on the last day of Navaratri, celebrating the victory of good over evil. (Hinduism)  |
| 26 | <a href="#">Intersex Awareness Day</a>                 | A day to encourage dialogue and raise awareness on the human rights violations faced by intersex people. (International)   |
| 31 | <a href="#">Halloween</a>                              | 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)                |

- 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)

2023

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

## November

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <a href="#">Diabetes Awareness Month (International)</a>                             |   |  |
| <a href="#">Family Violence Prevention Month (Alberta and Northwest Territories)</a> |   |  |
| <a href="#">Financial Literacy Month (Canada)</a>                                    |   |  |
| <a href="#">Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (Canada)</a>                       |   |  |
| <a href="#">National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Canada)</a>                  |   |  |
| 5 - 11   | <a href="#">Veterans' Week</a>                                    | 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)   |
| 5 - 11   | <a href="#">Treaties Recognition Week</a>                         | 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)  |
| 12 - 16  | <a href="#">Diwali</a>  | Diwali or Deepavali is the Hindu festival of lights and the Hindu New Year. Diwali lasts for 5 days: Day 1 - New Year for business, Day 2 - the triumph of god Vishnu over the evil demon, Day 3 - Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity visits homes lit by lamps, Day 4 - Bali worship day, Day 5 - devoted to brothers and sisters. (Hinduism)   |
| 19 - 25  | <a href="#">Canada History Week</a>                               | 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)  |
| 19 - 25  | <a href="#">National Addictions Awareness Week</a>                | 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)  |
| 19 - 25  | <a href="#">Restorative Justice Week</a>                          | 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) |
| 25 - December 10   | <a href="#">16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence</a> | 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  | <a href="#">All Saints' Day</a>                                   | 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)   |

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 2  | <a href="#">Day of the Dead</a>                 | 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 and is celebrated on All Saints' Day, November 1. (International) |
| 2  | <a href="#">All Souls Day</a>                   | 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)  |
| 4  | <a href="#">Lha Bab Düchen</a>                  | 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)  |
| 8  | <a href="#">Indigenous Veterans Day</a>         | A day to honour the important contributions made by First Nations, Inuit and Métis Veterans in service to Canada. (Canada)  |
| 11 | <a href="#">Remembrance Day</a>                 | 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 | <a href="#">World Diabetes Day</a>              | 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 Nations 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)  |
| 16 | <a href="#">International Day for Tolerance</a> | 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 | <a href="#">International Men's Day</a>         | 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 | <a href="#">Transgender Day of Remembrance</a>  | 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 | <a href="#">National Child Day</a>              | 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 | <a href="#">National Housing Day</a>  | 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)  |
| 25 | <a href="#">International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women</a> | 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) |
| 25 | <a href="#">Holodomor Memorial Day</a>  | 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)  |
| 27 | <a href="#">Guru Nanak Gurburab</a>   | One of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism, Gurburab celebrates the birth of the first Sikh gurus 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)  |

■ Universal Human Rights Month (International)

2023

| Sunday  |   | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
|   |   |  |   |   |  | <b>1</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>World AIDS Day                | <b>2</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>International Day for the Abolition of Slavery |
| <b>3</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>International Day of Persons with Disabilities | <b>4</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent | <b>5</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>International Volunteer Day | <b>6</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women<br>St. Nicholas Day / Feast of Saint Nicholas | <b>7</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent | <b>8</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah<br>Pansexual Pride Day<br>Bodhi Day | <b>9</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah |   |
| <b>10</b><br>16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence<br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah<br>Human Rights Day       | <b>11</b><br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah                              | <b>12</b><br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah   | <b>13</b><br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah<br>Aga Khan's Birthday   | <b>14</b><br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah                              | <b>15</b><br>Advent<br>Chanukah / Hanukkah   | <b>16</b><br>Advent<br>Day of Reconciliation   |   |
| <b>17</b><br>Advent<br>Anti-Bullying Day  | <b>18</b><br>Advent<br>International Migrants Day                       | <b>19</b><br>Advent  | <b>20</b><br>Advent<br>International Human Solidarity Day   | <b>21</b><br>Advent<br>Winter Solstice                                  | <b>22</b><br>Advent  | <b>23</b><br>Advent  |   |
| <b>24</b><br>Advent<br>Christmas Eve  | <b>31</b><br>Kwanzaa  | <b>25</b><br>Christmas Day   | <b>26</b><br>Kwanzaa<br>Boxing Day<br>Zartosht No-Diso / Death of Prophet Zarathustra   | <b>27</b><br>Kwanzaa  | <b>28</b><br>Kwanzaa   | <b>29</b><br>Kwanzaa   | <b>30</b><br>Kwanzaa  |



## December

| Universal Human Rights Month (International) |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 3 - 24                                       | <a href="#">Advent</a>   | Advent marks a month-long period of preparation and anticipation for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. (Christianity)  |
| 8 - 15                                       | <a href="#">Chanukah / Hanukkah</a>  | 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. Begins at previous sundown. (Judaism)   |
| 26 - January 1                               | <a href="#">Kwanzaa</a>  | 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  | <a href="#">World AIDS Day</a>   | 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  | <a href="#">International Day for the Abolition of Slavery</a>                       | 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  | <a href="#">International Day of Persons with Disabilities</a>                       | 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  | <a href="#">International Volunteer Day</a>  | 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  | <a href="#">The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women</a> | 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  | <a href="#">St. Nicholas Day / Feast of Saint Nicholas</a>                           | 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  | <a href="#">Pansexual Pride Day</a>  | Pansexual Pride Day celebrates the strides taken by the pansexual and panromantic community to be accepted and understood. (International)  |
| 8  | <a href="#">Bodhi Day</a>  | Bodhi Day celebrates the day Siddhartha Gautama, Sakyamuni Buddha, achieved enlightenment. Known as Rohatsu 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. (Buddhism)   |
| 10   | <a href="#">Human Rights Day</a>   | 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 | <a href="#">Aga Khan's Birthday</a>                             | 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. (Ismaili Muslim)  |
| 16 | <a href="#">Day of Reconciliation</a>                           | 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)   |
| 17 | <a href="#">Anti-Bullying Day</a>                               | Dec. 17 was designated by the New Brunswick provincial government as Anti-bullying Day, also known as Blue Day. To mark the occasion, people are encouraged to show their support of anti-bullying awareness and education in schools and workplaces by wearing blue clothing. (New Brunswick)   |
| 18 | <a href="#">International Migrants Day</a>                      | Declared by the UN, this is a day to honour the international convention on the protection of the rights of migrants. (International)  |
| 20 | <a href="#">International Human Solidarity Day</a>              | 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 | <a href="#">Winter Solstice</a>                                 | 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) |
| 24 | <a href="#">Christmas Eve</a>                                   | 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 | <a href="#">Christmas Day</a>                                   | 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 | <a href="#">Boxing Day</a>                                      | The day after Christmas Day was traditionally celebrated as the day tradesmen and servants would receive gifts from their employers. (International)   |
| 26 | <a href="#">Zartosht No-Diso / Death of Prophet Zarathustra</a> | This day marks the death of the founder of the Zoroastrian faith. (Zoroastrianism)   |