

Celebrate All Year Round

Mark your calendar with dates significant to human rights and diversity. The United Nations (UN) designates international days to focus the world on issues in which the UN has an interest and commitment. The following dates are recognized by the United Nations, the Government of Canada or the Alberta Government. Plan or attend events that recognize and celebrate these dates.

JANUARY

January 27
International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
Honour Holocaust victims and learn how to prevent future acts of genocide.

FEBRUARY

Black History Month
Celebrate the contributions of the Black community to our country, province and community.

First week in February
International Development Week
Discover how Canada and Canadians are impacting others around the world.

February 21
International Mother Language Day
Promote multilingual education and encourage linguistic diversity.

MARCH

March 8
International Women's Day
Celebrate the progress made in women's rights.

March 21
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
End racism and foster inclusion, respect and equality for all people.

March 21 – 28
Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination
Work together to eradicate racism.

APRIL

April 17
Equality Day
Celebrate the anniversary of Section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms that provides for equality.

April/May
(dependent on the Jewish calendar)
Holocaust Memorial Day (Yom ha-Shoah)
Reflect on the enduring lessons of the Holocaust, raise awareness and endeavour to end genocide, persecution, racism and hatred.

MAY

Asian Heritage Month
Celebrate the contributions of the Asian community to our country, province and community.

May 15
International Day of Families
Take time for your family.

May 17
International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia
Eliminate stigma and discrimination faced by gay, lesbian and transgender populations.

May 21
World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
Implement policies that recognize the benefits of our diversity.

JUNE

June 20
World Refugee Day
Advocate for the rights of refugees.

June 21 – July 1
Celebrate Canada
Eleven days of celebration including:
National Aboriginal Day (June 21)
Saint-Jean Baptiste Day (June 24)
Multiculturalism Day (June 27)
Canada Day (July 1)

June 21
National Aboriginal Day
Learn more about Aboriginal cultures.

June 24

Saint-Jean Baptiste Day

Enjoy French Canadian culture and celebrate their contributions to Canadian society.

June 27

Multiculturalism Day

Take pride in your ancestry and create opportunities for everyone to feel welcome.

JULY

July 1

Canada Day

Celebrate what it means to be Canadian.

July 18

Nelson Mandela International Day

Strive for a democratic and free society in which everyone lives together in harmony and with equal opportunities.

AUGUST

First Monday in August

Alberta Heritage Day

Recognize the cultural heritage of Alberta and celebrate your own.

August 9

International Day of the World's Indigenous People

Learn more about Canada's Aboriginal peoples.

August 12

International Youth Day

Acknowledge the youth in your life.

SEPTEMBER

September 8

International Literacy Day

Reflect on the right to an education and the role literacy plays in our lives.

September 21

International Day of Peace

Work for peaceful resolution of conflicts in your family, your community and in our society.

OCTOBER

Women's History Month

Celebrate the contributions of women to Canadian society.

October 1

International Day of Older Persons

Honour the contributions older people make in your community.

October 10

World Mental Health Day

Take care of your mental health and wellbeing.

October 11

International Day of the Girl Child

Recognize girls' rights and the unique issues facing girls around the world.

October 17

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Support efforts to eliminate poverty.

October 18

Persons Day

Mark the anniversary of women being declared "persons" in law.

Third Week in October

Citizenship Week

Show you are proud to be Canadian.

October 24

United Nations Day

Celebrate and learn about the work of the United Nations.

NOVEMBER

Family Violence Prevention Month

Prevent and end family violence.

November 5 – 11

Veterans Week

Reflect on the many Canadian men and women who gave their lives to protect our democratic way of life.

Third week in November

National Bullying Awareness Week

Prevent bullying in our communities, schools and workplaces.

November 16

International Day for Tolerance

Move beyond tolerance to acceptance and inclusion.

November 20

Universal Children's Day

Celebrate those rights that allow children to grow and prosper without harm.

Fourth Saturday in November

Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day

Remember the famine and genocide victims and educate to prevent future acts of genocide.

November 25

International Day to End Violence Against Women

Work to end gender violence.

November 25 – December 10

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence

Prevent violence in all its forms.

DECEMBER

December 2

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

Discuss circumstances for how slavery is continuing and work to eliminate them.

December 3

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Raise awareness of the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.

December 6

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Remember the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre when 14 women were murdered at École Polytechnique and speak out about violence against women.

December 10

Human Rights Day

Celebrate our human rights and fundamental freedoms by hosting an event, undertaking an activity or taking action.

For more information about these significant days and links to more information, visit:

www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca/education/dates.asp

Visit www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca to learn about the programs and services of the Alberta Human Rights Commission.

Call 403-297-8407

(toll-free within Alberta by first dialing 310-0000) or email educationcommunityservices@gov.ab.ca.



Alberta
Human Rights Commission

Alberta
Government

