



Project Lead: Dr. Christine Slavik

This Labyrinth at the University of the Fraser Valley was constructed in 2020 and designed to bring peace and ease to all who use it. We welcome everyone and show consideration and respect for all experiences. We all journey our paths together. May your Labyrinth experience

strengthen the connection within you that brings you to your highest and best. It is when we join together in this intention, change for the good of all beings becomes reality. Find it on the UFV Abbotsford campus tucked between the Library and U House.

Engaging learners, transforming lives,
building community.

yoystexw ye totilthet, ayeqet kw'e
shxwaylexws, thayt kw'e st'elt'elawtexw



Printed by the UFV Print Services

In 2021, the President's Office, along with a working group of the President's Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion created an EDI wall calendar. The goal was for it to be a catalyst for discussion, reflection, action, and collaboration. The feedback from students, employees, and community members was incredibly positive, and so the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office is pleased to share with you the 2022 edition.

Given the significant challenges of the last two years and the inequities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic and the ongoing pandemic constraints, recurrent themes of the art inside are hope, joy, and transformation. There is hope for the future and there is determined effort to make space for joy amidst the ongoing transformation.

A sincere thank you to the artists who have generously shared their art and stories with the UFV community – this calendar would not be possible without you. Thank you also to Irene Ou for designing the calendar, and the UFV Print Services team for printing and assembling the final version you are reading today.

This calendar highlights significant dates and events throughout the year. Included here are public and statutory holidays, secular and religious, as well as cultural and creed-based commemorative or celebratory observances and holidays.

Due to diverse calendar systems observed by various faith groups (sometimes with differing ecclesiastical declarations between different denominations), creed groups, and cultural groups, as well as diversity within each respective group, and different family and individual observances, some variances in these dates do occur.

It is important to remember that this is not an exhaustive list nor is the calendar a static document. Some of these dates are subject to change and will be updated in the digital version. Also, we have endeavored to be thorough and mindful in terms of accuracy of the content. Should you have requests for updates or revisions, if you discover any errors, or if you have any questions, please connect with Sundeep Hans, Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at Sundeep.Hans@ufv.ca.



JANUARY

01/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Japanese New Year begins Stat Holiday – New Year's Day
2	3	4 • World Braille Day • Japanese New Year ends	5 Twelfth Night	6	7 • Feast of the Nativity • Christmas Day * (Eastern Christianity (EC) and Rastafarianism)	8
9 Gurpurab; Birth of Guru Gobind Singh Ji	10	11	12	13 Lohri	14 Thai Pongal begins	15
16 World Religion Day	17 • Martin Luther King Day • Thai Pongal ends	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 • International Day of Education • World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture	25	26 Bell Let's Talk Day	27 • Family Literacy Day • International Holocaust Remembrance Day	28	29 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia
30	31	• International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024 • Tamil Heritage Month				

Artwork Notes

**Artist: Michelle Msami (She/Her) | Title: The Diaspora of Black Lives
Acrylic, 2021**

My artwork is a conglomerate of flags from the depths of Africa to the Caribbean. The Black Lives Matter movement is not something that started last year; this has been an ongoing battle since the dawn of time. Since colonizers promised us a fruitful afterlife for suffering at their hands.

My artwork is our identity. It is Black history and Black culture. Living in this dystopia we call home, fighting for Justice, fighting for the right to be heard. Fighting for the right to leave our homes without the sound of death calling our name, my artwork is a reflection. I know every Black person can identify their roots here. I know that they can feel a sense of belonging when the world is fighting for them to feel alien. I know my work will bring us together because united we stand and divided, we fall.



FEBRUARY

02/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 • World Interfaith Harmony Week begins • Lunar New Year • Imbolc	2 Indian Control of Indian Education	3 Setsunbun-Sai	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Moose Hide Campaign	11	12
13	14 St. Valentine's Day	15 Nirvana Day	16 • Magha Puja Day • Purim begins	17 • Random Act of Kindness Day • Purim ends	18	19
20 World Day of Social Justice	21 International Mother Language Day Stat Holiday – Family Day	22	23 Pink Shirt Day	24	25	26
27	28 Isra'a and Mi'raj					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black History Month • Heritage Week in BC (21-27) 						

Artwork Notes

Photo Credit: Darren McDonald

Text taken from a Faculty of Science blog post written by Caroline Majeau: In September 2021, staff and faculty from the Faculty of Science had the pleasure of spending the day with Naxaxalhts'i, also known as Albert (Sonny) McHalsie, and explored the cultural landscape of the beautiful Stó:lō territory. He narrated the land – telling the Sxowxiyám and Swelqwels, the legends and the stories, that gave shape to the Stó:lō culture, history and people. The group enjoyed

the majestic mountains and waterways of the Upper Fraser Valley. The "Bad Rock" Place Names tour departed from Chilliwack and traveled towards the scenic Fraser Canyon above historic Yale, BC. We learned about the unique relationship between the Stó:lō, "the River People", their land and their environment. Naxaxalhts'i is a Cultural Advisor and Stó:lō Historian for the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre. If you are interested in arranging a Place Names Tour for your department or organization, please contact Carol Dickson, UFV Coordinator of Indigenous Initiatives at Carol.Dickson@ufv.ca.



MARCH

03/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 • Disability Day of Mourning • Zero Discrimination Day • 'Ala' 19-Day Fast begins • Mahashivaratri	2 • Ash Wednesday • Lent (Western Christianity (WC)) begins	3	4	5
6	7 • Lent (EC) beings • Clean Monday	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 • St. Patrick's Day • Holi begins	18 • Holi ends • Hola Mohalla begins	19
20 • Hola Mohalla ends • Ostara/Spring Equinox	21 • Int'l Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination • Nowruz (Persian New Year) • World Down Syndrome Day	22	23	24	25 International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery	26 Purple Day (Epilepsy Awareness)
27	28	29	30	31 • National Aboriginal Languages Day • International Transgender Day of Visibility		

Artwork Notes

Artist: Rain Neeposh (He/Him) | Title: We Keep Us Safe | Acrylic, 2021

State violence doesn't discriminate between the strong or the weak. It doesn't show empathy or mercy. It robs the most vulnerable of us of our agency. Even then, as we're backed into the corner, we still hold each other and try to keep us safe. The Panther wraps its arm around a child protectively. The boy, dressed in a dark hoodie, sits on the floor with his face tucked into the

shoulder of the cat. He has one hand behind his back, and one hand up. Both are empty. The upper two thirds of the canvas are also empty. The painting sits on the floor, forcing the viewer to look down at the two subjects. The Panther stares back at you, its face twisted in a scream. Its ears are flat, and its tail tucked under it. Its glowing yellow eyes are wide, and it's unclear if there is rage or terror in them. But no matter where you stand, it's looking at you.



APRIL

04/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 • World Autism Day • Ramadan begins
3	4	5	6	7 World Health Day	8	9
10	11	12	13 International Day of Pink	14 Vaisakhi/Baisakhi	15 Pesach/Passover begins Stat Holiday – Good Friday	16 Lent ends (WC)
17 Easter Sunday	18 Easter Monday	19	20 First Day of Ridvan	21	22 Earth Day	23 • Lent ends (WC) • Pesach/Passover ends
24	25	26 Lesbian Visibility Day	27	28	29 • Laylat-al-Qadr • Ninth Day of Ridvan	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sikh Heritage Month • First Salmon • Global Youth Service Days (April 29-May 1) 						

Artwork Notes

Artist: Zoe Strazza (She/Her), Senior Advisor, Human Resources
Title: Joy of Life | Acrylic, 2021

Lotus is one of the most beautiful flowers, which can only grow in the mud and whose petals open one by one. While the roots of the lotus grow in the mud, the flower itself blossoms and rises above the water. Buddhists see it as a beautiful metaphor for our life. Mud represents the suffering and

obstacles of life, and the lotus flower symbolizes our journey of overcoming these obstacles. All of us face similar challenges in life: sadness, illness, loneliness, disappointment, failure, fear, and death. Through these experiences, we gain more wisdom, compassion, kindness, and learn how to rise above the mud of the environment. We should all strive to become a better version of ourselves as we grow and overcome obstacles in life one by one – just like the lotus flower opens each petal one by one.



MAY

05/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Beltane	2 • Twelfth Day of Ridvan • Ramadan ends • Eid al-Fitr	3	4	5 National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia	18	19	20	21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
22	23 Komagata Maru Remembrance Day (Vancouver) Stat Holiday – Victoria Day	24 • Pansexual Visibility Day • Declaration Of the Bab	25	26 Ascension Day	27	28
29 • Ascension of Baha'u'llah • National Accessibility Week begins	30	31				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asian Heritage Month • Speech and Hearing Awareness Month • Jewish Heritage Month • National Elizabeth Fry Week (2-8) 						

Artwork Notes

Artist: shannon pahladsingh (nonbinary she/her/hers)
Title: *oh, thank goodness spoken word poem, 2021*

Covert racism refers to a form of "socially acceptable" discrimination that perpetuates bias towards Indigenous, Black, and people of colour (IBPOC). *oh, thank goodness* centres around my lived experience of institutional covert racism and my feelings of exploitation, objectification, and

minimization as a queer, nonbinary person of colour in a white workplace. Placing a seemingly innocent sentence against this context, I ask if such a microaggression can be labelled as "micro" when the experience of covert racism is macro for IBPOC. As my voice physically fills the space, my experience is not left to the interpretation of the viewer. My words are wholly concrete, final, and mine.



JUNE

06/2022

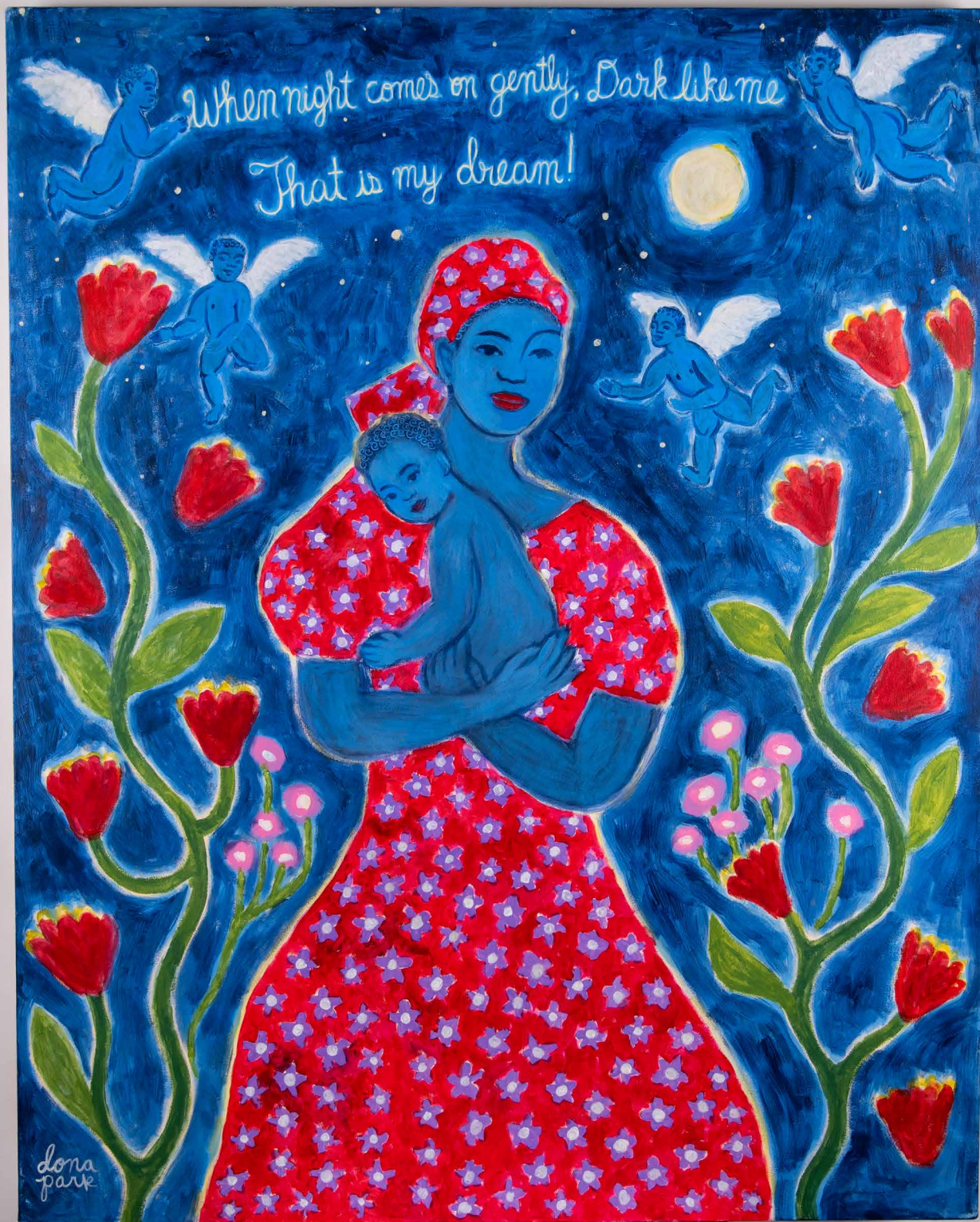
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1		2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19 • Father's Day • Juneteenth/Emancipation Day (US)	20 World Refugee Day	21 • Summer Solstice • National Indigenous Peoples Day	22	23	24 Litha	25	
26	27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day	28	29	30			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pride Month • National Indigenous History Month • Italian Heritage Month • Filipino Heritage Month 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portuguese Heritage Month • Stonewall Riots (28-July 3) • St. Mary's Indian Residential School closed on May 30, 1984 • Coqualeetza Indian Residential School closed on May 30, 1940 					

Artwork Notes

Bradley Nguyen (He/Him/His), 2SLGBTQIA+ Student Assistant, UFV
 When I was young and newly out of the closet, I saw 2SLGBTQ flags for many communities, yet groups that have been historically excluded continued to be overlooked here as well. The community is incredibly diverse, and this diversity wasn't adequately represented. In 2017, Philadelphia's Office of LGBT Affairs introduced black and brown stripes to the Pride flag to recognize queer and trans people of colour. One year later, the Oregon-based graphic designer Daniel Quasar added the trans flag's lines as a horizontal chevron to make the Progress Pride Flag. Last year, at UFV we raised this Progress Pride flag.

And although not pictured here, this year, 2021, brought another version from Intersex Equality Rights UK, featuring a yellow triangle and purple circle to represent the intersex community or people born with reproductive anatomy, chromosomes, and hormones that don't fit the binary male or female definitions. The flag places greater emphasis on inclusion and progression. There are flags representing the asexual, the non-binary, genderqueer, and the gender fluid communities. All of this raise awareness of lesser-known identities where more and more people can see themselves represented. We need to remain open and purposefully work towards transformation by moving forward and being inclusive of all of the diversity within the broader 2SLGBTQ community.



JULY

07/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Stat Holiday – Canada Day	2
3 St. Thomas Day	4	5	6	7	8	9 Eid al-Adha begins
10 Non-Binary Awareness Week begins	11 St. Benedict Day	12	13 • Dharma Day • Eid al-Adha ends	14 International Non-Binary People's Day	15	16
17 International Justice Day	18 Nelson Mandela International Day	19	20 Civil Marriage Act (2005)	21	22	23 Birthday of Emperor Haile Selassie
24 Pioneer Day	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Artwork Notes

Artist: Dona Park (She/Her) | Title: Gentle Night | Acrylic, 2021

For the full artist's notes, please visit www.abbotsfordblm.ca/dona-park

When I saw the opportunity to create art to support the BLM movement, I wanted to embrace the idea of tenderness and beauty of the Black figures and individuals: the tenderness between a mother and child, in the wake of the night. I wanted to create a pocket of respite in the face of injustice; there is always agency and beauty in marginalized communities, as well as strength that

comes from gentleness of unbreakable relationships. I've added the stanzas 'When night comes on gently / Dark like me - / That is my dream!' which is from Langston Hughes' poem "Dream Variations." The poem serves as a theme on how the dark and the nighttime is beautiful, and I see it as a direct contrast to what we are socially acclimated to: white is beautiful, pure, and sacred. The small tutti floating around the painting is a reference to Eartha Kitt singing "Black Little Angels" where she questions, "When I walk into a church, I only see paintings of white angels. Why?" The lyrics are by a Venezuelan poet, Andres Eloy Blanco and is an anthem against racial discrimination.



AUGUST

08/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Emancipation Day (CA) Stat Holiday – B.C. Day	2	3	4	5 Tisha B'AV begins	6 •Tisha B'AV ends •Feast of the Transfiguration
7 Ashura begins	8 Ashura ends	9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People	10	11	12 International Youth Day	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Artwork Notes

Artist: Chantelle Trainor-Matties

Chantelle was chosen as the 2021 winner of the UFV Alumni commemorative wine label competition. Chantelle is an artist with Nisga'a and Métis heritage who graduated in 2020 with her Visual Arts diploma from the School of Creative Arts at UFV. She specializes in illustration, graphic design, and painting.

Hummingbird: My grandmother loved to fill the hummingbird feeders while watching the little rainbows peek in the window waiting for their nectar and sharing that joy with my mother. When

grandma was sick in the hospital, she asked my mom to feed them. After her passing my mother saw many hummingbirds around her home; she had never seen them up close like that. She continues to feed the hummingbirds, smiling as they flutter by reminding her of her own mother. Indigenous teachings say the hummingbird symbolizes love, beauty, and joy.

Beaver: The hard-working beaver is one of the official symbols of Canada. These little carpenters and engineers work as a team to take care of their own as well as the environment, building dams to house their families and maintain river systems. Indigenous teachings say that the beaver also symbolizes strength, creativity, and harmony.



SEPTEMBER

09/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Mennonite Heritage Week begins Stat Holiday - Labour Day	6	7	8	9	10 Mid Autumn Festival/ Mooncake Festival
11 Ethiopian New Year	12	13	14	15	16 Arba'een begins	17 • Bisexual Awareness Week begins (ends Sept 24) • Arba'een ends
18	19	20	21 International Day of Peace	22 Fall Equinox	23 • International Day of Sign Language • Bisexual Visibility Day	24 Culture Days begin
25 Rosh Hashanah begins	26 Navaratri begins (ends Oct 4)	27 Rosh Hashanah ends	28	29	30 Orange Shirt Day/ National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	

Artwork Notes

Title: Indigenous Teaching Garden | Photographed by: Mitch Huttema

Showcasing carvings, benches, newly designed walkways, and Indigenous plants, UFV's Indigenous Teaching Garden offers a peaceful and reflective spot to expand one's education. The carvings created by carver Rocky LaRock were carved from repurposed cedar trees that were going to be

removed, but a way was found to save them. The garden aims to create spaces of beauty, healing, and contemplation — spaces to reflect on Reconciliation where schools from all around Stó:lō Temexw will bring students to use as a teaching space. Find it tucked beside the Student Union Building on Abbotsford's campus.



OCTOBER

10/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 International Day for Older Persons
2	3	4 • Sisters in Spirit Vigil • National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls • Yom Kippur begins	5 International World Teacher Day	6 Yom Kippur ends	7	8 International Lesbian Day
9	10 • World Mental Health Day • Stat Holiday - Thanksgiving	11 • National Coming Out Day • International Day of the Girl Child	12	13 World Sight Day	14	15 International Day of Rural Women
16 Culture Days end	17	18 Persons Day	19 International Pronoun Day	20 • Spirit Day (Anti-Bullying) • Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth Sahib Ji	21	22
23	24 • Diwali • Bandi Chorr Divas	25	26 Birth of the Bab	27 Birth of Baha'u'llah	28	29
30	31 Samhain	• LGBT History Month • National Disability Employment Awareness Month • Learning Disabilities Awareness Month • Islamic History Month			• Women's History Month • Mental Health Awareness Month • Latin American Heritage Month • Stó:lō New Year	

Artwork Notes

Title: "Horse as Healer"

The original image was transformed from photo to art by Celina Koops, UFV Community Health and Social Innovation (CHASI) Hub. The image is of a man who is a wheelchair user and his horse. It was Winston Churchill who said,

"There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man." Horses have been partners with humans for several thousand years. In modern society horses are often used in therapeutic settings, for people with various disabilities and conditions, from physical, neurological, and mental health.



TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE. NOVEMBER 20

It's important for us all to reflect on the lives lost, to educate ourselves on the experiences of the Transgender community and support each other in creating a more equitable safe world for our friends, family and community members in the Transgender community.

NOVEMBER

11/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 All Saints' Day	2 Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)	3	4	5 Veterans' Week begins
6 Trans Parent Day	7 International Inuit Day	8 National Indigenous Veterans Day	9	10	11 Stat Holiday - Remembrance Day	12
13 • World Kindness Day • Transgender Awareness Week begins	14	15	16 • International Day of Tolerance • Louis Riel Day	17	18	19 • International Men's Day • World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse
20 • International Transgender Day of Remembrance • Universal Children's Day	21	22	23	24 • Constitution Express left Vancouver for Ottawa in 1980 • Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji	25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	26
27	28	29 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People	30			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movember (Men's Health Awareness) • Multiculturalism Week in BC (3rd week) 						

Artwork Notes

Created by: UFV Student Union Society

This image is used by the UFV Student Union Society annually to acknowledge the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Over the years, we have lost too many transgender individuals due to feeling

misunderstood and not heard. Every day we strive to change the narrative and influence ourselves to become more educated on making this community more inclusive to all. The Transgender Day of Remembrance aims to raise awareness of the losses due to anti-transgender hatred and violence. Your life matters. Your voice matters. Your story matters.



DECEMBER

12/2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery	3 International Day of Disabled Persons
4	5	6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women	7	8 Bodhi Day	9	10 Human Rights Day
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Hanukkah begins (ends Dec 26)	19	20	21 • Winter Solstice • Yule begins (ends Jan 1, 2023)	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Stat Holiday – Christmas Day	26 • Boxing Day • Zarathosht Diso • Kwanzaa begins (ends Jan 1, 2023)	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

Artwork Notes

Artist: Faria Firoz (She/Her) | Title: The Firefly | Oil, 2021

Your skin is your identity and not a crime! No one should ever have to endure injustice based on the color of their skin. Incidents of police brutality and racially motivated violence against the Black community have given rise to Black Lives Matter, a social movement which works to eradicate white supremacy and dismantle racism. The Black Lives Matter Social Justice Art Project promotes Blackness, supports healing, and reflects harmony. My project features a portrait of a Black woman who looks directly at the viewers with flames in her eyes. Adorned in a traditional gown, she stands

strong in a powerful position with her hands clenched into a fist, resembling political solidarity. Her blazing eyes fueled by desire, confronts the viewers by enraging, encouraging, and inspiring them to join her fight against racial injustice and brutality. The Firefly serves as a reminder for all of the innocent lives lost. This portrait depicts the strength of the Black community and how they have put up a front against the unjust society of white supremacists. The Firefly strives to bring justice, strength, healing, and freedom to the Black community and spread awareness to spark a conversation that would eventually instigate a change.

***The United Nations declared 2015 to 2024 the **Decade of Peoples of African Descent**: Aimed to strengthen actions and measures for the full realization of the economic, social, cultural, civil, and political rights of people of African descent, and their full and equal participation in society. The operational framework themed "Recognition, Justice and Development" encourages States to eradicate social injustices, fight against racism, and the racial discrimination to which peoples of African descent are still subjected to.

JANUARY

Tamil Heritage Month: Since 2016, this month celebrates Tamil heritage and culture, as well as the contributions of Tamil-Canadians to Canada. Canada is home to one of the largest Tamil diasporas in the world.

Oshogatsu (Japanese New Year): Is the most important holiday in Japan. The end of the old year and the beginning of the New Year are very important times in Japan. Rooted in the Shinto (Indigenous or nature religion of Japan) tradition, this day is marked by visits to shrines and is the most popular shared national event in Japan. The essence of Shinto is the Japanese devotion to invisible spiritual beings and powers called kami, to shrines, and to various rituals.

World Braille Day: Observed to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people.

Twelfth Night: Observed by some Christians and is a festival marking the coming of Epiphany. It concludes the twelfth day of Christmas.

Feast of the Nativity: Celebrated as one of the most joyful days of the Orthodox Church. The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus is also known as the "Incarnation of Christ" and is observed as the day that Jesus became a man and came into the world as the saviour.

Christmas Day (Eastern Christianity (EC) and Rastafarianism): On this day, some Eastern Orthodox Christians and Rastafarians (who observe the bible and traditions of the Ethiopian Orthodox church) celebrate the birth of Jesus according to the old Julian calendar, which is currently 13 days behind the Gregorian or Western calendar. It’s observed as Ethiopian Christmas by those of the Rastafarian faith and is marked by a large vegetarian or vegan feast.

Gurpurab of Guru Gobind Singh Ji: Is the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Sikh Guru. He declared that the Scriptures would be the Sikh’s Guru from that time on. Sikhs celebrate this occasion through prayers at home or at the Gurdwara, which take place in the month of December or January every year, as per the Gregorian calendar.

Lohri: A traditional winter Punjabi folk festival, cele-

February

by creating free content that promotes kindness toward others and teaches important social emotional learning skills to kids.

World Day of Social Justice: Focuses on the plight of social injustice throughout the world and presses for improvements and solutions. Promoting human rights, removing artificial social barriers based on race, gender, or religion, and standing up for the rights of migrants, the disabled, and the elderly are among the observance’s themes on any given year.

International Mother Language Day: Promotes the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world, and promotes unity in diversity and international understanding, through multilingualism and multiculturalism.

Pink Shirt Day: Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. Each year, on Pink Shirt Day, people wear something pink to symbolize that we, as a society, will not tolerate bullying anywhere.

Isra’a and Mi’raj: Also known as the Night Journey, this day commemorates the Prophet Muhammad’s journey from Mecca to Jerusalem, then his ascent into to heaven. Muslims consider it both a physical and spiritual journey that was assisted by Allah.

MARCH

Disability Day of Mourning: Is a day to remember the victims of filicide – people with disabilities murdered by their family members. Vigils are held on this day in cities around the world.

Zero Discrimination Day: Is an annual day celebrated each year by the UN and other international organizations. This day aims to promote equality before the law and in practice throughout all the member countries of the UN.

Ala: Is a 19-day fast observed by followers of the Bahá’í faith. ‘Ala’ is the nineteenth and final month of the Bahá’í year, and the fast is observed in preparation for Nowruz. Those who are healthy and of age abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset.

Mahashivaratri: Is a major festival in Hinduism dedicated to Lord Shiva, one of the major deities to whom Hindus direct their devotion. It is celebrated annually, and the name also refers to the night when Lord Shiva performs the heavenly dance. The festival is solemn and marks a remembrance of "overcoming darkness and ignorance" in life and the world. It is observed by remembering through chanting prayers, fasting, and meditating on ethics and virtues such as honesty, charity, and forgiveness.

Ash Wednesday: Is a Christian holy day that marks the first day of the season of Lent, a 40-day period

brated primarily by Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims from the Punjab and surrounding regions to mark the harvest season in the northern part of the Indian subcontinent.

Thai Pongal: Following the solar calendar, this traditional harvest festival is observed by all Tamils in India, Sri Lanka, and other countries with a Tamil diaspora.

World Religion Day: Started by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá’í Faith, it is an annual celebration of the teachings of unity found in all religions. The Bahá’í faith emphasizes universal equality and unity, and the value of all religions. It is celebrated every January on the third Sunday of the month.

Martin Luther King Day: This day commemorates the important civil rights activist. He was a leader in the movement to end racial segregation in the United States. He was an advocate of non-violent protest and became the youngest man to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Shortly after his assassination in 1968, a campaign was started for his birthday to become a holiday to honor him.

International Day of Education: This day celebrates the role of education for peace and development.

World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture: Established by UNESCO in 2019, this day aims to celebrate 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.

Family Literacy Day: This is a national initiative that promotes the importance of reading and learning together as a family. Family Literacy Day originated with the ABC Canada Literacy Foundation and founding Family Literacy Day sponsor, Honda Canada.

Bell Let’s Talk Day: An awareness campaign created in 2010 by the Canadian telecommunications company, Bell Canada, to raise awareness and combat stigma surrounding mental illness in Canada. Millions of Canadians, including leading personalities, engage in an open discussion about mental illness, offering new ideas and hope for those who struggle.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day: Designated on November 1, 2005, by the United Nations General Assembly. The UN urges member states to honour the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism and to develop educational programs to prevent future genocides. Coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, a Nazi Concentration and Extermination camp by Soviet troops in 1945, this day is a time to reaffirm commitments to counter antisemitism, racism, and other forms of intolerance that may lead to group-targeted violence.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islam-

March

observed by Western Christians, of prayer, repentance, and self-denial that precedes Easter. It derives its name from the practice of repentance ashes that are placed on the foreheads of participants on this day.

Lent Begins (WC March 2, EC March 7): This solemn Christian observance commemorates the 40 days that Jesus Christ spent fasting in the desert according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, where he was tempted by Satan. It is observed by most Christian groups, but the days that are enumerated differ between denominations. Lent is a season of grief that ends with a great celebration of Easter. During this time, many Christians commit to fasting, as well as giving up certain luxuries in imitation of Jesus Christ’s sacrifice during his journey into the desert for 40 days.

Clean Monday: In many of the Eastern Christianity traditions, Clean Monday is the Monday that occurs seven weeks before Easter and begins the season of Great Lent in Eastern Orthodox Churches.

International Women’s Day: Celebrates the social, cultural, economic, and political achievements of women across the globe. Far from singling out women, the day focuses on unity, equality, and advocacy especially in a world where the differences and injustices between women and men are as great as ever.

St. Patrick’s Day: Is both a cultural and religious celebration of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. It is observed as a religious holy day, an official Christian feast day by the Catholic Church, Anglican Communion, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church. This day is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, and the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and is widely celebrated across the U.K., USA, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand and the Irish diaspora, as a celebration of the heritage and culture of the Irish. The day is often marked through public parades and festivals and the donning of green clothes and shamrocks.

Holi: Is a popular ancient Hindu festival, also known as the Indian "festival of spring", the "festival of colours", or the "festival of love". The festival signifies the victory of good over evil. It originated and is predominantly celebrated in India but has also spread to other regions of Asia and parts of the Western world through the diaspora from the Indian subcontinent.

Hola Mohalla: Is a three day long Sikh festival that usually falls in March. It commemorates and celebrates a martial tradition established by Guru Gobind Singh Ji (the tenth Guru of the Sikhs), and either follows the Hindu festival of Holi by one day or coincides with it; Hola is the masculine form of the feminine sounding Holi.

Ostara/Spring Equinox: Celebrates the spring equinox. The word Ostara comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess

ophobia: On January 28, 2021, the federal government announced that January 29 will become a national day of remembrance for the 2017 Quebec City terror attack on a mosque. The day honours the six victims and expresses solidarity with the nineteen survivors of the attack and the Muslim communities across Canada and the world. This day promotes action against Islamophobia and recognizes that hatred, radicalization, and the denial of these realities were at the root of this attack, and that everybody has a responsibility to combat discrimination and continue to build a more inclusive Canada.

FEBRUARY

Black History Month: A time to learn about the many important contributions of Black Canadians to the settlement, growth, and development of Canada, and about the diversity of Black communities in Canada and their importance to the history of this country.

Heritage Week in BC: Every year Heritage BC marks this week with a poster that is sent throughout the province to libraries, schools, municipal offices, and politicians.

World Interfaith Harmony Week: This week celebrates the principles of tolerance and respect for others that are deeply rooted in the world’s major religions. The day also calls for solidarity in the face of those who spread misunderstanding and mistrust.

Lunar New Year: This is a celebration of the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. Marking the end of winter and the beginning of the spring season, observances traditionally take place from New Year’s Eve, the evening preceding the first day of the year, to the Lantern Festival, held on the 15th day of the year.

Imbolc: One of the four ancient Celtic Fire festivals, this day celebrates the Earth’s regeneration and the increasing strength of God. Historically, it has been observed throughout Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man.

Indian Control of Indian Education: In February 1973, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development gave official recognition to the policy statement of the National Indian Brotherhood entitled Indian Control of Indian Education. This national policy is based on statements of provincial/territorial Indian organizations encompassing all areas of concern in Indian education. It had its origin in the concern of parents for the academic failure experienced by their children in federal and provincial schools over the past many years. The policy is based on two education principles recognized in Canadian society: parental responsibility and local control. It recognizes that Indian parents must enjoy the same fundamental decision-making rights about their children’s education as other parents across Canada. It promotes the fundamental concept of local control which distinguishes the free political system of

April

name, Eostre. Eostre represented spring, new beginnings, and the greening of the earth. Like many other spring celebrations in other cultures, Ostara symbolizes fertility, rebirth, and renewal, and also marks the beginning of the agricultural cycle when farmers plant seeds. This celebration of spring is present in many ancient customs and is observed by Wiccans and Pagans through meditating outdoors or by planting seeds.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: This day was proclaimed by the UN in 1966. On March 21, 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid "pass laws". This day is an opportunity for all people to renew their commitment to building a world of justice, equality, and dignity, where racial discrimination has no place.

Nowruz (Persian New Year): Is celebrated by millions of people around the world in honour of spring and the new year. While its origins are Zoroastrian and Persian, it has been celebrated for over 3000 years by people living in today’s Iran, Afghanistan, other parts of Western and Central Asia, including Turkey, the Balkans, the Caucasus regions, and by the Parsi (Zoroastrian) community in India. Nowruz is a secular holiday for many people and is enjoyed by people of several different faiths, but it remains a holy day for Zoroastrians, Bahá’ís, and some Muslim communities.

World Down Syndrome Day: Is observed to raise public awareness about down syndrome and those who have this condition. The date of March 21 was chosen to symbolise the fact that down syndrome results from the triplication of the twenty-first chromosome. The focus of the day is not just on the situation and needs of those with down syndrome worldwide but also on their valuable contributions to human society, respecting their rights, and ensuring their inclusion in all of human social life.

International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade: For over 400 years, more than 15 million men, women, and children were the victims of the tragic transatlantic slave trade. In 2007, the UN designated March 25 as an international day to honour and remember those who suffered and died because of the transatlantic slave trade. The day also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

Purple Day: Started in 2008 by then nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia as a grassroots campaign dedicated to increasing awareness of epilepsy worldwide. On this day, people from around the globe are asked to wear purple and spread the word about epilepsy. Diagnosed at age 7, Cassidy was motivated by her own struggles to create an international day for epilepsy awareness.

National Aboriginal Languages Day: This day was established by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN)

democratic governments from those of a totalitarian nature.

Setsunbun-Sai: Also called Risshun, it is known as the bean-throwing festival and marks the day before the official calendar beginning of spring and the end of winter. When this day is celebrated at home, a male member of the family will scatter roasted beans, saying "demons out, good luck in", and when celebrated at shrines, lucky beans are thrown into the congregation, and they attempt to catch them.

Moose Hide Campaign: An Indigenous man named Paul Lacerte and his daughter Raven were hunting moose near the infamous Highway of Tears, a section of highway between Prince George and Prince Rupert, BC, where dozens of women have gone missing or been found murdered. They had the idea to use moose hide to inspire Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys to become involved in the movement to end violence towards women and children. Together with family and friends they cut up the moose hide into small squares and started the Moose Hide Campaign. Wearing moose hide signifies their commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in their lives and to work together to end violence against women and children.

St. Valentine’s Day: Originated as a Christian feast day honouring an early Christian martyr named Saint Valentine. Through later folk traditions it has become a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

Nirvana Day: Also known as Parinirvana in Mahayana Buddhism, it is the celebration of Buddha’s death when he reached total Nirvana at the age of 80. Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date. To mark this day, passages from the recitations of Nibbana Sutta or Nirvana Sutra describing Buddha’s last days of life are often read, or meditation and visits to Buddhist temples and monasteries take place.

Magha Puja Day: Is one of the most important Buddhist festivals, particularly for followers of the Theravada Buddhist tradition that live in the South and Southeast Asian countries of Laos, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Thailand. It marks the day that Buddha addressed a gathering of 1,250 Arahants (enlightened saints).

Purim: In the Jewish tradition this day commemorates the victory over an oppressive ruler, as related in the Book of Esther. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day. It is celebrated through exchanging gifts of food and drink, donating to charity, sharing meals, and the public recitation of the Scroll of Esther.

Random Acts of Kindness Day: Founded by The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, whose mission is to make kindness the norm™ in our schools, workplaces, homes, and communities. They work towards the goal

May

Chiefs-in-Assembly in 1989 to create awareness across Canada of the languages of the First Peoples, to build support for their preservation, and to honour the strength and endurance of the languages and cultures.

International Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV): Was founded by activist Rachel Crandall in 2009 as a day of celebrating trans peoples’ contributions to society and recognizing the discrimination they face.

APRIL

Sikh Heritage Month: This is a celebration of the contributions and aspirations of all Sikh-Canadians and helps to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of a rich, unique, and diverse heritage.

First Salmon Ceremony: Every year Stó:lō people along the Fraser River have a First Salmon Ceremony to show honour and respect to the Salmon for giving its life to nourish them. The first one caught is cooked in the traditional way and shared with everyone present at the ceremony. The bones are then collected and placed back into the river with a prayer thanking Chichelh Siyá:m for the salmon. The purpose of the ceremony is to ensure that there will be plenty of salmon for all Stó:lō families during the fishing season to provide for their nourishment in the winter months. The annual First Salmon Ceremony shows respect toward Stó:lō ancestors. Continuing Stó:lō culture and tradition will prove the existence of Shxweli in all living things great and small.

Global Youth Service Days: Is the largest youth service and civic action event in the world and the only one that celebrates and builds the capacity of all youth ages 5-25 to help our communities and democracy thrive by working together for the common good.

Ramadan/Ramzan: It is the ninth and most sacred month in the Islamic calendar. A month-long period of prayer, fasting, and charitable giving is observed. Muslims observe this as a time of self-accountability, and observances involve family and community joining together in prayer. It begins the morning after the crescent moon is sighted. For the entire month of Ramadan (the 29 or 30 days) Muslims fast from dawn-to-sunset. Traditionally, the crescent of the new moon signifies the beginning and end of fasting during Ramadan, and while this continues, astronomical calculations are now sometimes used by some groups for more consistency.

World Autism Awareness Day: Highlights 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.

World Health Day: Is held to mark the World Health Organization’s (WHO) founding and is seen as an opportunity by the organization to draw worldwide attention to a subject of major importance to global health each year.

International Day of Pink: Is dedicated to the cause against Bullying, Discrimination, Homophobia, Transphobia, and Transmisogyny around the world. You can celebrate diversity by wearing a pink t-shirt and participating in activities in your workplaces, schools, and communities.

Baisakhi, also known as Vaisakhi: Marks the Sikh new year and commemorates the formation of Khalsa panth of warriors under Guru Gobind Singh in 1699. Baisakhi is also an ancient festival in northern regions of India, marking the Solar New Year and celebrating the spring harvest.

Passover/Pesach: An important Jewish holiday that celebrates the exodus and liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. It falls in spring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan and is traditionally celebrated in the Land of Israel for seven days and for eight days among many Jews in the diaspora. It begins with a ritual meal, "Seder", where no leavened bread is consumed, celebrated with prayers, and symbolic foods. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.

Easter/Pascha: Is a Christian festival and cultural holiday that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead on the third day of his burial following his crucifixion. It is a joyous holiday because it represents the fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament and the revelation of God's plan for all of humankind, a defeat of death, and the hope of salvation.

First Day of Ridvan: Ridvan means paradise and is named for the Garden of Ridvan outside Baghdad, where Bahá'u'lláh stayed for twelve days. He made three declarations on the first day; he condemned religious war, declared that he was a Manifestation of God and there wouldn't be another for 1,000 years, and finally, that all the names of God were fully manifested in all things. Ridvan is a twelve-day festival, known as "the king of festivals" that commemorates the beginning of the Bahá'í faith and signifies the transformation of suffering and oppression into joy. The first, ninth, and the final day have special significance and are observed and celebrated through reflection, prayer, abstaining from work and taking part in gatherings, parties, and picnics.

Earth Day: An annual event to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by EarthDay.org including 1 billion people in more than 193 countries. On Earth Day 2016, the landmark Paris Agreement was signed by the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and 120 other countries. This signing satisfied a key requirement for the entry into force of the historic draft climate protection treaty adopted by consensus of the 195 nations present at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

Earth Day 2016

International Day of the Girl: Celebrates the lives of girls and women around the world. It is observed annually on October 11, the birthday of the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. It was first celebrated in 2012, and is now an official United Nations holiday.

ment and the twentieth century fight for LGBT rights in the United States.

World Refugee Day: The purpose of this day is to draw the public's attention to the millions of refugees and internally displaced persons worldwide who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, conflict, and persecution.

Juneteenth/Emancipation Day (US): While it has been celebrated annually in various parts of the country, it was officially recognized as a federal holiday in the United States in 2005. It is also known as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, and Black Independence Day, as it commemorates the anniversary of the June 19, 1965, emancipation of enslaved African Americans in Texas, which was the last state of the Confederacy with institutional slavery. Celebrations include singing traditional songs and the reading of works by noted African-American writers, street fairs, cookouts, and family reunions. Some Canadians observe this day as well with celebration and continued activism.

Summer Solstice: This is the longest day of the year. Over the centuries, the June solstice has inspired countless festivals, midsummer celebrations, and holidays.

National Indigenous Peoples Day: Is an official day of celebration to recognize and honour the heritage, cultures, and valuable contributions to society by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. National Indigenous Peoples Day is the same day as the summer solstice and was chosen for its important symbolism to many Indigenous Peoples.

Litha: On the longest day of the year, with gratitude, many Neopagans celebrate the sun's life-giving light and warmth. Wiccan and Pagan observance begin at sunset of the previous day.

Canadian Multiculturalism Day: Is an opportunity for all Canadians to celebrate and appreciate the contributions of the various multicultural groups and communities to Canadian society.

Coqualeetza Indian Residential School Closed on June 30, 1940: Methodist missionaries opened a day school at Coqualeetza, BC in 1886. The following year, they added a residence for boarding students. A new school, built in 1889, burned down in 1891. Starting in the 1920s, the school began teaching Aboriginal handicrafts. The principal, in an effort to decrease the institutional nature of the school, introduced cottages for younger students and semi-private rooms for older students in the 1930s. When the school closed in 1940, students were transferred to the Alberni school and the school building became the Coqualeetza Indian Hospital, a federally run tuberculosis hospital. The Coqualeetza Indian Hospital closed on Sept. 30, 1969.

St. Mary's Indian Residential School closed on June 30, 1984: Between the late 1800s and 1996, the Gov-

Lesbian Visibility Day: This day showcases women-loving-women, providing a platform for lesbian role models to speak out on the issues facing female-identified sexual minorities. This day, alongside all queer awareness days, is an integral part of moving towards an intersectional society where all are treated equally and fairly.

Laylat-al-Qadr: Falling on one of the last ten odd nights of Ramadan, it is considered the holiest of nights in the year because it is the night on which the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. Laylat al Qadr is Arabic for "The Night of Power." Observances include praying, reflecting, and reciting verses from the Qur'an and giving to those in need.

Ninth Day of Ridvan: This day commemorates a historic event in the Baha'i faith. On this day in April of 1863, Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Bahá'í faith, learned that he had been officially banished from the Ottoman Empire. Ridvan is a twelve-day festival that commemorates the beginning of the Bahá'í faith and signifies the transformation of suffering and oppression into joy. The first, ninth, and the final day have special significance and are observed and celebrated holidays through reflection, prayer, abstaining from work and taking part in gatherings, parties, and picnics.

MAY

Asian Heritage Month: Is an opportunity for all Canadians to learn more about the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian descent who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the amazing country we share today.

Jewish Heritage Month: Is a time to celebrate Jewish culture, heritage, history, and contributions in Canada, which is home to the fourth largest Jewish community in the world.

Speech and Hearing Awareness Month: Raises public awareness about communication health. It highlights the importance of early detection and intervention in the treatment of communication disorders, and the role that our members and associates play in helping people to "Speak well. Hear well. Live well."

National Elizabeth Fry Week: The goal of this week is to enhance public awareness and education around the victimization and criminalization of women in Canada. The aim is to break down the negative stereotypes that exist around women who are imprisoned and institutionalized and encourages productive and responsible community responses to criminal justice matters from coast to coast.

Beltane: One of the four ancient Celtic Fire festivals and marks the beginning of summer. Beltane celebrates the conjoining of the infinite potential of the Goddess with the life-sparking energy of the God in a sacred marriage, the basis of all creation. Wiccan and Pagan

The Indian Residential School System

ernment of Canada and church organizations operated the Indian Residential School System. An estimated 150,000 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children were removed from their families, homes, languages, and lands. These schools were part of Canada's official policy which aimed to eliminate Indigenous cultures and through assimilation cause Indigenous peoples to cease to exist. The first school opened in Mission, BC (St. Mary's) in 1867; it was the final school to close in BC in 1984.

JULY

International Non-Binary Awareness Week: This takes place the week preceding International Non-Binary People's Day. This awareness period is dedicated to people whose gender identity doesn't sit within the dominant gender binary of male or female. Non-Binary people may identify with neither, both, or vary between genders. Terms such as gender neutral, pangender, gender fluid, and genderqueer are sometimes also used.

St. Thomas Day: Is the feast day for St. Thomas and is observed on July 3 by most Christians across the world. St. Thomas was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ according to the New Testament.

Tishah B'av: Is an annual fast day in Judaism that commemorates a number of disasters that have occurred in Jewish history, but primarily it marks the destruction of both Solomon's Temple by the Neo-Babylonian Empire and the Second Temple by the Roman Empire in Jerusalem.

Eid al-Adha: Is one of the two official holidays celebrated in Islam. It follows Eid al-Fitr by just over two months and is also known as the Feast of Sacrifice or Festival of Sacrifice as it commemorates Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son to God as an act of obedience to God. It is around this time that many Muslims perform the Hajj to Mecca.

St. Benedict Day: Is the feast day of Saint Benedict of Nursia, who was proclaimed patron saint of all of Europe by Pope Paul VI and is recognized as the father of Western monasticism. The 'Benedictine Rule' became the norm for monastic groups in Europe.

Dharma Day: This festival marks the beginning of the Buddha's teaching. It is a special day for Theravada Buddhists in many countries including Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. It is seen as an opportunity to express gratitude and is usually celebrated with readings from the Buddhist scriptures and is observed by donating offerings at temples and listening to sermons.

Birthday of Emperor Haile Selassie: Is a Rastafari celebration to mark the day of Emperor Haile Selassie I's birth in 1892. Rastafarian is derived from his name as he was also known as Ras (Prince) Tafari. Rastafarians believe that Haile Selassie was descended from King Solomon in the Bible, and they believe that he is the

observance begin at sunset of the previous day.

Eid al-Fitr: Marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting. Eid is an Arabic word meaning "festivity" and Fitr means "breaking the fast". It is the first of the Eids (feasts/festivals) in Islam. This holiday celebrates the conclusion of the dawn-to-sunset fasting for Muslims during the month of Ramadan. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.

The Twelfth Day of Ridvan: Commemorates the day that Baha'u'llah left the Ridvan Garden and began the long and arduous exile to Constantinople. This is an important holy day for the people of the Bahá'í faith as it concludes the 12 Days of Ridvan. Celebrations begin the evening before.

The National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: This day was declared as a national day of awareness to raise concern for the crisis and to remind people on issues affecting Indigenous women. On this day and many other days, you will often see people wearing red in honor of these girls who have gone missing or have been murdered.

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia: Is a day to celebrate diversity and to raise awareness of the human rights of LGBTQ2S+ people.

The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development: This day provides an opportunity for people to deepen their understanding of the values of cultural diversity.

Komagata Maru Remembrance Day: Observed to recognize the injustice of the Komagata Maru incident that began on May 23, 1914. The Komagata Maru steamship arrived in Vancouver with 376 passengers onboard including 340 Sikhs, 24 Muslims, and 12 Hindus from the Punjab region of India. Despite being British subjects, they were denied entry into Canada based on discriminatory and racist laws and were forced to remain aboard without sufficient access to medical aid, food, and water. After two months the ship was ordered to return to India, where 19 passengers were killed, and others were injured or imprisoned.

Pansexual Visibility Day: Is a day to celebrate the pansexual and panromantic community and educate others on the community.

The Declaration of the Bab: Declaration of the Bab commemorates the day in 1844 on which he announced his identity as the Bab, or Gate, the herald of the new age. This is an important day for people of the Bahá'í faith and observance begins at sunset of the previous day.

Ascension Day: Is the 40th day of Easter. It occurs 39 days after Easter Sunday. It is a Christian holiday that commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven

Emperor Haile Selassie

incarnation of God. Emperor Haile Selassie's birthday is seen as one of the holiest days of the year for Rastafarians.

Pioneer Day 2016

Pioneer Day: Commemorates the entry of Brigham Young and the first group of Mormon pioneers into the Salt Lake Valley on July 24, 1847, where the Latter-day Saints community settled after being forced from Nauvoo, Illinois, and other locations in the eastern United States where members were persecuted for their beliefs. This day is marked by parades, fireworks, picnics, and other festivities.

International Non-Binary People's Day: This day shines a light on those who identify as non-binary and celebrates the rich diversity of the community. The term "non-binary" describes someone who does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. Non-binary folks may identify as being both a man and a woman or as falling completely outside these categories.

World Day for International Justice: This day unites all those who wish to support justice, promote the rights of victims, and help prevent crimes that threaten the peace, security, and well-being of the world.

Nelson Mandela International Day: In recognition of the former South African President, this day commemorates Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity in: conflict resolution; race relations; promotion and protection of human rights; reconciliation; gender equality and the rights of children and other vulnerable groups; the fight against poverty; and the promotion of social justice.

Civil Marriage Act: In 2003, Ontario and British Columbia became the first two provinces to legalize the licensing of same-sex marriage. In 2005, same-sex marriage became legal across Canada. This change required that definitions for husband and wife be amended to spouse.

AUGUST

Emancipation Day: August 1 was officially designated Emancipation Day in Canada by the House of Commons on March 24, 2021. It commemorates the actual day in 1834 that the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 came into effect across most of the British Empire. However, this did not include the territoriescontrolled at that time by the East India Company, Ceylon, what is modern-day Sri Lanka and St. Helen's, and slavery wasn't abolished in these regions until 1843. The history of the existence of slavery in Canada and the fact that Black and Indigenous peoples were enslaved on these lands has not been taught, and many Canadians are unaware of these truths. While Emancipation Day celebrates the strength and perseverance of Black communities in Canada, all Canadians are called to reflect, educate, and engage on this history to support the ongoing fight against anti-Black racism and discrimination.

according to Christian belief and is observed primarily in the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

Ascension of Baha'u'llah: Marks the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Bahá'í faith. Bahá'í's suspend work on this day. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.

National AccessAbility Week: Is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions of Canadians with disabilities and to recognize the efforts of individuals, communities, and workplaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion.

JUNE

Pride Month: Is a global month of action and celebration for LGBTQ2S+ people. Pride Month evolved out of the Stonewall Riots that occurred in June 1969, and the resulting Christopher Street Liberation Day marches that took place on the riots' anniversary.

National Indigenous History Month: People across the country mark the month in recognition of the rights, histories, and extraordinary achievements of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. The unique cultures and perspectives of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities are celebrated nationally and locally.

Italian Heritage Month: Canada is home to one of the largest Italian diasporas in the world with more than 1.5 million Canadians with Italian descent. This month is recognized by the government of Canada and British Columbia as a time to showcase the culture, heritage, and contributions of Italian Canadians.

Filipino Heritage Month: Celebrates the culture, heritage, and contributions of the nearly one million Canadians of Filipino descent, one of the fastest growing communities in the country. It coincides with the Philippines Declaration of Independence from Spain on June 12, 1898.

Portuguese Heritage Month: Celebrates the culture, heritage, and contributions to Canada of Portuguese Canadians. Canada is home to one of the biggest Portuguese diasporas in the world, with almost half a million people of Portuguese descent. It coincides with Portugal day on June 10 in honour of the famous 16th century soldier-poet, Luis de Camoes and his famous epic poems.

The Stonewall Riots: A series of spontaneous demonstrations by members of the gay (LGBT) community in response to a police raid that began in the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City. Patrons of the Stonewall, other Village lesbian and gay bars, and neighborhood street people fought back when the police became violent. The riots are widely considered to constitute one of the most important events leading to the gay liberation move-

Stonewall Riots

ment. The riots are widely considered to constitute one of the most important events leading to the gay liberation movement.

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples: Indigenous Peoples have sought recognition of their identities, their way of life and their right to traditional lands, territories, and natural resources for years. Yet, throughout history, their rights have been violated. The international community now recognizes that special measures are required to protect their rights and maintain their distinct cultures and way of life. This day is an opportunity to raise awareness of the needs of Indigenous Peoples.

Feast of the Transfiguration: This day is celebrated by various Christian communities in honour of the transfiguration of Jesus. This is a particularly important festival in Orthodox Christianity.

Ashura: Is marked by Muslims as a whole, but for Shi'a Muslims it's an important and solemn day of mourning in commemoration of the martyrdom at Karbala of Hussein, a grandson of the Prophet Muhammad. It falls on the 10th day of Muharram, one of the four sacred months for Muslims, and is preceded by nine nights of mourning.

International Youth Day: Provides an opportunity to celebrate and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions, and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal, and equitable engagement. It brings youth issues to the attention of the international community and celebrates the potential of youth as partners in today's global society.

SEPTEMBER

Mennonite Heritage Week: Declared by the federal government on May 29, 2019, this week is an opportunity to celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of Mennonite Canadians. The presence of the Mennonite community in what is now known as Canada goes back to the late 1700's.

Culture Days: Is a national celebration of arts and culture. It seeks to eliminate barriers to access and participation, and stimulate understanding, appreciation, and exploration of arts and culture—so that every person in the country has a deeper connection with themselves, their communities, and Canada.

Ethiopian New Year: September 11 is the beginning of the New Year in Ethiopia and is celebrated by Rastafarians because Ethiopia is their spiritual homeland, and a place to which they want to return. During this time, the history of Ethiopia is remembered, and its importance acknowledged through Biblical passages and prayer. A Nyabingi session is also held to mark the occasion.

Arba'een: Is observed by Shi'a Muslims and is a day that commemorates the martyrdom of Hussein Ibn Ali, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad. It occurs 40 days after Ashura and is observed through religious gatherings, prayer, and one of the world's largest annual

pilgrimages attended by Shias and non-Shias alike.

Bisexual Awareness Week: Co-founded by GLAAD and BiNet USA to raise awareness of and celebrate the bisexual+ community.

Mid–Autumn Festival, also known as Moon Festival or Mooncake Festival: Is a traditional festival celebrated by many East and Southeast Asian people. It is the second-most important holiday after the Chinese New Year with a history dating back 3,000 years, when China’s emperors worshipped the moon for bountiful harvests. The celebration is called Chuseok (autumn eve) in Korea and Tsukimi (moon-viewing) in Japan.

International Day of Peace: Is observed as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

International Day of Sign Language: This day is a unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users.

Rosh Hashanah: Is one of the two “High Holy Days” in the Jewish religion, Yom Kippur is the other. Literally meaning “head [of] the year”, it is the Jewish New Year and celebrates the creation of the world, marking the beginning of the Days of Awe, a 10-day period of introspection and repentance that culminates in the Yom Kippur holiday.

Bisexuality Visibility Day: Also referred to as Bisexual Pride Day, recognizes and celebrates bisexual people, the bisexual community, and the history of bisexuality.

Fall Equinox/Mabon: Celebrated by Wiccans and Pagans. It is a time of giving of thanks for the fruits of the harvest and a time to share their good fortune with others. As a time when dark and light are once again briefly held in perfect balance it is seen as a time to reflect on matters of balance within their lives and within themselves. Observance begins at sunset of the previous day.

Navaratri: Is a festival that spans nine nights and is celebrated every year in the autumn season. It celebrates divine feminine, the defeat of Mahishasura by Goddess Durga, and signifies the victory of good over evil. In some parts of India, people observe fasting during Navaratri.

Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth & Reconciliation: September 30 opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and a day for survivors to be reaffirmed that they matter, and so do those that have been affected. It is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools, and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children.

International Day of the Girl Child: Celebrates the rights of girls and women around the world. It is a day to raise awareness of the challenges girls face and to promote girls’ empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

ated with the Baha’i revelation one right after the other.

Birth of Baha’u’llah: Is one of the Bahá’í “twin holy days” that celebrates the birth of Baha’u’llah. It is one of nine holy days in the Bahá’í calendar that is celebrated by adherents of the Bahá’í Faith on which work is suspended. While there is no established tradition, the day is marked by prayers and devotional readings, and in the spirit of the Bahá’í, is to be open to all.

Samhain: Is one of the four ancient Celtic Fire festivals and marks the beginning of winter and the dark half of the year. It is the also the Celtic New Year and is considered to be one of the most powerful times of the year by Wiccans and Pagans. Ancestors are honoured and loved ones who have died in the last year are mourned.

NOVEMBER

Movember: Originating in Australia in 2003, this men’s health awareness movement has grown, inspiring support from all over the world. The movement engages men to accelerate change in mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.

Multiculturalism Week: This week is recognized as a time to celebrate the contributions of our multicultural communities and to appreciate the way diversity enriches British Columbia.

All Saints’ Day: Is observed by many Christians, including those following the Western and Eastern traditions. On this day, Christian Saints from across the ages, both known and unknown, are honoured through prayers.

Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead): Is a Mexican multi-day holiday that involves family and friends gathering to pray for and to remember friends and family members who have died. It is commonly portrayed as a time of celebration rather than mourning.

Veterans Week: Is recognized as the week leading up to Remembrance Day (November 11). During this week Canadians honour those who have served Canada in times of war, military conflict, and peace.

Trans Parent Day: This day celebrates the life and the love between transgender parents and their children and transgender children and their parents.

International Inuit Day: At the 2006 Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), an international non-governmental organization representing Arctic peoples (the Inuit, the Yupik, and the Chukchi) living in Canada, Greenland, United States and Russia, proclaimed November 7th as Inuit Day to honour the birth date of ICC visionary, Eben Hopson, Sr. This day celebrates the culture and identity of all these peoples.

National Indigenous Veterans Day: This day was designated in 1994 to acknowledge the many ways in which First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples contributed to

OCTOBER

Stó:lō New Year: Starts around the full moon in October, when the Sts’ailes salmon run comes. Sqwéxem is the Ts’a’i:les spring salmon, it’s the arrival of that spring salmon into the Ts’a’i:les River that begins the Stó:lō New Year.

Latin American Heritage Month: This month celebrates the culture, heritage, and contributions of Canadians of Latin American descent. Members of the Latin American community arrived here mostly in the late 20th century from all around Latin America.

LGBTQ2S+ History Month: Founded by history teacher Rodney Wilson in 1994. The month-long observation is intended to highlight the contributions of the LGBTQ2S+ community, their history, and struggle for civil rights in Canada and abroad.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month: Established to increase awareness of the positive outcomes of hiring persons with disabilities in Canada and the positive contributions that employees with disabilities make to Canadian workplaces.

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month: Draws attention to this widespread disability by generating grassroot activities that raise Canadian awareness of learning disabilities and the challenges faced by these individuals and their families.

Islamic History Month: Recognises the significant contributions the Muslim community has made to Canadian society. Muslim-Canadians enrich our lives and contribute to the prosperity and heritage of our country through their outstanding achievements in many fields.

Women’s History Month: This is an annual celebration of the outstanding achievements of women throughout Canada’s history.

Mental Health Awareness Month: According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, in any given year, one in five Canadians will personally experience a mental health problem or illness.

National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: This day recognizes and commemorates the missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people, and calls to honour them through taking concrete action against violence that disproportionately impacts their communities.

Yom Kippur: Is the year’s holiest day and a day of fasting for Jewish people. Also known as the Day of Atonement because of the central themes of atonement and repentance. On this solemn day, Jews traditionally observe with a day-long fast, confession, and intensive prayer, often spending most of the day in

Canada’s war efforts and to our country’s reputation as a peacekeeping nation. When these veterans returned home, many did not receive the same benefits and services as non-Indigenous veterans. In fact, it is only since 1995 that they and their families have been allowed to lay wreaths at the National War Memorial in Ottawa to remember their fallen family and friends.

World Kindness Day: Is a day to highlight good deeds in the community focusing on the positive power and the common thread of kindness for good which binds us.

Transgender Awareness Week: People and organizations around the country participate to help raise visibility around transgender people and address issues members of the community face.

International Day of Tolerance: The purpose of this day is to strengthen tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and peoples. This imperative lies at the core of the United Nations Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is more important than ever in this era of rising and violent extremism and widening conflicts.

Louis Riel Day: On this day, the legacy of a Louis Riel is commemorated by recognizing his advocacy for the protection of the rights and culture of the Métis Nation. Louis Riel made significant contributions to Canada by defending Metis rights and providing leadership and governance for the Métis. We must also acknowledge the persistence of the injustices he fought against in his advocacy of Métis rights. The actions of past repressive colonial governments and policies were driven by racism and fear – fear of a different culture and a unique way of life.

International Men’s Day: This day celebrates the positive value men bring to the world, their families, and communities. It highlights positive role models and raises awareness of men’s well-being.

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse: This day was launched in 2000 by the Women’s World Summit Foundation (WWSF), a non-governmental organization, along with an international coalition of advocacy organizations for women and children’s issues, with the purpose of mobilizing governments and societies to take action and prevent child abuse.

International Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR): Founded in 1999 by Gwendolyn Ann Smith in memory of Rita Hester. TDOR is a day to honour the trans people who have died, most often from transphobic violence, and to confront systems of violence that are overwhelmingly faced by trans women of colour and trans sex workers.

Universal Children’s Day: Is a day of activity devoted to promoting the ideals and objectives of the UN Charter and the welfare of the children of the world.

synagogue services.

International Day of Older Persons: Designated as a day to recognize ageing population and its implications for nearly all sectors of society, including labour and financial markets, the demand for goods and services, such as housing, transportation, and social protection, as well as family structures and intergenerational ties.

Sisters in Spirit (SIS) Vigils: This began as a research, education, and policy initiative led by Indigenous women. The goal was to conduct research and raise awareness surrounding the alarming rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people in Canada. On this day, a vigil is organized to honour the memory of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

World Teachers’ Day: Has become the occasion to mark progress and reflect on ways to counter the remaining challenges for the promotion of the teaching profession.

International Lesbian Day: Is a day to celebrate women-loving-women. The day originated in New Zealand and is believed to have begun in 1980 when a group of forty lesbians marched through Wellington Park on International Women’s Day. International Lesbian Day is celebrated on October 8 because it is exactly six months after International Women’s Day.

World Mental Health Day: The purpose of this day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health.

National Coming Out Day (NCOD): Started in 1988 by LGBT activists Robert Eichberg and Jean O’Leary. The day celebrates coming out for people from a variety of marginalized sexual and gender identities. October 11 was chosen as the day for NCOD as it was the anniversary for the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in the United States.

International Day of the Girl Child: Recognizes girls’ rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world. It focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls’ empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

World Sight Day: The purpose of this day is to focus global attention on vision impairment and blindness. There is a different theme every year, with many taking the opportunity to both celebrate achievements to date and advocate for increasing attention towards eye care.

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 Day of the Girl Child: Celebrates the rights of girls and women around the world. It is a day to raise awareness of the challenges girls face and to promote girls’ empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

Constitution Express left Vancouver for Ottawa: The repatriation of the Constitution was a moment of crisis for Aboriginal people with the realization in 1980 that proposed versions to the “new” constitution would effectively end recognition of Aboriginal title and rights. The Constitution Express was a 3000-mile trek, led by George Manuel, then President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, to the seat of the federal government. The purpose of this journey was to tell Trudeau and his government that the Indian people have rights as the first inhabitants of this land, and that these rights have been guaranteed by treaty and historical agreement between Indian Nations and the British Government. This peaceful protest gathered over 1000 people nationwide along the way. As a result of this, and other actions, section 35, recognizing Aboriginal title and rights, was included in the constitution. The first Constitution Express left Vancouver on November 24, 1980.

Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji: This day commemorates the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, the ninth of the Ten Sikh Gurus. He is remembered not only for his defense of the Sikh Faith, but also for willingly giving up his life for religious liberty of all faiths.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women: This day has been observed by women’s rights activists since 1981 as a day against gender-based violence. 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.

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People: This day provides an opportunity for the international community to focus its attention on the fact that the question of Palestine remains unresolved and that the Palestinian people have yet to attain their inalienable rights as defined by the General Assembly.

DECEMBER

Hanukkah: Is an eight-day Jewish festival with the first day known as Chanukah, Festival of Lights, and Feast of Dedication. In the Jewish calendar, the first day of Hanukkah is on the 25th day of the month of Kislev. The festival is observed by lighting the candles of a candelabrum with nine branches, commonly called a menorah or hanukkiah.

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery: This day focuses on the eradication of contemporary forms of slavery, such as trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, the worst forms of child labour, forced marriage, and the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.

International Day of Disabled Persons: The purpose of this day is to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of the situation

Persons Day: Marked 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.

Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth Sahib Ji: Sikhs across the world celebrate this day as the passing on of the Guruship to the Guru Granth Sahib Ji (Holy Scriptures) by the tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The holy text is comprised of nearly 6,000 hymns of the Sikh Gurus and various early and medieval saints of different religions and castes.

International Pronoun Day: Seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace. Referring to people by the pronouns they determine for themselves is basic to human dignity. Being referred to by the wrong pronouns particularly affects transgender and gender nonconforming people. Together, we can transform society to celebrate people’s multiple, intersecting identities.

Spirit Day: Each year, millions go purple to support LGBTQ2S+ youth in a united stand against bullying. Pledging to “go purple” on Spirit Day is a way for everyone — global and local brands and companies, world leaders, celebrities, neighbors, parents, classmates, and friends — to visibly show solidarity.

Diwali/Deepavali: An ancient Hindu tradition dating back for more than 2,500 years, Diwali has incredible historical and unique meaning and significance for many different communities within South Asia. Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs celebrate this festival. The word Diwali comes from the Sanskrit word deepavali, meaning “rows of lighted lamps” as a marker of change, hope, and a pathway from despair. Diwali is not homogenous, and each community celebrates with hope in mind, with celebration in mind, and with history in mind.

Bandi Chhor Divas: Or the “day of liberation” or the “day of the prisoners’ release”, is an important Sikh celebration commemorating the day of the return of the sixth Guru to the holy city of Amritsar after he negotiated the release of 52 Kings who had been held for political reasons. This day is celebrated by the lighting up of homes and Gurdwaras, celebratory processions, and langar (community kitchen).

Birth of Bab: The birth anniversary of the Bab, which is heralded as the new age for Bahá’ís. The Bab’s revelation, which lasted only six years until his execution by a fearful government, nevertheless paved the way for the coming of Baha’u’llah. Bahá’is celebrate the births of both the Bab and Baha’u’llah, the two prophets associ-

ated with the Baha’i revelation one right after the other.

of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women: This day commemorates the tragic mass shooting that took place on December 6, 1989 at l’École Polytechnique de Montréal that saw the promising lives of 14 young women cut violently short.

Bodhi Day: Also known as Awakening Day, is celebrated by Buddhists of the Mahayana tradition, including in China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam, as the anniversary of enlightenment of Buddha. The appearance of the morning star on this day is said to have been the moment of the Buddha’s enlightenment.

Human Rights Day: This day is observed on the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The UDHR is a milestone document that proclaims the inalienable rights which everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status.

Winter Solstice: For many cultures around the world, this marks an important milestone. It’s the shortest day of the year and the longest night of the year. It celebrates the longest hours of darkness and the rebirth of the sun and is believed to hold a powerful energy for regeneration, renewal, and self-reflection.

Yule: Is observed by Wiccans and Pagans as the longest night of the year, where a night vigil is held and then at dawn, welcome the turning of the wheel and the return of the light. It is a time for ritually shedding the impurities of the past year, and for contemplating avenues of spiritual development in the year ahead.

Christmas: On this day, many Christians around the world celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ over 2000 years ago. This day is observed in various ways across cultures but the gathering of family and community at home and in churches, lighting candles, exchanging gifts, church celebrations, special meals, and the display of Christmas decorations are common.

Zarathosht Diso: Is an important day of remembrance in the Zoroastrian religion. It is a commemoration of the death of the Prophet Zarathustra, the founder of the Zarathushti (Zoroastrian) faith.

Kwanzaa: Is celebrated by many North Americans of African descent in recognition of their heritage. Kwanzaa means first fruit in Swahili and is a harvest festival, and families exchange gifts and have African-style feasts. Seven-pronged candle holders are lit on each consecutive night for seven principles: unity, self-determination, responsibility, sharing, purpose, creativity, and faith.

Engaging learners, transforming lives,
building community.

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shxwaylexws, thayt kw'e st'elt'elawtexw



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Our values

Integrity | letse o sqwelewel

We act honestly and ethically, upholding these values and ensuring our mission is delivered consistently.

Inclusivity | lexwsq'eq'ostexw

We welcome everyone, showing consideration and respect for all experiences and ideas.

Community | st'elt'elawtexw

We cultivate strong relationships, acting as a hub where all kinds of communities — educational, scholarly, local, global, and cultural — connect and grow.

Excellence | ey shxweli

We pursue our highest standard in everything we do, with determination and heart.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION