

celebrating diversity 2022

See below for a sample of dates to observe, reflect, celebrate or promote throughout NS Health and IWK Health.

JANUARY

- 1 Kwanzaa ends; New Year's Day
- 1 Gantan-sai (New Year's-Shinto)
- 4 International World Braille Day
- 6 Epiphany (Christian)
- 7 Orthodox Christmas Day (Christian)
- 16 World Religion Day (Baha'i)
- 17 Tu BiShvat (Arbor Day-Jewish)
- 17 Martin Luther King Junior Day
- 18 Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)
- 27 International Commemoration Day in Memory of Victims of Holocaust

FEBRUARY

African Heritage Month

White Cane Week (first full week in February)

- 1 Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger)
- 3 Setsubun-sai (Shinto)
- 14 Pink Triangle Day; Valentine's Day
- 15 National Flag of Canada Day
- 16 Magha Puja Day (Buddhist)
- 21 Heritage Day (NS)
- 20 World Day of Social Justice

MARCH

- 1 Zero Discrimination Day (UNAIDS)
- 1 Shrove Tuesday (Christian)
- 1 Lailat al Miraj (Islamic)
- 2 Ash Wednesday (Lent begins-Christian)
- 4 Sh'aban begins (Islamic)
- 8 International Woman's Day
- 16 Purim (Jewish)
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Lailat al Bara'ah (Islamic)
- 20 Vernal Equinox
- 20 Nowruz (Iranian and Persian New Year)
- 21 Naw-Rúz (New Years-Baha'i)
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 22 New Year (Hindu)
- 31 International Transgender Day of Visibility

APRIL

- 1 Sh'aban ends (Islamic)
- 2 Ramadan begins (Islamic)*
- 7 World Health Day
- 8 Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network Day of Silence
- 14 Vaisakhi (New Year-Sikh)
- 15 Passover begins (Jewish)
- 15 Good Friday (Christian)
- 17 Easter (Christian)
- 17 Palm Sunday (Christian)
- 27 Yom HaShoah (Jewish)
- 29 Laylat al-Qadr (Islamic)

**Starting of Ramadan could be the day before or the day after, depending on citation of the new moon*

MAY

- 1 Ramadan ends (Islamic)*
- 3 Eid al Fitr (Islamic)*
- 5 Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Jewish)
- 5 National Day of Prayer (Interfaith)
- 6 Visakha Puja (Buddha Day)*
- 15 International Day of Families
- 17 International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- 23 Victoria Day

**Buddha Day varies around the world. End of Ramadan and Eid could be the day before or the day after, depending on citation of the new moon*

JUNE

- 4 Shavout (Jewish)
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day; Solstice (summer)
- 24 St. Jean Baptiste Day (QC)
- 27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day

JULY

- 1 Canada Day
 - 10 Eid al Adha begins (Islamic)
 - 13 Eid al Adha ends (Islamic)
 - 13 Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist)
 - 14 Start of Pride Festival in Halifax*
 - 24 End of Pride Festival in Halifax
- *Additional Pride events are held throughout N.S. At time of printing, dates had not yet been set.*

AUGUST

- 1 Emancipation Day
- 5 Tish'a B'av (Jewish)
- 7 Ashura (Islamic)
- 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- 12 International Youth Day
- 13 Obon begins (Buddhist)
- 15 Obon ends (Buddhist)
- 15 Assumption of Mary (Christian)
- 15 National Acadian Day
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 23 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

SEPTEMBER

- 8 International Literacy Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 22 Autumnal Equinox
- 23 Celebrate Bisexuality Day
- 25 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
- 26 Navaratri begins (Hindu)
- 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; Orange Shirt Day

OCTOBER

Mi'kmaq History Month

- 1 Treaty Day
- 1 International Day for Older Persons
- 4 Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Christian)
- 4 Yom Kippur (Jewish)
- 4 Navaratri ends (Hindu)
- 4 Dasara (Hindu)
- 7 Mawlid an Nabi (Prophet's Birthday-Islamic)
- 9 Sukkot begins (Jewish)
- 10 World Mental Health Day
- 10 Thanksgiving Day (Canada)
- 11 National Coming Out Day
- 11 International Day of the Girl Child
- 16 Sukkot ends (Jewish)
- 16 World Food Day
- 17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- 24 Diwali (Hindu/Sikh)
- 26 Intersex Awareness Day
- 31 Hallowe'en

NOVEMBER

- 1 All Saint's Day (Christian)
- 2 All Soul's Day (Christian)
- 7 World Inuit Day
- 8 National Indigenous Veterans' Day
- 8 Guru Nanak Dev Sahib birthday (Sikh)
- 10 World Science Day for Peace and Development
- 11 Remembrance Day
- 18 Hanukkah begins (Jewish)
- 20 Transgender Day of Remembrance
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- 27 Advent starts (Christian)

DECEMBER

- 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 8 Feast of Immaculate Conception (Christian)
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 10 Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
- 21 Winter Solstice
- 24 Christmas Eve (Christian)
- 25 Christmas Day (Christian)
- 26 Hanukkah ends (Jewish)
- 26 Kwanzaa begins; Boxing Day
- 31 New Year's Eve