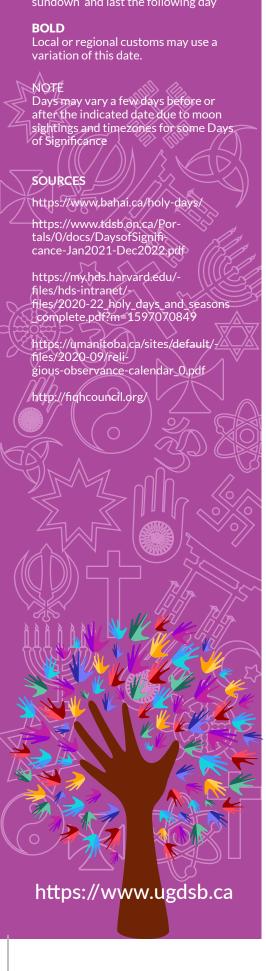
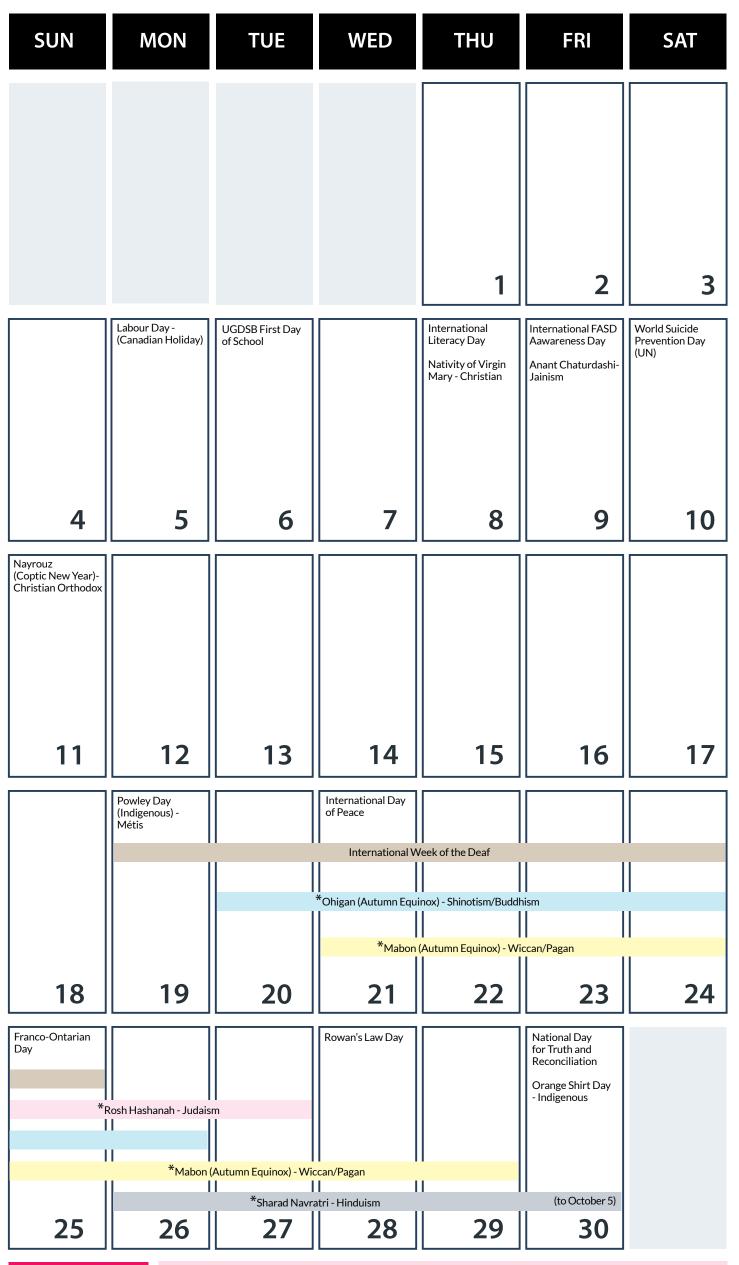
### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day





OHIGAN BUDDHISM/ SHINTOISM In Japanese Buddhist belief, the land of the afterlife is west. This time of year when the sun sets directly west, is a time that is symbolic of life's transitions. At this time people visit the graves of their ancestors, clean up and care for their gravesites, and leave flowers. This is also the time when the flowers called Higanbana bloom. These flowers are known as Ghost Flowers or Dead Flowers because they bloom around some graveyards in Japan during this time.

OHIGAN ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR (SEPT AND OCT)/ JUDAISM Rosh Hashanah is the celebration of Jewish New Year and is the first event within High Holidays, a ten day period that ends with Yom Kippur - the holiest day of the Jewish year. Rosh Hashanah is a time for reflection and learning and there is a focus on asking God for forgiveness for wrongs throughout the year. The celebration can include prayer services held in a synagogue, blowing an instrument named the shofar, giving to those in need - tzedakah, and celebrating with traditional foods. Yom Kippur marks the end of the 10 Days of Awe during the High Holidays. During this time, according to traditional teachings, God decides upon the fate of his people. The holiday is observed with a 25-hour fast and religious services.

# **Upper Grand** District School Board **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

**CANADIAN AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** 

**RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH** 

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** 

**LEARNING DISABILITIES** 

**AWARENESS MONTH** 

**INTERNATIONAL** WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

HISPANIC OR LATIN AMERICA HERITAGE MONTH

**ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH** 

### **LEGEND**

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### **BOLD**

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

### NOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Days of Significance

### **SOURCES**

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons \_complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/



8

DIWALI HINDUISM Diwali or Deepavali is the Hindu festival of lights. Diwali symbolizes the human urge to move toward the light and is celebrated with gift exchanges, fireworks, and festive meals. Many people decorate their homes, shops and public places with lights and lamps so Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, can find her way to them. During this time the legends of Rama and Sita are also celebrated.



HINDU HERITAGE MONTH FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### **BOLD**

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

MOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Day of Significance

## SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

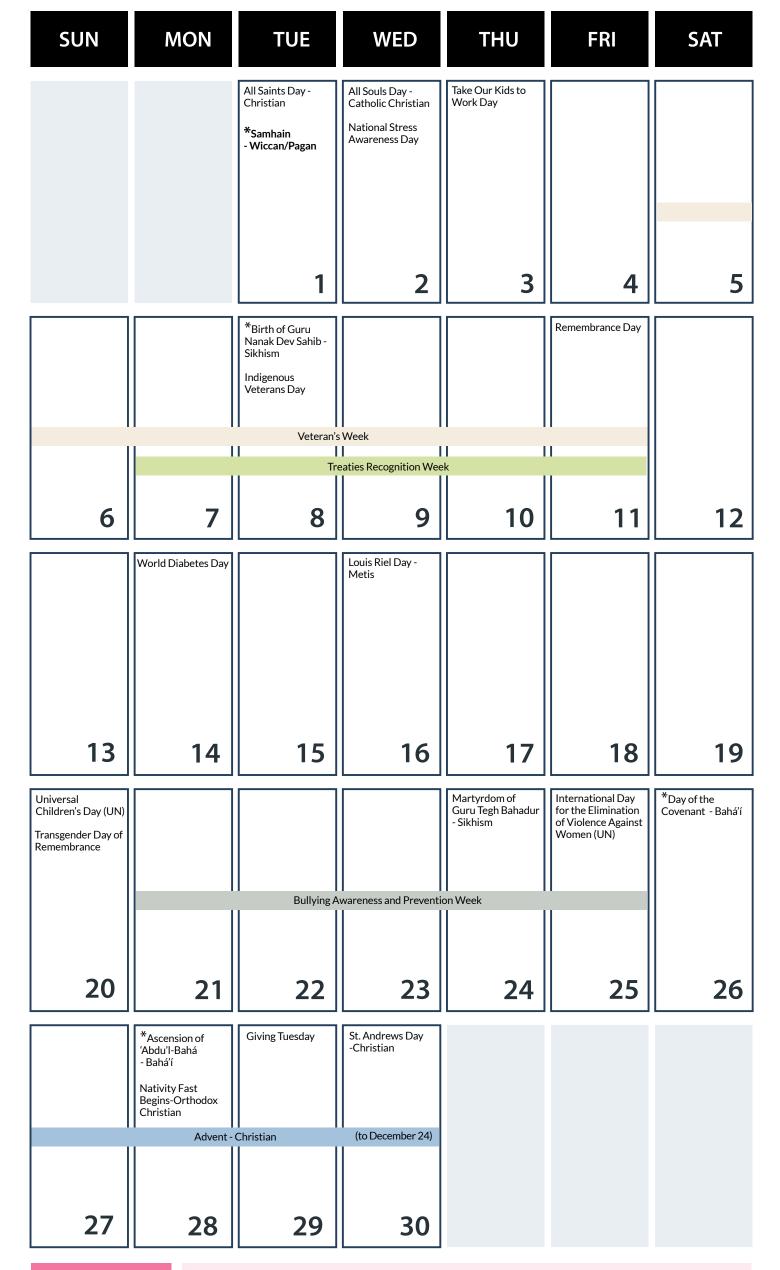
https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/-

files/1020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default// files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/



BIRTH OF GURU NANAK DEV NAHIB SIKHISM

Guru Nanak was one of the greatest religious innovators of all time and the founder of Sikh religion. His date of birth is celebrated usually in November but changes with the lunar calendar.



### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### **BOLD**

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

### NOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Days of Significance

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
				World AIDS Day (UN)	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN)	International Day of Persons with Disabilities (UN)	
					Advent - Christian		
				1	2	3	
		Saint Nicholas Day - Christian		Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) - Buddhism  Immaculate Conception of Mary - Catholic Christian		International Human Rights Day (UN)	
		National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women	Advent - Christian	Cachone Cin iSuaii			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Feast Day- Our Lady of Guadalupe -Catholic Christian	*Birthday of Imam Aga Khan -Islam					
			Advent - Christian				
			Advent - Christian		Posadas Navideñas	- Hispanic Christian	
11	12	13	Advent - Christian	15	Posadas Navideñas	- Hispanic Christian	
11 International Migrants Day (UN)	12	13		15			
International	12	13	14 Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/	15			
International	12		Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/ Christian		16		
International	12	Posadas	Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/ Christian  Advent - Christian	Christian	16		
International	12	Posadas	Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/Christian  Advent - Christian  Navideñas - Hispanic C	Christian	16		
International Migrants Day (UN)  18  *Christmas (Christianity and Canadian Holiday) - Christianity	Boxing Day (Canadian Holiday) Zarathosht-no-Diso - Zoroasrianism	Posadas	Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/Christian  Advent - Christian  Navideñas - Hispanic Christian  *Hanukkah - Judaism	Christian	16	17	
International Migrants Day (UN)  18  *Christmas (Christianity and Canadian Holiday) - Christianity	Boxing Day (Canadian Holiday) Zarathosht-no-Diso	Posadas 20	Yule-Winter Solstice Wicca/Pagan/Christian  Advent - Christian  Navideñas - Hispanic Christian  *Hanukkah - Judaism	Christian 22	16	24	

KWANZAA African diaspora Kwanzaa is the African-American celebration of life held in North America and in other nations of the African diaspora. The celebration honors African heritage and culture and recognizes the first harvests. Of most importance during Kwanzaa are; ingathering, reverence, commemoration, recommitment, and celebration. Kwanzaa is observed from December 26 to January 1. The celebration includes a feast and gift-giving.

CHRISTMAS CHRISTIANITY

Christmas is a holy day commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ who Christians believe to be the Son of God.

YULE WINTER SOLSTICE WICCAN/PAGAN

Yule is the longest night and the shortest day of the year. Some Wiccans consider Yule to be either the year's beginning or the end. This is the time to celebrate the return of the light. Yule is the solar turning of the tides, and the newborn Sun offers a fresh start and, literally, a new day. It's a time of renewal and hope.

HANUKKAH Judaism Hanukkah or Chanukah is a Jewish festival of lights commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. It is celebrated with traditioanl foods and games and by lighting one candle on the Hanukkah - eight stemmed candelabrum each day.

# JAN 2023

TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH

### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### **BOLD**

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

### NOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Days of Significance

### SOURCES

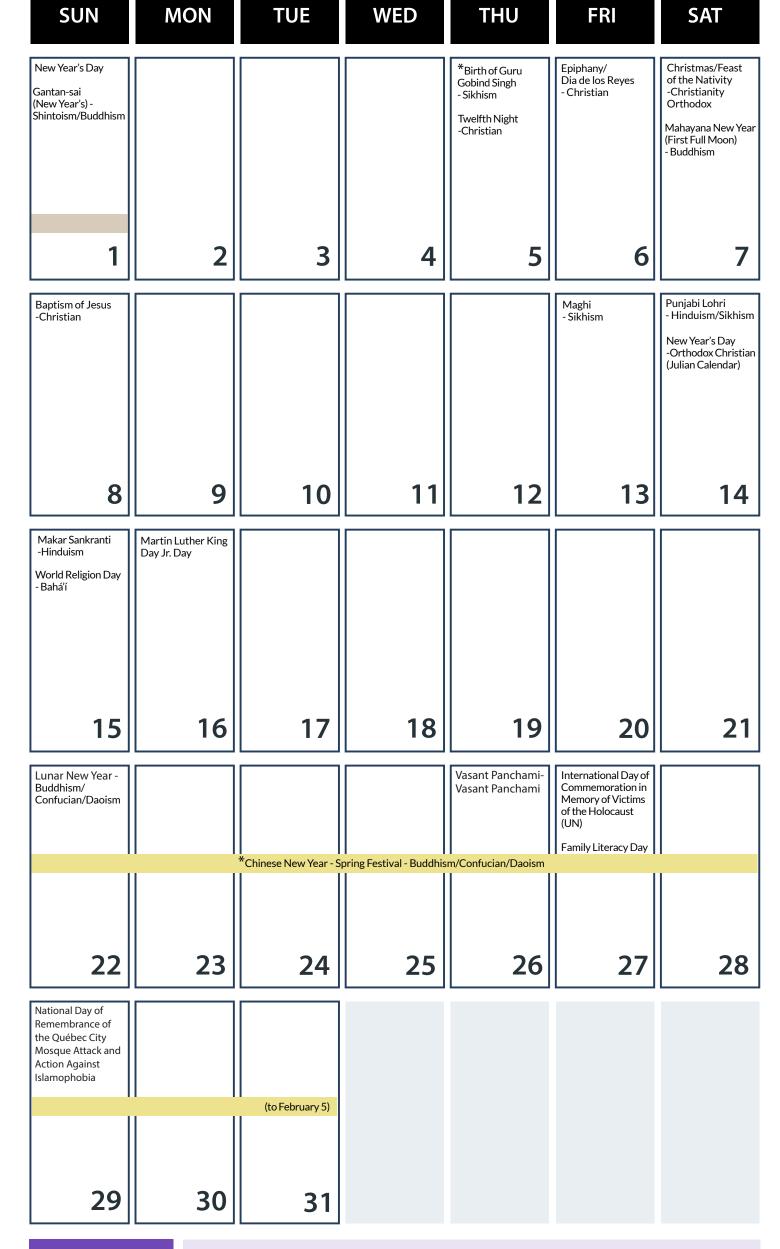
https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/-/files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/



EPIPHANY CHRISTIANITY Epiphany, also Theophany, Little Christmas, or Three Kings' Day, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ through baptism. In many Protestant church traditions, this is celebrated from January 6 until Ash Wednesday while other traditions such as those held by the Roman Catholic Church celebrate Epiphany in one day.

WORLD RELIGION DAY Bahá'í World Religion Day is an observance celebrated worldwide on the third Sunday in January each year. Though initiated in the United States, World Religion Day has come to be celebrated internationally. The day emphasizes and celebrates unity in human community within religions, faces, and nations.

LUNAR NEW YEAR -CHINESE, DOAIST AND BUDDHIST NEW YEAR Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival in modern China, is celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar and is one of several Lunar New Years in Asia. The event lasts 15 days to a month. The celebrations focus on wishing wealth, happiness, success and health to those around you. Those celebrating will often share gifts of cash, colourful items of meaning, fruit and food and spend time visiting friends and family. In Buddhism and countries such as Thailand, Burma, Sri Lanka, and Cambodia the New Year's celebration also includes offering prayer in monasteries and temples.



### **LEGEND**

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

Local or regional customs may use a

### NOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignifi-cance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/-files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons \_complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/-files/2020-09/reli-

http://fighcouncil.org/





**BLACK HERITAGE** MONTH

Black Heritage Month in Canada recognizes and celebrates the history, legacy of and current major contributions to North America by African descendants, including politics and policy, religion, music, sports, architecture and humanitarian work.

# MAR 2023

NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH BANGLADESHI HERITAGE MONTH IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### **BOLD**

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

### MOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Day of Significance

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default///files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouneil.org/



NAW RUZ - NEW YEAR BAHA'I, ZOROASTRIAN, PERSIAN AND OTHERS Naw Ruz is the Baha'i New Year which takes place on vernal equinox or the first day of spring. It is the first day of the Baha'i calendar year celebrating new life, renewal and change. This event also marks the end of a 19 day fast and is one of the 9 Holy days of Baha'i. Students and staff may be absent for these Holy days. This New Year is also celebrated with variation by others.

HOLI Hunduism Holi is an important spring festival for Hindus, a national holiday in India and Nepal and celebrated as the "festival of love" by others. To many Hindus and some non-Hindus, it is a joyous cultural event full of colour, respect, and love for close ones. Colour plays an important part in this celebration as vibrant colours are said to bring positivity into our lives. Holi is celebrated at the end of winter, on the last full moon day of the Hindu luni-solar calendar month marking the spring, making the date vary with the lunar cycle.

RAMADAN

Ramadan occurs in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is observed by Muslims worldwide commemorating the first revelation of the Quran to Muhammad. Ramadan is a time for prayer, self-examination and fasting. Fasting happens during the daylight hours, only eating before sunrise or after sunset, in special situations related to age and health there are variations to fasting. Eid al/ul Fitr marks the end of Ramadan.



# **APR** 2023

### **LEGEND**

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Day of Significance

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

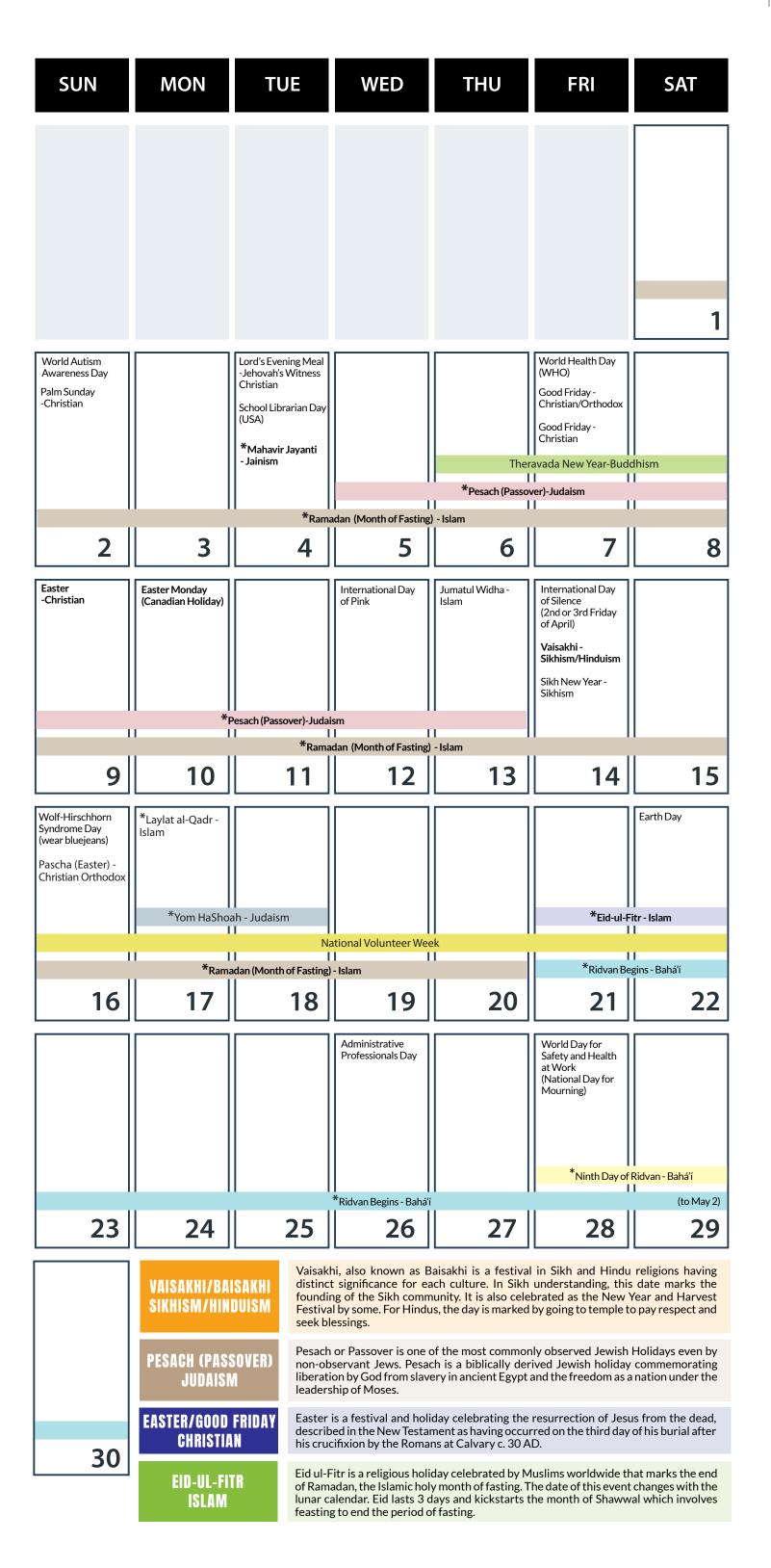
tals/0/docs/DaysofSignifi-cance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/-files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/-files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/





H

# MAY 2023

ASIAN/SOUTH ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH

DUTCH HERITAGE MONTH

BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

### BOLD

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

### NOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Days of Significance

### SOURCES

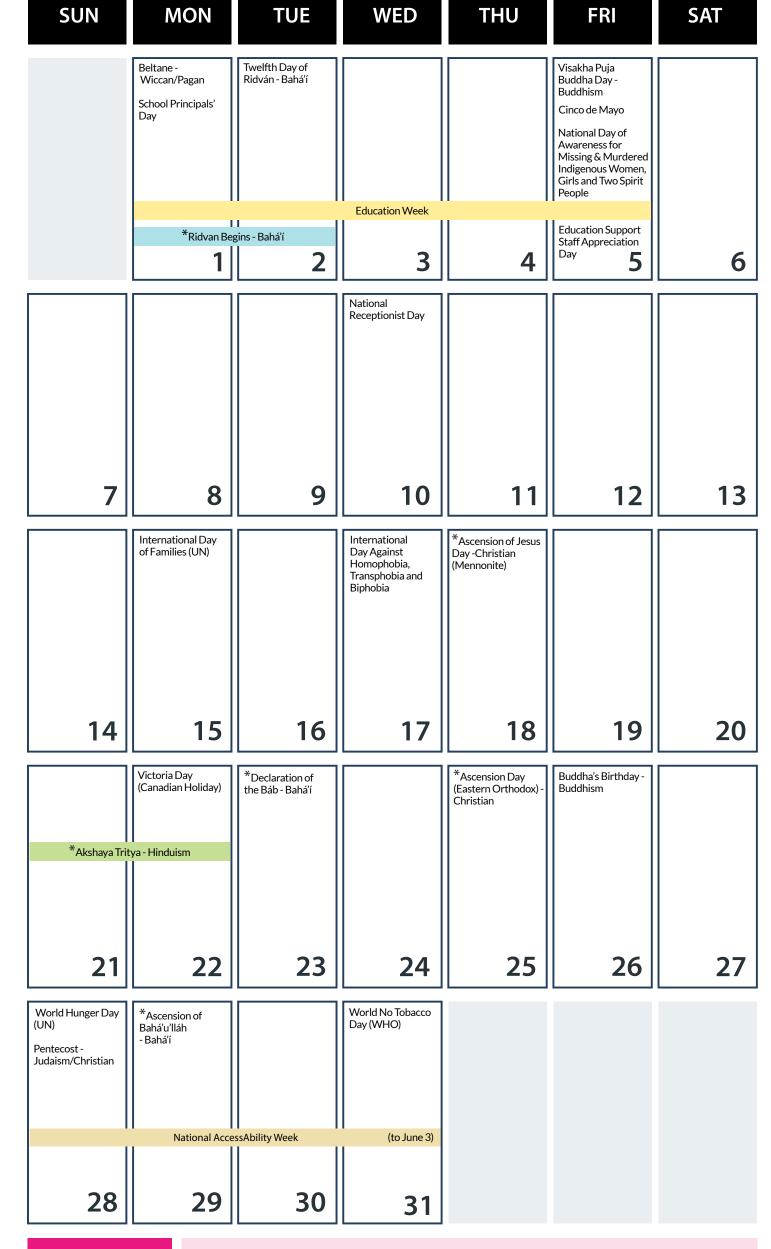
https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/files/hds-intranet/files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/-/ files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouneil.org/



DECLARATION OF THE BÁB\* BAHÁ'Í The Báb was born Siyyid Ali-Muhammad on October 20, 1918, in Shiraz, Iran. He was the founder of Bábism, and one of the central figures of the Bahá'í Faith. In 1844, at the age of twenty-four, he claimed to be a messenger of God and took the name "Báb," which means "gate" or "door" in Arabic to emphasize his role as the portal through which the revelation of God would enter. Baha'is celebrate the Declaration of the Báb by gathering together and sharing prayers, stories, and reflections. It is one of the nine holy days in the Bahá'í Faith.



6

# JUN 2023

ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH
PORTUGUESE HERITAGE MONTH
NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

### **LEGEND**

\*

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown, and last the following day

### ROLD

Local or regional customs may use a

### MOTE

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Days of Significance

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/DaysofSignificance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/-files/hds-intranet/-files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons\_complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/files/2020-09/reli-

http://fighcouncil.org/





# NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY\*

National Canada's Indigenous People's Day is a day recognising and celebrating the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Indigenous peoples in Canada.

**PRIDE MONTH** 

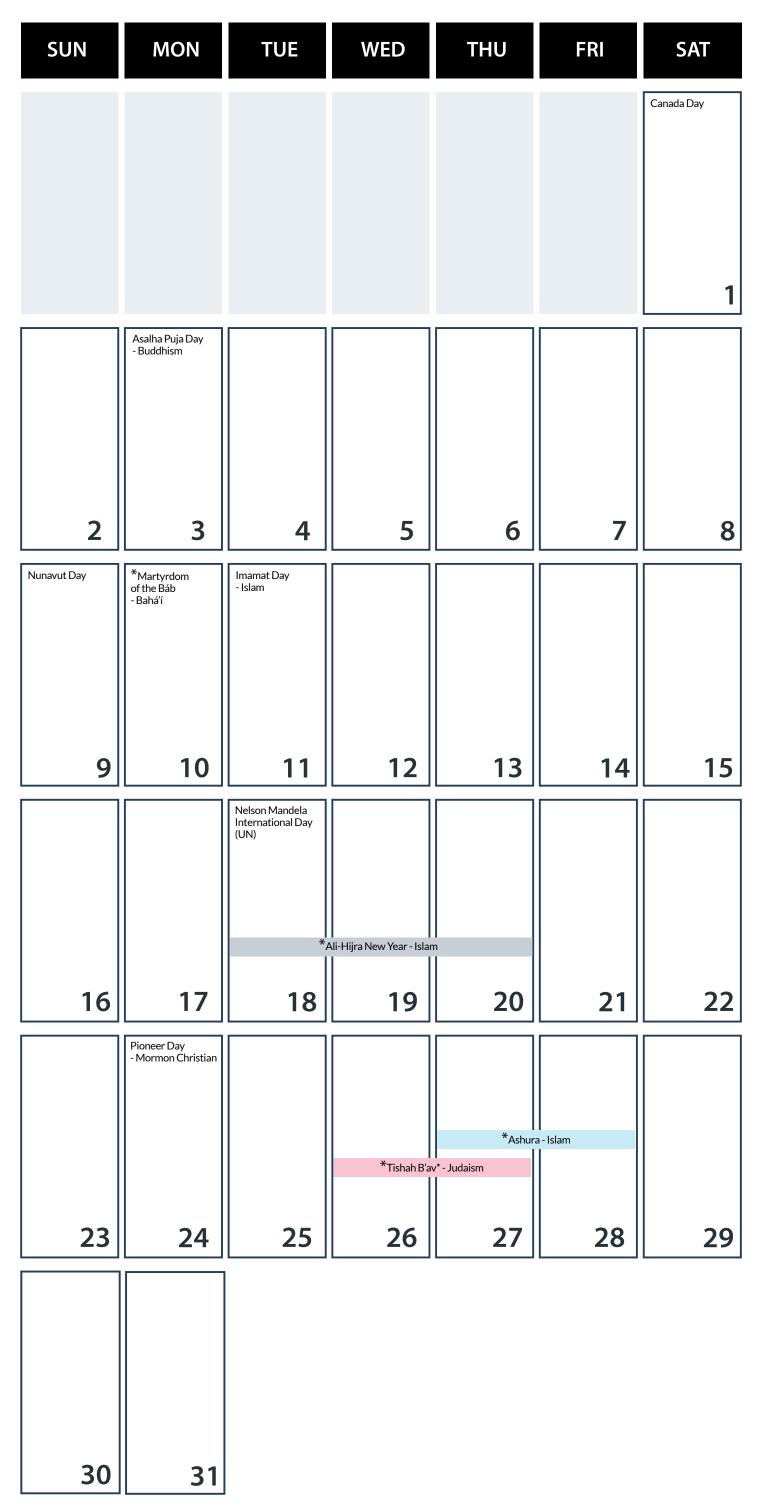
In 1995 Canada's supreme court finally considered sexual orientation a prohibited ground of discrimination in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. LGBTQ+ members who faced, hate, exclusion, and often lived in fear for their lives long fought for these rights and believed in a better future. Thanks to the LGBTQ+ folks and allies who perservered, today we celebrate Pride month! Pride is the promotion of dignity, equity and increased visibility for 2SLGBTQIA+ peoples. It is a celebration of life, rights, dignity, equity and difference.

LITHA, SUMMER SOLSTICE, MIDSUMMER WICCAN/PAGAN

Litha is the longest day and the shortest night of the year. Light triumphs, but will now begin to fade into darkness as autumn approaches. The crops are planted and growing. The woods and forests have reached their peak fullness. This is the time of abundance for wildlife, including people! The holiday is joyous.

EID-UL-ADHA ISLAM Eid al-Adha takes place after the Arafat, the most important day in Hajj ritual. Also called the "Sacrifice Feast" or Greater Eid, it is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. Eid al-Adha celebrates the sacrifice of Isma'il by his father Ibrahim in obedience to Allah.







### **LEGEND**

Holy Days that usually begin at sundown and last the following day

Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.

Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to moon sightings and timezones for some Day of Significance

### SOURCES

https://www.bahai.ca/holy-days/

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Por-tals/0/docs/DaysofSignifi-cance-Jan2021-Dec2022.pdf

https://my.hds.harvard.edu/-files/hds-intranét/-files/2020-22\_holy\_days\_and\_seasons complete.pdf?m=1597070849

https://umanitoba.ca/sites/default/-files/2020-09/religious-observance-calendar\_0.pdf

http://fighcouncil.org/

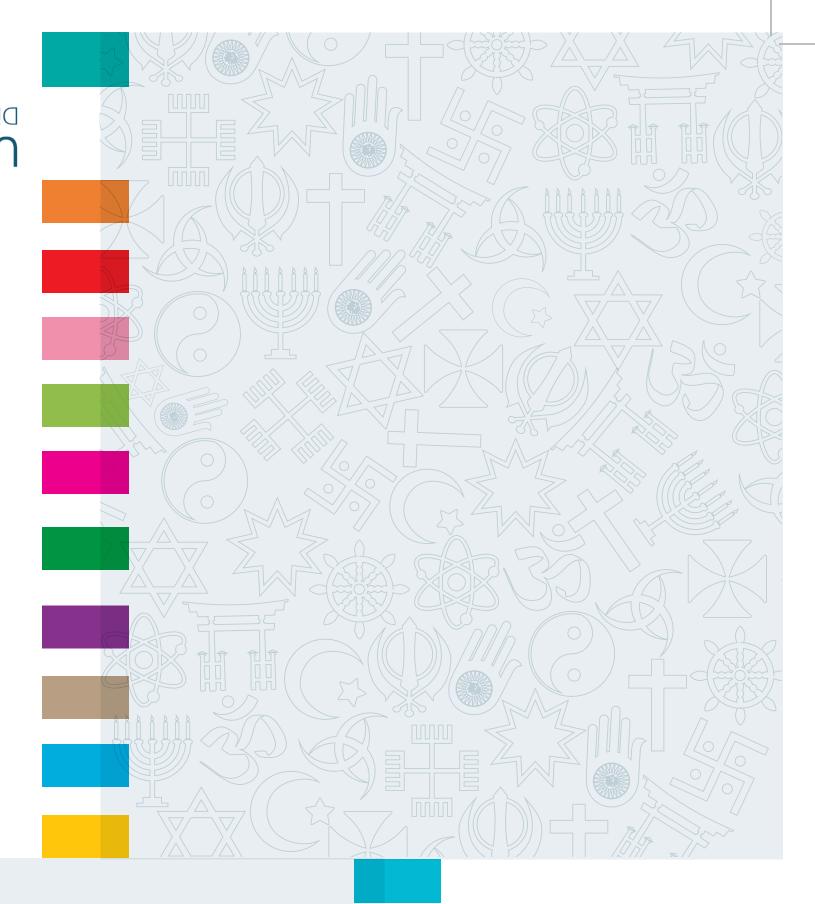


SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Lughnassadh/ Lammas -Wiccan/Pagan Emancipation Day- Afro-Canadian	2	3	4	5
	Civic Holiday Canada		International Day of the World's Indigenous People (UN)			International Youth Day (UN)
6	<b>7</b> bon - Buddhism/Shintois	8	9	10		World Humanitarian Day (UN)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	20	20	Raksha Bandhan - Hinduism/Jainism	21		
27	28	29	30	31		B 14

**INTERNATIONAL DAY** OF THE WORLD'S **INDIGENOUS** PEOPLE (UN)

August 9th marks the day of the first meeting, in 1982, of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. There are an estimated 476 million indigenous peoples in the world living across 90 countries. They make up less than 5% of the world's population, but account for 15% of the poorest. Indigenous peoples are the holders of a vast diversity of unique cultures, traditions, languages and knowledge systems. They have a special relationship with their lands and hold diverse concepts of development based on their own worldviews and priorities.





As an educational community we have a responsibility to identify and describe racism and oppression and then work to dismantle it. The Upper Grand District School Board is committed to disrupting systemic racism and anti-oppression in all of its forms. We will implement ongoing mandatory anti-racism and anti-oppression training for all staff, review our protocols and policies including our hiring practices, and be fully transparent and accountable to all Upper Grand students, staff, families, and stakeholders in an ongoing manner.

In addition, the UGSDB is committed to ensuring that our policies and procedures promote a safe and inclusive school climate for all of our students and staff.

This calendar should support anti-racism and anti-oppression initiatives and actions by identifying some of the important days of celebration, commemoration and observance for students, staff and their families and community members this year. It is NOT a complete list of all days of importance. Please note that some Holy days are impacted by the lunar calendar which means that their calendar date from time of publication may change.

Specifically, this calendar should support your consideration of events, assessment and curriculum content. Schools are to consider that some dates are not ideal for celebrations, events, major projects or due dates, and that students and staff may be absent from school in support of their beliefs and practices. This calendar is also a tool for planning celebrations and curriculum content in connection with dates of importance.

Recognizing system racism and oppression is fundamental. This resource can be used to support a shift where schools and work spaces de-center white, colonial days of importance and include those of many of our staff, students and communities.

Please find some brief descriptions of celebrations, commemorations and observances within the calendar. Staff and students are encouraged to find further and more robust information using reliable resources and by establishing and supporting local relationships.

## **Upper Grand** District School Board

# **EQUITY** INCLUSION



Thank you to the staff, students, families and community partners who have contributed to this calendar and it's contents, as well as those who have provided editing and feedback.

For additional information, please see https://www.ugdsb.ca/schools/safe-equitable-and-inclusive-schools/equity-and-inclusive-education/

## **NOTES**

