



INTERCULTURAL AND CITIZENSHIP CALENDAR

2025-2026

This content is also available in French.
The *Charter of the French language*
and its regulations govern the
[consultation of English-language content](#).

JULY 2025

- 1 Canada Day
- 6 Ashura, Shiite Muslims remember the death of Imam Hussein, grandson of the prophet Mohammed. Sunni Muslims commemorate Moses and his people leaving Egypt
- 10 Asalha Puja, Theravada festival honouring the first teachings of the Buddha after his enlightenment near Benares
- 10 Guru Purnima, Nepalese and Indian festival dedicated to academic and spiritual teachers
- 13-15 O-bon, festival honouring the spirits of the ancestors

AUGUST 2025

- 1 Emancipation Day
- 12 International Youth Day
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 27 Ganesh Chaturthi, festival of Ganesha, deity of education and protector of students

SEPTEMBER 2025

- 1 Labour Day
- 5 Mawlid an-Nabi, commemorating the birth of Muhammad, founder of Islam (September 10 for Shias)
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 22 Autumnal equinox (1:19 p.m., EST)
- September 22-October 2 Navaratri, Hindu festival dedicated to the worship of the deity Durga
- 22-24 Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year
- 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

OCTOBER 2025

- Women's History Month (Canada)
- Hispanic Heritage Month (Québec)
- 1-2 Yom Kippur, Jewish Day of Atonement devoted to fasting and repentance
- 2 International Day of Non-Violence
- 6 Mid-Autumn Festival, or Full Moon Festival (China, Vietnam) celebrating the glittering moon
- 6-13 Sukkot, Jewish Feast of Booths to mark 40 years in the desert
- 7 Pavarana, celebration marking the end of Vassa, a retreat monks hold during the rainy season (Theravadan Buddhism)
- 13 Thanksgiving (Canada)
- 17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- 20 Diwali, Hindu festival of lights dedicated to the goddess Lakshmi
- 20 Diwali, Sikh festival commemorating the release from imprisonment of Guru Hargobind, the Sixth Sikh Master
- 24 United Nations Day
- 31 Halloween and national UNICEF Day

NOVEMBER 2025

Variable dates

- Québec International Solidarity Days
- Québec's Week of Intercultural Encounters
- 1 All Saints' Day
- 2 All Souls' Day
- 5 Birthday of Guru Nanak, founder of Sikhism
- 11 Anniversary of the signing of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement
- 11 Remembrance Day (Canada)
- 20 Universal Children's Day
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- 27 Thanksgiving (United States)
- 30 First Sunday in Advent



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DECEMBER 2025

- 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
- 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
- 8 Bodhi Day, the day that the Buddha experienced enlightenment (Mahayana Buddhism)
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 14-22 Hanukkah, Jewish Festival of Lights
- 18 International Migrants Day
- 21 Winter solstice (10:02 a.m., EST)
- 25 Christmas (January 7 in the Julian calendar)

JANUARY 2026

- 1 New Year's Day (January 14 in the Julian calendar)
- 3 New Year, Mahayana Buddhism
- 4 National Ribbon Skirt Day (Canada)
- 6 Theophany, Orthodox celebration commemorating the baptism of Jesus, when it was revealed that he was the son of God (January 19 in the Julian calendar)
- 6 Epiphany, the Magi visit Jesus (January 6 or the first Sunday after January 1st)
- 15 Journée nationale du vivre-ensemble (Québec)
- 24 World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture

FEBRUARY 2026

Black History Month (Canada and United States)

- 2 Candlemas (February 15 in the Julian calendar)
- 11 Nelson Mandela Day (Québec)
- 12 Red Hand Day, to protest against the use of child soldiers
- 14 Valentine's Day, celebration of love
- 15 Parinirvana, commemorating the day of Buddha's death and his attainment of Nirvana (Mahayana Buddhism)
- 15 Maha Shivaratri, Hindu festival dedicated to the god Shiva
- 17 Chinese New Year (Chūn Jié) and Vietnamese New Year (Tết Nguyen Dan), Year of the Horse
- 17 Beginning of Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, which ends around March 19
- 18 Ash Wednesday, marking the first day of Lent
- 21 International Mother Language Day
- 23 Clean Monday, Beginning of Great Lent in preparation for Easter in Orthodox churches

MARCH 2026

- 2-3 Purim, festival commemorating the deliverance of the Jewish people from the Persian Empire
- 3 Magha Puja, Sangha Day (Theravada Buddhism)
- 4 Holi, Hindu spring and colors festival
- 4-6 Hola Mohalla, Sikh festival
- 8 International Women's Day
- 14 Sikh New Year
- 17 St. Patrick's Day, celebration of the Irish people
- 19-20 Eid al-Fitr, feast celebrating the breaking of the fast after the month of Ramadan
- 20 International Francophonie Day
- 20 Spring (vernal) equinox (9:45 a.m., EST)
- 20/21 Nowruz, Persian New Year
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 26 Rama Navami, Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Rama, seventh incarnation of the god Vishnu
- 29 Palm Sunday, beginning of Holy Week commemorating the last days of Jesus
- 31 National Indigenous Languages Day (Canada)

End of March

Francofête, celebration of the French language and francophone culture (Québec)

Action Week Against Racism (Québec)



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APRIL 2026

- 1-9 Passover, Jewish festival commemorating the escape from slavery in Egypt
- 2 New Year, Theravada Buddhism
- 3 Good Friday, crucifixion of Christ
- 5 Easter, celebration of the resurrection of Jesus three days after his death
- 6 International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
- 13/14 Vaisakhi, Sikh festival celebrating the Khalsa religious fraternity
- 13-14 Holocaust – Yom HaShoah Memorial Day (Québec) – International Holocaust Remembrance Day is on January 27
- 14 Indian New Year (Indian national calendar). Other regions in India celebrate on March 19 according to the Hindu calendar
- 22 International Mother Earth Day
- 24 Armenian Genocide Memorial Day (Québec)

MAY 2026

Asian Heritage Month (Canada)

- 1 International Worker's Day
- 1 Vesak or Buddha Purnima, day commemorating Buddha's birth (Mahayana tradition), and day commemorating his birth, enlightenment and passing to Nirvana (Theravada Buddhism)
- 14 Feast of the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven
- 17 International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
- 18 Journée nationale des Patriotes (Québec)
- 18 Victoria Day (Canada)
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- 21-23 Shavuot, Jewish holiday commemorating the day Moses received the Torah at Mount Sinai
- 24 Pentecost, feast celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles
- 24 Beginning of pilgrimage to Mecca
- 26 Eid al-Adha, a great Muslim feast held at the end of the pilgrimage to Mecca

JUNE 2026

Beginning of June

- Start of the First Nations Pow Wow season (Québec)
- 16-17 Ras el-Am el-Hejri, the Islamic New Year, the first day of the month of Muharram
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 21 Summer solstice (3:25 a.m., EST)
- 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)
- 24 St-Jean-Baptiste – Québec's National Holiday

Some dates can change according to the solar or lunar calendar, or according to the difference in time zones between Canada and other countries. Moreover, the dates of some thematic weeks were not known at the time of preparing this calendar; they are indicated here in the month during which they usually take place.

For more information, you may refer to the guide:
Discovering the Intercultural and citizenship calendar

Please note that the Intercultural and citizenship calendar can be used to plan a variety of school activities and to mark certain significant events in the history of communities, countries and humanity. It should not, however, be used to determine statutory holidays for school staff as these are stipulated in the collective agreements and during specific negotiations between parties.

