

# Human Rights and Equity Observances: 2015

## Annual Observances:

- International Year of Light and Light-based technologies (United Nations)
- International Year of Soil (United Nations)

Month	Date	Observance
<b>January</b>		
	27 January	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (United Nations)
<b>February</b>		
	Entire Month	Black History Month (Government of Canada/ <a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca">www.cic.gc.ca</a> )
	20 February	World Day of Social Justice (United Nations)
	21 February	International Mother Language Day (UNESCO)
	28 February	Repetitive Strain Injuries Day (CLC/PSAC.com/ <a href="http://www.ccohs.ca">www.ccohs.ca</a> )
<b>March</b>		
	1 March	Zero Discrimination Day <a href="http://www.unaids.org">www.unaids.org</a>
	8 March	International Women's Day (United Nations)
	20 March	International Day of Francophonie/French Language Day (United Nations)
	21 March	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (United Nations)  World Down Syndrome Day (United Nations)
	24 March	International Day for the Right to Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and the Dignity of Victims (United Nations)
	25 March	International Day of the Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (United Nations)
<b>April</b>		
	2 April	World Autism Awareness Day (United Nations)
	4 April	International Day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action (United Nations)
	7 April	World Health Day (World Health

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		Organization)
	9 April	International Day of Pink ( <a href="http://www.dayofpink.org">www.dayofpink.org</a> )
	22 April	International Mother Earth Day (United Nations)
	28 April	World Health Day for Safety and Health at Work (ILO)  National Day of Mourning (Canadian Labour Congress/Government of Canada/ <a href="http://www.ccohs.ca">www.ccohs.ca</a> )
<b>May</b>		
	Entire Month	Asian Heritage Month (Government of Canada – Heritage at <a href="http://www.pch.gc.ca">www.pch.gc.ca</a> )
	1 May	May Day/International Worker’s Day (CLC)
	15 May	International Day of Families (United Nations)
	17 May	International Day Against Homophobia (Fondation Emergence)
	21 May	World Day for Cultural Diversity and Dialogue (United Nations)
	19-22 May	Aboriginal Awareness Week (Government of Canada)
	4 <sup>th</sup> week in May, 1 <sup>st</sup> week in June	Cambridge/Kitchener and Waterloo Pride – Tri-Pride ( <a href="http://www.tri-pride.ca">www.tri-pride.ca</a> )
	4 <sup>th</sup> week in May, 1 <sup>st</sup> week in June	Niagara Pride ( <a href="http://www.prideniagara.com">www.prideniagara.com</a> )
<b>June</b>		
	Entire Month	National Aboriginal History Month (Government of Canada <a href="http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca">www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca</a> )
	1 June	Global Day of Parents (United Nations)  Injured Workers’ Day (CLC)
	4 June	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression (United Nations)
	12 June	World Day Against Child Labour (ILO)
	15 June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (United Nations)
	20 June	World Refugee Day (United Nations)
	21 June	National Aboriginal Day (Government of Canada/ <a href="http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca">www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca</a> )
	23 June	United Nations Public Service Day
	24 June	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day (Government of

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		Canada at <a href="http://www.pch.gc.ca/ONA">www.pch.gc.ca/ONA</a> )
	26 June	United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture  International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (United Nations)
	27 June	Multiculturalism Day (Government of Canada <a href="http://www.pch.gc.ca">www.pch.gc.ca</a> )
	TBD	National Access Awareness Week
	1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> weekend in June	Whitby Pride ( <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pridedurham">www.facebook.com/pridedurham</a> ) Halton Pride ( <a href="http://www.haltonpride.org">www.haltonpride.org</a> )
	1 <sup>st</sup> two weeks in June	Kingston Pride ( <a href="http://www.kingstonpride.ca">www.kingstonpride.ca</a> )
	2 <sup>nd</sup> week in June	Hamilton Pride ( <a href="http://www.hamiltonpride.org">www.hamiltonpride.org</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> week in June	Thunder Bay Pride ( <a href="http://www.thunderpride.ca">www.thunderpride.ca</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup> week in June	Toronto Pride Week/World Pride ( <a href="http://www.worldpridetoronto.com">www.worldpridetoronto.com</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup> week in June	York Region Pride ( <a href="http://www.yorkpridefest.com">www.yorkpridefest.com</a> )
<b>July</b>		
	TBD	Toronto Caribbean Festival 2015 ( <a href="http://www.caribanatoronto.com">www.caribanatoronto.com</a> )
	18 July	Nelson Mandela International Day (United Nations)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend in July	Sudbury Pride ( <a href="http://www.sudburypride.com">www.sudburypride.com</a> ) <a href="http://pridesudbury.tumblr.com/schedule">pridesudbury.tumblr.com/schedule</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend in July	Muskoka Pride ( <a href="http://www.muskokapride.com">www.muskokapride.com</a> ) Peel Pride ( <a href="http://www.peelpride.ca">www.peelpride.ca</a> )
	Last week of July	London Pride ( <a href="http://www.pridelondon.ca">www.pridelondon.ca</a> )
<b>August</b>		
	9 August	International Day of World's Indigenous People (United Nations)
	12 August	International Youth Day (United Nations)
	19 August	World Humanitarian Day (United Day)
	23 August	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition (UNESCO)
	1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of August	Windsor Pride ( <a href="http://www.windsorpride.com">www.windsorpride.com</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of August	Ottawa Pride ( <a href="http://www.capitalpride.ca">www.capitalpride.ca</a> )
<b>September</b>		
	7 September	Labour Day (Government of Canada)

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	8 September	International Literacy Day (UNESCO)
	15 September	International Day of Democracy (United Nations)
	21 September	International Day of Peace (United Nations)
	1 <sup>st</sup> week of September	Timmins Pride <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TimminsPride">https://www.facebook.com/TimminsPride</a>
	1 <sup>st</sup> weekend in September	Sault Pride <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Sault.Pride">https://www.facebook.com/Sault.Pride</a>
	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of September	Peterborough Pride ( <a href="http://www.peterboroughpride.ca">www.peterboroughpride.ca</a> )
	3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend in September	Chatham-Kent Pride ( <a href="http://www.pride-ck.com">www.pride-ck.com</a> )
	TBD (September or October)	Persons' Day/Equity Day (Status of Women/LEAF)
<b>October</b>		
	Entire Month	Women's History Month (Status of Women)
	1 October	International Day of Older Persons (United Nations)
	10 October	World Mental Health Day (United Nations)
	11 October	International Day of the Girl Child (United Nations)
	15 October	International Day of Rural Women (United Nations)
	17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (United Nations)
	24 October	United Nations Day
<b>November</b>		
	16 November	International Day for Tolerance (UNESCO)  Louis Riel Day (The Métis Nation of Ontario)
	20 November	Universal Children's Day (United Nations)  Transgender Day of Remembrance (Transgender Awareness Week: 20-26 November)
	November 25-December 10	16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women (Status of Women)  November 25 is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (United Nations)
<b>December</b>		

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	1 December	World AIDS Day (United Nations)
	2 December	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (United Nations)
	3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities (United Nations)
	5 December	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development (United Nations)
	6 December	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (Status of Women)
	10 December	International Human Rights Day (United Nations)
	18 December	International Migrants Day (United Nations)
	20 December	International Human Solidarity Day (United Day)

Researched and Developed with files from:

1. "Equality Day" and "Person's Day": Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) at [www.leaf.ca](http://www.leaf.ca)
2. Fondation Emergence: "International Day Against Homophobia" at [www.fondationemergence.org](http://www.fondationemergence.org)
3. Government of Canada Observances:
  - Aboriginal Awareness Week : Treasury Secretariat of Canada at [www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/ee/awsa-eng.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/ee/awsa-eng.asp) , <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/agen/aa/saa-aas.aspx>
  - Access Awareness Week: Ministry of Community and Social Services at [www.mcsc.gc.ca](http://www.mcsc.gc.ca)
  - Black History Month: Citizenship and Immigration Canada at [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)
  - First Nations/Aboriginal Observances: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada at [www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca)
  - Public Holidays and Important Observances: Heritage Canada at [www.pch.gc.ca](http://www.pch.gc.ca)
  - Repetitive Strain Injuries/Day of Mourning: National Centre for Occupational Health and Safety at [www.ccohs.ca](http://www.ccohs.ca)
  - Status of Women Observances: Status of Women at [www.swc-cfc-gc.on.ca](http://www.swc-cfc-gc.on.ca)
4. International Labour Organization (ILO) Events at [www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/lang--en/index.htm)
5. Métis Observances: The Métis Nation of Ontario at [www.metisnation.org](http://www.metisnation.org)
6. National Labour dates:
  - CLC: Repetitive Strain Injuries Day/Day of Mourning/May Day at [www.canadianlabour.ca](http://www.canadianlabour.ca)
  - Ontario Nurses' Association: "Commemorative Dates recognized by ONA" at [www.ona.org/human\\_rights\\_equity.html](http://www.ona.org/human_rights_equity.html)

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- Public Service Alliance: “Commemorative Dates” at [www.pfac-afpc.com](http://www.pfac-afpc.com)
- 7. United Nations Observances at <http://www.un.org/en/events/observances/years.shtml> and [www.un.org/en/events/observances/days.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/events/observances/days.shtml)
- 8. UNESCO Observances at [www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/all-events/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/all-events/)
- 9. Transgender Day of Remembrance <http://www.transgenderdor.org/>
- 10. Day of Pink <http://www.dayofpink.org/en/info>