

# 2023 Diversity Calendar

It is the intent of the Town of Gander to use this document as a guide to identify various events of significance to Gander's residents, allowing Council to recognize the diversity of its people, culture, and traditions. If you would like to add new dates for the 2024 edition of the calendar, please e-mail us at [communications@gandercanada.com](mailto:communications@gandercanada.com).

## JANUARY

Tamil Heritage Month (Canada)

Date	Event	Origin
	2023	
	New Years' Day	International
	Feast Day of St Basil	Orthodox Christian
	Mary, Mother of God – A Christian day to recognize and celebrate the History of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God	Christian
	Shogatsu / Gantan-sai (New Years) New Year (正月, shōgatsu)	Shinto (Japan)
1	Independence Day	Sudan
4	Independence Day	Myanmar
	Epiphany/Three King's Day	Christian
	Joan of Arc Day	France
6	Armenian Orthodox Christmas Day	Armenia/Canada
7	Orthodox Christmas Day	Orthodox Christian
	Mahayana New Year	Buddhist
8	Bodhi Day	Buddhist
9	Baptism of the Lord Jesus	Christian
	Zanzibar Revolution Day	Tanzania
12	Swami Vivekananda Jayanti	Hindu
13	Lohri	Punjab
	Bihu	Hindu
	Maghi/Magha Ra Saza	Northern India
	Orthodox New Year	Orthodox Christian
14	Pongal	Hindu

15	Makar Sankranti	Hindu
16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Many Regions
19	Timkat	Ethiopian
20	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikh
22	Chinese New Year/Lunar New Year	Southeast Asia
23	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti	India
24	World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture (WDAC)	International
27	The International Holocaust Remembrance Day	International
27-28	Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day)	Jewish
29	National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia	Newfoundland and Labrador/Canada
30	Martyr's Day	India

## FEBRUARY

### Black History Month (International)

Date	2023	Origin
	Candlemas	Christian
	Imbolc (The Feast of Waxing Light)	Paganism
2	Groundhog Day	Many Regions
	Latern Festival	China
	Hazrat Ali Jayanti	Muslim
5	Guru Ravidas Jayanti	Ravidassia
6	<b>Tu B'Shevat</b>	<b>Jewish</b>
14	Valentine's Day	Many Regions
	Lui-Ngai-N	Manipur India
	Flag Day	Canada
15	Nirvana Day	Buddhist
	Lailat al-Mi'raj (18- 19)	Muslim
18	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu
19	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti	India
	Shrove Tuesday	Christian
21	International Mother Language Day	International

	Losar (Tibetan New Year) (3-5)	Tibetan
<b>22</b>	Ash Wednesday	Christian
<b>Feb 26 – Mar</b>		
<b>1</b>	Ayyám-i-Há (also known as the Intercalary Days)	Baha'i

## MARCH

Multiculturalism Month (Newfoundland and Labrador)

Women's History Month (International)

Irish Heritage Month (Canada)

<b>Date</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Origin</b>
	Zero Discrimination Day	Many Regions
	Shrove Tuesday	Christian
<b>1</b>	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu
<b>2</b>	Nineteen Day Fast (2-20)	Baha'i
	Lent (Mar 2 – Apr 14)	Christian
<b>3</b>	Losar	Buddhist, Tibetan
	Independence Day	Ghana
<b>6</b>	Magha Puja Day, Fast of Esther	Buddhist Jewish
	Purim	Jewish
	Great Lent (Mar 7 – Apr 23)	Christian
<b>7</b>	Holi (7-8)	Hindu
<b>8</b>	Lailat al Bara'ah (7-8)	Muslim
<b>8</b>	International Women's Day	International
<b>10</b>	Harriet Tubman Day	United States
<b>14</b>	Commonwealth Day	Many Regions
<b>17</b>	St. Patrick's Day	Many Regions
<b>18</b>	Chötrul Düchen	Tibetan
<b>19</b>	St. Joseph's Day	Christian
	International Francophonie Day	International
	Ostara	Neo-Pagan
<b>20</b>	Persian New Year/ Nowruz	Iranian

<b>21</b>	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	International
	Naw-Rúz The Bahá'í New Year	Baha'i, Persian
	Hindu New Year	Hindu
	Gudi Padwa	Hindu
	Ugadi	Hindu
<b>22</b>	Ramadan (22 – Apr 20)	Muslim
<b>23</b>	Cheti Chand	Hindu
<b>26</b>	Independence Day	Bangladesh
<b>28</b>	Khordad Sal	Zoroastrianism
<b>30</b>	Ram Navami	Hindu
<b>31</b>	International Transgender Day of Visibility	International

## APRIL

Sikh Heritage Month (Canada)

Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation, and Prevention Month (Canada)

<b>Date</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Origin</b>
<b>2</b>	Palm Sunday	Christian
	Mahavir Jayanti	Jainism
<b>4</b>	Lord's Evening Meal	Jehovah's Witness Christian
<b>5</b>	Qingming Festival	China, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia
	National Tartan Day	Scottish
	Maundy Thursday	Christian
	Hanuman Jayanti	Hindu
<b>6</b>	Theravada New Year	Buddhist
<b>6</b>	Passover (6-13)	Jewish
	Rwandan Genocide Memorial Day	Canada
<b>7</b>	Good Friday	Christian
<b>9</b>	Easter Sunday	Christian
<b>10</b>	Easter Monday	Christian
	Baisakhi / Vaisakhi	Sikh
	Pohela Boishakh (Bengali New Year)	Bangladesh, State of West Bengal in India
<b>14</b>	Puttandu	India (Tamil)

	Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti	India
	Vishnu	Hindu
<b>15</b>	Pascha/Orthodox Easter	Eastern Orthodox Christian
<b>16</b>	Divine Mercy Sunday	Christian
	Independence Day	Syria
	Yom HaShoah (17-18)	Jewish
<b>17</b>	Lailat al Kadr	Muslim
<b>18</b>	Independence Day	Zimbabwe
	First Day of Ridvan	Baha'i
<b>20</b>	Eid-al-Fitr (20 – 21)	Muslim
<b>21</b>	First Day of Ridván	Baha'i, Persian
<b>22</b>	Maharshi Parasuram Jayanti	Hindu
	St. George's Day	Christian
<b>24</b>	Armenian Genocide Memorial Day	Canada
	Italy Liberation Day	Italy
<b>25</b>	Yom Ha'Atzmaut (25-26)	Jewish
<b>28</b>	Laylatul Qadr (Night of Power)	Muslim
<b>29</b>	Ninth Day of Ridván	Baha'i
<b>30</b>	Journey to Freedom Day	Vietnamese Canadians

## MAY

Asian History Month (Canada)

Canadian Jewish Heritage Month

Dutch Heritage Month (Canada)

Date	2023	Origin
<b>1</b>	May Day (International Worker's Day)	International
<b>2</b>	Twelfth Day of Ridván	Baha'i
<b>5</b>	Cinco de Mayo	Mexico
	Visakha Puja – Buddha's Birthday	Buddhist
<b>9</b>	Lag B'omer	Jewish
<b>14</b>	Mother's Day	Many Regions

<b>17</b>	International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia	International
	The Ascension of the Lord	Christian
<b>18</b>	Yom Yerushalayim (18-19)	Jewish
<b>22</b>	Victoria Day	Many Regions
<b>24</b>	Declaration of the Báb	Baha'i
<b>25</b>	Buddha Purnima	Buddhist
<b>26</b>	Shavuot (26-27)	Jewish
<b>26</b>	Buddha's Birthday	South Korean/Taiwanese
<b>28</b>	Pentecost Sunday (Whit Sunday)	Christian/Pentecost
	Memorial Day Holiday	United States of America
<b>29</b>	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i
<b>30</b>	Provincial Francophonie Day	Newfoundland and Labrador

## JUNE

National Indigenous History Month (Canada)

Italian Heritage Month (Canada)

Filipino Heritage Month (Canada)

Portuguese Heritage Month (Canada)

<b>Date</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Origin</b>
<b>2</b>	Italy Republic Day	Italy
<b>4</b>	Trinity Sunday	Christian
<b>5</b>	Pentecost	Christian
<b>6</b>	Whit Monday	Christian
<b>8</b>	Corpus Christi	Christian
<b>12</b>	Philippines Independence Day	Filipino
<b>16</b>	The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus	Catholic Christian
<b>18</b>	Father's Day	Many Regions
<b>19</b>	Rath Yatra	Hindu
<b>20</b>	World Refugee Day	International
<b>21</b>	National Indigenous Peoples Day	Canada
<b>22</b>	Dragon Boat Festival	China
<b>24</b>	Fête nationale du Québec	Quebec

	Day of Arafat (27-28)	Muslim
<b>27</b>	Multiculturalism Day	Canada
<b>28</b>	Eid al-Adha (28- 29)	Muslim
<b>29</b>	Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul	Christian
<b>30</b>	Independence Day	Congo

## JULY

Pride Month (Please check local calendars)

<b>Date</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Origin</b>
	Beaumont Hamel Memorial Day	Newfoundland and Labrador
<b>1</b>	Canada Day	Canada
<b>4</b>	Independence Day	United States
<b>5</b>	17th of Tammuz (5-6)	Jewish
<b>6</b>	Birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama	Many Regions
<b>6</b>	Fast of 17 Tammuz	Jewish
<b>10</b>	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i
	St. Benedict Day	Catholic Christian
<b>11</b>	Srebrenica Remembrance Day	International
<b>13</b>	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day)	Buddhist
<b>14</b>	Bastille Day	France
<b>15</b>	St. Vladimir the Great Day	Orthodox Christian
<b>18</b>	First Day of Muharram/Islamic New Year	Muslim
<b>24</b>	Pioneer Day	Mormon Christian
	St. James The Great Day	Orthodox Christian
<b>25</b>	Tunisia Republic Day	Tunisia
<b>26</b>	Tisha BeAv (26-27)	Jewish
<b>27</b>	Tenth of Muharram / Day of Ashura	Muslim

## AUGUST

<b>Date</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>Origin</b>
<b>1</b>	Lammas	Christian

	Emancipation Day	Canada
<b>9</b>	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	International
<b>12</b>	International Youth Day	International
<b>13</b>	Obon (13-15)	Buddhist/Japanese
<b>14</b>	Independence Day	Pakistan
	Ascension of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic Christian
	Independence Day	India
	National Acadian Day	Canada
<b>15</b>	Korean Liberation Day	Korea (North and South)
<b>16</b>	Parsi New Year (Shahenshahi) Jamshedi Navroz	Parsi
<b>19</b>	Independence Day	Afghanistan
<b>20</b>	Onam (20-31)	Hindu (Kerala)
<b>22</b>	The Qixi Festival (Chinese)	China
<b>24</b>	Independence Day of Ukraine	Ukraine
<b>29</b>	Beheading of St. John the Baptist	Christian
<b>30</b>	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu

## SEPTEMBER

Date	2023	Origin
<b>2</b>	Independence Day	Vietnam
<b>4</b>	Labour Day	Many Regions
<b>6</b>	Krishna Janmashtami (6-7)	Hindu
<b>7</b>	Independence Day	Brazil
<b>8</b>	Nativity of Virgin Mary (Nativity Feast)	Christian
<b>14</b>	Holy Cross Day	Christian
	Mexican Independence Day	Mexico
<b>16</b>	Rosh Hashana	Jewish
<b>19</b>	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu
<b>24</b>	Yom Kippur (24-25)	Jewish
<b>26</b>	Mawlid al- Nabi (26-27)	Muslim
	Mid-Autumn Festival	China
<b>29</b>	Sukkot (September 29- October 6)	Jewish
<b>30</b>	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Canada



## OCTOBER

Canadian Islamic History Month

Mi'kmaq History Month (Canada)

German Heritage Month (Canada)

Latin America Heritage Month (Canada)

Women's History Month (Canada)

Date	2023	Origin
	Independence Day	Nigeria
	National Day	China
1	Independence Day	Nigeria
2	Gandhi Jayanti	India – Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi
3	Day of German Unity	Germany
4	St. Francis Day	Catholic Christian
5	Shemini Atzeret (6-8)	Jewish
7	Simchat Torah (7-8)	Jewish
9	Thanksgiving	Canada
14	Svetitskhovleli Cathedral	Georgia
15	Navaratri (15-24)	Hindu
16	Birth of the Bab	Baha'i
17	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i
	Installation of the Scriptures as Guru Granth	Sikh
20	Durga Puja (20-24)	Hindu
23	Dussehra/ Vijayadashami	Hindu
	ChungYang Festival (The Double Ninth Festival)	China
28	National Heroes Day	Philippines
29	Republic Day	Turkey
	Reformation Day	Protestant Christian
	Karva Chauth (Oct 31-Nov 1)	Hindu (Northern and Western India)
31	All Hallows Eve (Halloween)	Christian

## NOVEMBER

Lebanese Heritage Month (Canada)

Date	2023	Origin
1	All Saints' Day	Christian
2	All Soul's Day	Christian
11	Remembrance Day	Many Regions
12	Lakshmi Puja	Hindu
	Diwali	Sikh/Hindu/Jain
13	Vikram Samvat New Year	Hindu
14	Bhai Dooj	Hindu
15	Lhabab Düchen	Buddhist
19	Chhat Puja (19-22)	Hindu
20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	International
22	Sigd (22-23)	Ethiopian Jewish community
23	Thanksgiving (American)	United States of America
	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	International
25	Holodomor Memorial Day	Canada and other international jurisdictions
	Christ the King	United States of America
26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i
27	Guru Nanak Birthday	Hindu/Sikh
28	Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá	Baha'i
30	St. Andrew's Day	Christian

## DECEMBER

Date	2023	Origin
1	Independence Day	Portugal
2	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery	International
	First Sunday of Advent	Christian
3	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	International
6	St. Nicholas Day	Christian
7	Hanukkah (7-15)	Jewish

<b>8</b>	Immaculate Conception of Mary	Catholic Christian
<b>9</b>	Tanzania Independence Day	Tanzania
<b>10</b>	World Human Rights Day	International
<b>12</b>	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Catholic Christian
<b>16</b>	Simbang Gabi (16-24)	Filipino Catholic
<b>17</b>	National Day of the Kingdom of Bhutan	Bhutan
	Yule (21 – Jan 1 2024)	Christian
<b>21</b>	Yelda	Persian
<b>22</b>	Dongzhi Festival	East Asia
<b>24</b>	Christmas Eve	Christian
<b>25</b>	Christmas Day	Christian
	St. Stephen's Day	Christian
	Kwanzaa (26 Dec -Jan 1 2024)	Various Regions
<b>26</b>	Boxing Day	Christian
<b>28</b>	Holy Innocents	Christian
	Watch Night	Christian
<b>31</b>	New Year's Eve	International