

Multifaith DEI Calendar 2023-2024
March 2024 Expanded

Irish Heritage Month: March was declared Irish Heritage Month in the House of Commons in 2022. Irish Heritage Month celebrates Irish Canadians' contributions to Canada's story and serves as an opportunity to learn more about Irish-Canadian history.

Date	Category	Day of Significance
March 1	Anti- Oppression	<u>Zero Discrimination Day</u> A UN recognized day to take action to end the inequalities surrounding income, sex, age, health status, occupation, disability, sexual orientation, drug use, gender identity, race, class, ethnicity and religion that continue to persist around the world. Often used to highlight discrimination of people living with HIV.
March 8	Faith-based Hinduism	<u>Maha Shivaratri</u> One of the major festivals in Hinduism dedicated to worshipping Lord Shiva. People celebrate Maha Shivaratri by fasting, keeping vigil and doing pujas at homes and temples
March 8	Gender Equity	<u>International Women's Day</u> A time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women, who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.
March 10 – April 9	Faith-based Islam	<u>Ramadan</u> Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic lunar calendar. Muslims consider this whole month a blessed month. They fast during the days of this month and make special prayers at night. People also give more charity and do extra righteous deeds.
March 15	Anti- oppression	<u>International Day to Combat Islamophobia</u> The United Nations General Assembly resolution for this day stresses that terrorism and violent extremism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization, or ethnic group. It calls for a global dialogue on the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace, based on respect for human rights and for the diversity of religions and belief.
March 19	Cultural	<u>Nowruz – Iranian (Persian) New Year</u>

		Iranian or Persian New Year. It begins on the spring equinox and marks the beginning of Farvardin, the first month of the Solar Hijri calendar.
March 21	Anti-racism	<u>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</u> A United Nations day of remembrance and action. Observed annually on the day that 69 people lost their lives to the hands of the police in Sharpeville, South Africa, while demonstrating peacefully against apartheid "pass laws" in 1960.
March 23-24	Faith-based Judaism	<u>Purim</u> A Jewish celebration that is a lively festival that commemorates back in the 4th century BC, when Jewish people were saved from a death decree according to the book of Esther.
March 25-27	Faith-based Sikhism	<u>Hola Mohalla</u> A colourful 3-day Sikh festival celebrated during spring.
March 25	Faith-based Hinduism	<u>Holi</u> A Hindu festival that celebrates spring, colour, and love.
March 29	Faith-based Christianity	<u>Good Friday</u> The Friday before Easter, the day on which Christians annually observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.
March 31	Faith-based Christianity	<u>Easter Sunday (Easter or Pascha)</u> The principal festival of the Christian church, which celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after his Crucifixion.

Correction: The District 2023-2024 Inclusive Calendar incorrectly lists The International Day of Remembrance of Slavery Victims and the Transatlantic Slave Trade as March 25. The correct date is August 23 annually.