



Diversity Calendar Resources for May 2024

Persons with Disabilities

Global Accessibility Awareness Day – May 16, 2024

National Accessibility Week – May 26 to June 1, 2024

National Accessibility Week and Global Accessibility Awareness Day are reminders and an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of Canadians with Disabilities.



World-wide there are more than one billion individuals with disabilities. University of Regina student accessibility services has 1,600 active users. This means that more than 10% of the total number of students currently enrolled have expressed accessibility needs. The University has accessibility officers who support students through the process of receiving accommodations. As members of the campus community, we are all tasked with making our spaces accessible and welcoming.

In December 2023, the Government of Saskatchewan introduced 'The Accessible Saskatchewan Act'. The Government is holding and inviting consultations on developing an accessibility plan. As we focus on thinking, talking, and taking action to address the inequities arising due to lack of accessibility, we are mindful that barriers to accessibility could be physical, invisible barriers such as mental health issues, technological, systemic, attitudinal or information and communication related.

Please visit the Accessible SK website at [accessiblesk.saskatchewan.ca](https://www.accessiblesk.saskatchewan.ca) for information about The Accessible Saskatchewan Act and related regulations.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/campaigns/national-accessability-week.html>
<https://accessibility.day/>



Worldwide Celebration of Sexual and Gender Diversities

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia – May 17, 2024

IDAHOBIT 2024 THEME: "NO ONE LEFT BEHIND: EQUALITY, FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL".

The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia was created in 2004 to draw the attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people and all other people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, and sex. It is celebrated in more than 130 countries including 37 countries where same-sex partnerships are illegal.

<https://may17.org/idahobit-2024-theme/>



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Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two Spirit People

Red Dress Day – May 5, 2024

Red Dress Day was inspired by Métis artist Jaime Black who hung empty red dresses to represent the missing and murdered indigenous women. The REDress Project is now a permanent exhibit at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and has been exhibited in Canadian universities, legislatures, hospitals and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

Red dresses are also frequently hung outside from trees, houses or statues, to bring awareness to the crisis. Red was chosen for the dresses because it is powerful and eye-catching, and represents both vitality and violence. It was also chosen after Black learned from an Indigenous friend that red is the only colour that spirits can see, and which can be used to call the spirits of the lost back to reconnect with their loved ones.

The 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action report in Call to Action #41 addressed the issue of disproportionate violence towards Indigenous women and girls and called for the creation of a public inquiry into the crisis.

Red Dress day reminds us of the gendered and racialized violence that indigenous women face and it is a reminder for all of us to advocate and be active participants in creating safe environments for all women.

Cited from

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/red-dress-day>

