



## Diversity Calendar Resources for August 2025

### **World Breastfeeding Week: Aug 1-7**

#WBW2025 highlights how breastfeeding supports a sustainable environment and helps reduce climate change by lowering the environmental impact of artificial feeding. This year's focus is on building the "Warm Chain of Support" connecting healthcare systems, workplaces, communities, and policymakers to create breastfeeding-friendly environments at all levels. Supporting parents in breastfeeding is essential for a healthier planet and future.



### **Public Service Pride Week: Aug 18-22**

More than a celebration, Public Service Pride Week is a global movement promoting 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusion in public service. With participation from Canadian embassies, provinces, and global partners, this year's theme: "Together, We Create Change" emphasizes unity, shared responsibility, and meaningful action to build inclusive workplaces. The week encourages public servants to lead, collaborate, and celebrate progress while committing to continued equity and belonging for all.

### **Emancipation Day: Aug 1**

Officially recognized in 2021, Emancipation Day marks the abolition of slavery in the British Empire. On August 1st we honour the strength and resilience of Black communities in Canada and recognize that both Black and Indigenous Peoples were once enslaved on this land and continue to experience racism and discrimination. Canadians are encouraged to reflect, learn, and act against anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism and discrimination.

### **Civic Holiday: Aug 4**

The Civic Holiday, observed on the first Monday of August, is a mid-summer break celebrated under different names across provinces and municipalities such as Heritage Day (Alberta), Saskatchewan Day, British Columbia Day, and Simcoe Day (Toronto). While not a national statutory holiday, it is recognized in many provinces and municipalities to celebrate local history, culture, and community identity.

### **International Day of the World's Indigenous People: Aug 9**

This year's theme, 'Indigenous Peoples and AI: Defending Rights, Shaping Futures' highlights the fact that AI systems are built without Indigenous input leading to risks in how data will be gathered and used. Consultations with Indigenous peoples will prevent bias, exclusion and misrepresentation of Indigenous peoples. The contributions of Indigenous peoples should be valued along with recognition of their right to traditional lands, territories and natural resources.



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### **International Youth Day: Aug 12**

The theme of International Youth Day 2025 is ‘Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond’. Creating pathways for young people to be active participants in local planning and decision making is necessary for creating inclusive policies. Leaders should collaborate with young people and listen to their ideas and use them to build impactful solutions. Young people can be a positive change for development when we create environments where they can flourish and contribute meaningfully.



### **World Humanitarian Day: Aug 19**

World Humanitarian Day, observed on August 19, honors the dedication and sacrifice of humanitarian and aid workers around the globe. It aims to raise awareness about the importance of humanitarian assistance and the challenges faced by those delivering it. The day acknowledges the growing global need for aid, as highlighted by UN reports, and emphasizes the protection of humanitarian workers who often face life-threatening conditions. Established by the UN General Assembly, this day also serves as a reminder of the humanitarian rights of aid workers and celebrates those who continue to serve vulnerable communities worldwide.

### **International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition: Aug 23**

Observed annually on August 23, this day commemorates the start of the 1791 uprising in Saint Domingue (now Haiti), a pivotal event in the fight to end the transatlantic slave trade. First recognized in Haiti (1998) and Senegal (1999), the day honours the victims and resistance leaders of slavery and calls on us to reflect on its historical causes and lasting consequences. It serves as a global reminder to oppose all forms of human exploitation, uphold the equal dignity of all people, and foster understanding.



From grieving families to spontaneous first responders, the impacts of overdose are far-reaching and do not discriminate. Some of the key principles endorsed by International Overdose Awareness Day include:

- Overdose can and must be prevented.
- Overdose prevention solutions exist.
- Criminalizing drug use hasn't worked. Compassionate alternatives must be pursued.
- Policy and legislation must protect individuals and communities, and ensure that basic human rights and needs are met. Everyone has the right to respectful and comprehensive health care.
- Only a community-wide effort can end overdose.