

Diversity Calendar Resources for December 2025

Universal Human Rights Month is observed throughout the month of December.

This month reminds us that everyone has the right to enjoy freedom from fear and the right to enjoy freedom of speech and belief. It is a time to promote equality, dignity, and justice for all, and to reaffirm our commitment to protecting human rights worldwide.

December 10 is celebrated as Human Rights Day.

It commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. The day highlights global efforts to ensure justice, equality, and protection for all, regardless of identity, background, or beliefs. The 2025 theme for <u>Human Rights Day</u> is "Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials."

Read the stories of people across the globe as they share their everyday essentials, the moments, values, and rights that matter most.

December 1: World AIDS Day (International)

World AIDS Day raises awareness about HIV and AIDS, honours the lives lost to the epidemic, and supports people living with HIV. Established in 1988, this day highlights global progress, encourages testing and prevention, and works to combat stigma. It is also a stark reminder of the recent funding cuts that will impact the Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS by 2030. World AIDS Day is a call to action, urging sustained political leadership, international cooperation, and human-rights-centered approaches to achieving the goal of ending AIDS by 2030.

December 2: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (International)

Latest estimates by the International Labour Organisation show that forced labour and forced marriage have increased significantly over the past five years. The 2021 estimate indicates that 50 million people worldwide are living in modern slavery. One example is a BBC report highlighting hundreds of thousands of people from around the world who are believed to have fallen prey to human traffickers running job scams in Southeast Asia. Victims, mostly young and tech-savvy, are promised jobs and then lured into illegal online work ranging from money laundering and crypto fraud to so-called love scams, in which they pose as lovers online. A UN report in August 2023 stated that at least 120,000 people in Myanmar and another 100,000 in Cambodia were forced to operate <u>cyber-fraud schemes</u>.

This observance is a timely reminder of the urgent need to eliminate modern slavery, including forced labour, human trafficking, child labour, and forced marriage. It highlights that millions of people remain affected by these violations and calls for collective action to end exploitation in all its forms.



Go far, together.



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December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities (International)

The 2025 theme is "Fostering Disability Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress." Persons with disabilities and their families are more likely to live in poverty, face discrimination in employment, receive lower wages, and are overrepresented in the informal sector. They also experience prejudice and encounter barriers related to attitudes and communication.

This day raises awareness about the challenges faced by persons with disabilities and emphasizes the global responsibility to create accessible and equitable environments. At the provincial level, the Accessible Saskatchewan Act requires all publicly funded institutions to develop an accessibility plan, and the University of Regina launched its plan on 3 December 2025.



December 5: International Volunteer Day

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, we need the involvement of diverse individuals. Volunteering allows people to become part of the solution. Globally, 6.5% of the working-age population is involved in formal volunteering through an organization or association. However, most volunteering occurs informally, with 14.3% of the world's population engaged in Volunteering activities.

December 6: National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (Canada)

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against women is about remembering those who have experienced gender-based violence and those whom we have lost.

This Canadian observance honours the 14 women murdered at Montréal's École Polytechnique in 1989. It is a day for mourning, reflection, and action to end gender-based violence across the country.

At the University of Regina the Women's Centre will be hosting a vigil in the Riddell crush space.

Women and Gender Equality Canada







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December 8: Pansexual Pride Day

This day shines a spotlight on the pansexual community, celebrating their identities while raising awareness of the challenges they face in seeking acceptance and understanding.

Many pansexual individuals describe themselves as "gender-blind," meaning their attraction is not limited by biological sex, gender, or gender identity.

It's a reminder that love and attraction can transcend labels and expectations.



December 18: International Migrants Day (International)

This day recognizes the invaluable contributions of migrants worldwide. Migrants play a critical role in labor markets, filling skills gaps and driving innovation and entrepreneurship. However, current rhetoric creates many challenges for migrants, including discrimination, exploitation, and barriers to safety. This observance reminds us to look beyond harmful narratives and appreciate the contributions migrant workers make to our everyday lives. It also reinforces the need to protect migrant rights and celebrate cultural diversity.

December 20: International Human Solidarity Day (International)

International Human Solidarity Day is a day when we celebrate our unity in diversity. It emphasizes cooperation, and shared responsibility. The day highlights global commitments to fighting poverty, promoting social justice, and supporting collective action for a more equitable world.



