

Dates of Significance – May 2026

Asian Heritage Month *A month dedicated to honour and recognize the many contributions of people of Asian ethnicity to B.C. and Canada’s rich cultural society.*

Canadian Jewish Heritage Month: *A month to celebrate the richness of Jewish culture, heritage, and history in Canada.*

Speech and Hearing Month: *A month to shine a spotlight on communication health and the life-changing work of speech and language pathologists and audiologists.*

Date	Category	Day of Significance
May 1	Faith-based Buddhism	<u>Wesak and Buddha Day</u> A significant Buddhist holiday that commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Buddha.
May 5	Cultural	<u>Dutch Heritage Day</u> Created in recognition of the sacrifices made by Canadians in the liberation of the Netherlands, as well as the contributions made to Canada by those of Dutch heritage.
May 5	Anti-Racism Indigenous	<u>Red Dress Day</u> A day to raise awareness about missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.
May 10	Anti-Racism Indigenous	<u>Bear Witness Day</u> The Anniversary of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal first non-compliance order called for Canada to fully implement <u>Jordan’s Principle</u> by May 10, 2016. Jordan’s Principle ensures First Nations children receive the services and supports they need when they need them.
May 17	2SLGBTQ+	<u>International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia</u> A day to recognize the courage and resilience of 2SLGBTQ+ activists of the past and present who have fought for equity and against discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.
May 17-23	Anti-racism	<u>Anti-racism Awareness Week</u>

		A week to learn about anti-racism and the actions we can take to combat racism in all its forms.
May 21	Anti-racism	<u>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue Development</u> A United Nations day that helps communities understand the value of cultural diversity and learn how to live together in harmony.
May 21 – 23	Faith-based Judaism	<u>Shavuot</u> A two-day Jewish holiday that celebrates the completion of the seven-week Omer counting period between Passover and Shavuot.
May 23	Anti-racism	<u>Anniversary of Komagata Maru</u> On May 23, 1914, the Komagata Maru steamship arrived in Vancouver’s Burrard Inlet. On board were 376 Sikhs, Muslims, and Hindus of South Asian origin and were denied entry into Canada based on racist laws.
May 24-29	Faith-based Islam	<u>The Hajj</u> Annual pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims must take at least once in their lives.
May 31-June 6	Anti-oppression Ability	<u>National Accessibility Week</u> Founded in 1988 and inspired by Rick Hansen’s Man In Motion World Tour, this week is an opportunity to celebrate Canadians with disabilities and raise awareness of the critical need for accessibility and inclusion for all in our communities and workplaces.

N.B. Schools and departments are encouraged to avoid scheduling any significant day and evening meetings/events on dates shown in **bold**.