

# Observances 2016-17

*Most of the observances listed below are recognized locally, provincially, nationally and world-wide.*

## September

**Arthritis Awareness Month**

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters Month**

**Blood Cancer Awareness Month**

**Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

**Men's Cancer Health Awareness Month**

**Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month**

**Prostate Cancer Awareness Month**

**4 National PKD (Polycystic Kidney Disease) Awareness Day \***

**5 International Day of Charity \***

**5 Labour Day**

**8 International Literacy Day \***

**8 Astronomy Day \***

**9 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Day \***

**9-25 AIDS Walk for Life**

**10 World Suicide Prevention Day \***

**10 World First Aid Day \***

**11 Grandparents Day**

**11 National Day of Service \***

**12 United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation \***

**15 International Day of Democracy \***

**15 World Lymphoma Awareness Day \***

**16 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer \***

**17 National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day**

**18 Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research**

**18-24 Global Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week**

**18-24 National Forest Week**

**19-23 Hunger Awareness Week**

**21 International Day of Peace \***

**21 World Alzheimer's Day \***

**22 Fall Equinox**

**25 International Ataxia Awareness Day \***

**25 Police and Peace Officer's National Memorial Day**

**26 Cybertip.ca Awareness Day**

**26 International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons \***

**27 World Tourism Day \***

**28 World Rabies Day \***

**29 World Heart Day \***

**29 World Maritime Day**

**30 Terry Fox National School Day Run**

## October

**ADHD Awareness Month**

**Autism Awareness Month**

**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

**Canadian Library Month**

**Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**Healthy Workplace Month**

October cont'd

**Influenza Immunization Awareness Month**  
**International Walk to School (IWALK) Month**  
**Learning Disabilities Awareness Month**  
**Lupus Awareness Month**  
**Occupational Therapy Month**  
**SIDS Awareness Month**  
**Women's History Month**

**1 Int'l Day of Older Persons/National Seniors Day \***  
**1 International Music Day \***  
**2 International Day of Non-Violence \***  
**2 CIBC Run for the Cure**  
**2-4 Rosh Hashanah**  
**2-8 Animal Health Week**  
**2-8 National Newspaper Week**  
**3 World Habitat Day**  
**3-7 International Walk to School (IWALK) Week**  
**3-7 National Family Week**  
**3-9 Mental Illness Awareness Week**  
**4 World Animal Day \***  
**4-10 World Space Week \***  
**5 International Walk to School (IWALK) Day**  
**5 World Teachers' Day \***  
**8 Newspaper Carrier Appreciation Day**  
**8 World Hospice and Palliative Care Day**  
**9 World Post Day \***  
**9-15 Fire Prevention Week**  
**10 Thanksgiving Day**  
**10 World Mental Health Day \***  
**10-16 Citizenship Week**  
**11 International Day of the Girl Child \***  
**11-12 Yom Kippur**  
**13 International Day for Disaster Reduction \***  
**13 World Sight Day**  
**14 World Standards Day \***  
**15 Global Handwashing Day \***  
**15 International Day of Rural Women\***  
**15 World Idic15 Awareness Day \***  
**16 National Boss Day**  
**16 World Food Day \***  
**16 World Spine Day \***  
**16-22 Co-Op Week**  
**16-22 Small Business Week**  
**17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty \***  
**17-21 National Infection Control Week**  
**17-23 National School Safety Week \***  
**17-23 Waste Reduction Week**  
**17-23 YWCA Week Without Violence**  
**18 Persons Day \***  
**18 World Menopause Day \***  
**19-27 National Chemistry Week**

October cont'd

- 20 World Statistics Day \*
- 22 International Stuttering Awareness Day \*
- 23-29 National Black Parent Week
- 23-29 Respiratory Therapists Week
- 24 National School Library Day
- 24 United Nations Day \*
- 24 World Development Information Day \*
- 24-28 Canadian Patient Safety Week
- 24-30 Disarmament Week \*
- 27 World Day for Audio-visual Heritage \*
- 29 World Stroke Day \*
- 29 World Psoriasis Day \*
- 30-Nov. 5 Canadian Intensive Care Week
- 31 Halloween \*
- 31 National UNICEF Day
- 31 World Cities Day \*
- 31-Nov. 4 Media Literacy Week
- 31-Nov. 6 National Skilled Trades and Technology Week

## **November**

CPR Month

Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month

Diabetes Month

Lung Cancer Awareness Month

November

National Community Safety and Crime Prevention Month

National Health Food Month

Osteoporosis Month

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

Radon Action Month

- 1-7 National Downs Syndrome Awareness Week \*
- 1-19 19 Days of Activism for Prevention of Violence Against Children and Youth \*
- 2 Int'l Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists \*
- 2 Take Our Kids to Work Day
- 5 Guy Fawkes Day \*
- 5 World Tsunami Awareness Day \*
- 5-11 Veterans' Week \*
- 6 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 6 Int'l Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict \*
- 6-12 National Senior Safety Week \*
- 6-12 National Pain Awareness Week
- 7-11 Canada Career Week
- 7-12 Family Doctor Week in Canada
- 8 International Day of Radiology \*
- 10 World Science Day for Peace and Development \*
- 10 World Suicide Prevention Day \*
- 11 Remembrance Day \*
- 12 World Pneumonia Day \*
- 13-19 Bullying Awareness Week
- 13-19 Geography Awareness Week
- 14 World Diabetes Day \*
- 14-20 National Addictions Awareness Week
- 15 International Pen Day of the Imprisoned Writer \*
- 15 National Philanthropy Day \*

November cont'd

- 16 International Day for Tolerance \*
- 16 National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims
- 17 World Philosophy Day
- 19 International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day
- 19 World Day for the Prevention of Abuse and Violence Against Children \*
- 19 World Toilet Day \*
- 19-26 YMCA Peace Week
- 20 Africa Industrialization Day \*
- 20 Sir Wilfred Laurier Day \*
- 20 Universal Children's Day/National Child Day \*
- 20 World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims
- 20-27 Restorative Justice Week
- 21 World Hello Day \*
- 21 World Television Day \*
- 24-28 Canadian Patient Safety Week
- 24-30 National Home Fire Safety Week \*
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women \*
- 25-Dec 10 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence \*
- 26 Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day
- 29 Giving Tuesday
- 29 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People \*

## December

- 1 World AIDS Day \*
- 1-5 Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week
- 1-7 National Safe Driving Week \*
- 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery \*
- 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities \*
- 4 International Children's Day of Broadcasting
- 5 International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development \*
- 5 World Soil Day \*
- 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women \*
- 7 International Civil Aviation Day \*
- 9 International Anti-Corruption Day \*
- 9 Int'l Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of Crime
- 10 Human Rights Day \*
- 11 Anniversary of the Statute of Westminster \*
- 11 International Mountain Day \*
- 18 International Migrants Day \*
- 20 International Human Solidarity Day \*
- 21 Winter Solstice
- 24-Jan. 1 Hanukkah
- 25 Christmas Day \*
- 26 Boxing Day \*

## January

- Alzheimer's Awareness Month
- 1 New Year's Day \*
- 4 World Braille Day \*
- 11 Sir John A. Macdonald Day \*
- 15-21 National Non-Smoking Week
- 17 Raoul Wallenberg Commemorative Day \*
- 20 Weedless Wednesday
- 21 Lincoln Alexander Day \*
- 26 International Customs Day \*
- 27 Family Literacy Day \*

January cont'd

- 27 Int'l Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust \*
- 28 Chinese New Year
- 31 World Leprosy Day

## February

Black History Month

Heart Month

Psychology Month

- 1-7 World Interfaith Harmony Week \*
- 2 Groundhog Day \*
- 2 World Wetlands Day \*
- 4 World Cancer Day \*
- 5-11 International Development Week
- 6 Int'l Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation \*
- 6-10 Canadian School Counselling Week
- 7 Safer Internet Day
- 11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science \*
- 13 World Radio Day \*
- 14 Valentine's Day \*
- 15 National Flag of Canada Day \*
- 19-25 Scout – Guide Week
- 20 World Day of Social Justice \*
- 21 International Mother Language Day \*
- 22 Pink Shirt Day
- 22 World Thinking Day \*
- 26-Mar 4 Freedom to Read Week
- 28 Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Day

## March

Childhood Arthritis Awareness Month

Colon Cancer Awareness Month

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Fraud Prevention Month

Kidney Health Month

Liver Health Month

National Engineering Month

National Social Work Month

Nutrition Month

Pharmacy Awareness Month

Red Cross Month

Self-Injury Awareness Month

- 1 Ash Wednesday / Lent Begins
- 1 Self-injury Awareness Day \*
- 1 Zero Discrimination Day \*
- 2-22 Semaine nationale de la francophonie
- 3 World Wildlife Day \*
- 8 International Women's Day \*
- 9 World Kidney Day
- 12 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 12-18 World Glaucoma Week
- 13 Commonwealth Day
- 13-19 Brain Awareness Week
- 14 Pi Day \*
- 14-20 National Farm Safety Week \*
- 15 Micro-volunteering Day \*
- 17 St. Patrick's Day \*
- 20 International Day of Happiness \*

March cont'd

20	Journee internationale de la francophonie/International Francophonie Day
20	Spring Equinox
20-26	Canada Water Week
21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination *
21	International Day of Forests *
21	International Day of Nowruz *
21	World Downs Syndrome Day *
21	World Poetry Day *
21	World Social Work Day
21-28	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination *
22	World Water Day *
23	World Meteorological Day *
24	World Tuberculosis Day *
24	Int'l Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims *
25	Int'l Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade *
25	Int'l Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members *
26	Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness *
27	World Theatre Day *

## April

Daffodil Month

National Poetry Month

Oral Health Month

Parkinson's Awareness Month

1	April Fool's Day *
2	Pope John Paul II Day *
2	World Autism Awareness Day *
4	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action *
6	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace *
6	National Tartan Day *
7	International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda *
7	World Health Day *
9	Palm Sunday
9	Vimy Ridge Day *
9-15	National Wildlife Week
10-16	World Homeopathic Awareness Week *
12	International Day of Human Space Flight *
12	International Day of Pink
14	Good Friday
16	Easter Sunday
17	Equality Day *
17	World Hemophilia Day *
22	Earth Day *
22	Victoria Day
22-30	Passover
23	English Language Day *
23	World Book and Copyright Day *
23-29	Administrative Professionals Week
23-29	National Volunteer Week
24	St. George's Day
24	World Meningitis Day *
25	World Malaria Day *
26	Administrative Professionals Day
26	World Intellectual Property Day *

April cont'd

- 28 Day of Mourning (for Persons Killed or Injured in the Workplace) \*
- 28 World Day of Safety and Health at Work \*
- 29 Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare \*
- 29 International Dance Day \*
- 30 International Jazz Day \*
- 30 National Spank Out Day

## May

- Asian Heritage Month
- Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month
- Brain Tumor Awareness Month
- Car Care Month
- Celiac Awareness Month
- Cystic Fibrosis Month
- Food Allergy Awareness Month
- Green Ribbon of Hope Month (Child Find Canada)
- Huntington Disease Awareness Month
- Lyme Disease Awareness Month
- MedicAlert Month
- National Physiotherapy Month
- Speech and Hearing Month
- Vision Health Month
- 1 Music Monday
- 1-7 National Summer Safety Week \*
- 1-7 Screen-Free Week
- 1-7 National Youth Week \*
- 2 World Asthma Day
- 2-8 Mental Health Week
- 3 World Press Freedom Day \*
- 5 Space Day
- 5 World Pulmonary Hypertension Day \*
- 6 International No Diet Day \*
- 6-13 TD Canadian Children's Book Week
- 8 World Red Cross Day \*
- 8-9 Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War \*
- 9-10 World Migratory Bird Day \*
- 12 International Nurses Day \*
- 12 Fibromyalgia Awareness Day \*
- 12-21 Science Odyssey
- 14 International Astronomy Day
- 14 Mother's Day
- 15 International Day of Families \*
- 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia \*
- 17 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day \*
- 18 International Museum Day \*
- 20 'Vesak' Day of the Full Moon \*
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development \*
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity \*
- 22 Victoria Day
- 23 International Day to End Obstetric Fistula \*
- 24-27 Aboriginal Awareness Week
- 25 Missing Children's Day \*
- 25-31 Week of Solidarity with the People of Non-Governing Territories \*
- 29 International Day of UN Peacekeepers \*
- 31 World No-Tobacco Day \*

# June

**ALS Awareness Month**

**Brain Injury Awareness Month**

**National Aboriginal History Month**

**Seniors Month**

**Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Awareness Month**

**Stroke Awareness Month**

- 1** Global Day of Parents \*
- 3** National Health and Fitness Day
- 4** International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression \*
- 5** Canadian Forces Day
- 5** World Environment Day \*
- 8** World Oceans Day \*
- 11** Canadian Rivers Day
- 11-17** National Blood Donor Week
- 11-17** National Public Service Week
- 12** World Day Against Child Labour \*
- 13** International Albinism Awareness Day \*
- 14** World Blood Donor Day \*
- 15** World Elder Abuse Awareness Day \*
- 16** International Day of Family Remittances \*
- 17** World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought \*
- 18** Father's Day
- 19** International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict \*
- 20** World Refugee Day \*
- 21** Summer Solstice
- 21** International Day of Yoga \*
- 21** National Aboriginal Day \*
- 21-July 1** Celebrate Canada \*
- 23** National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism \*
- 23** United Nations Public Service Day \*
- 23** International Widows' Day \*
- 24** Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day \*
- 25** Day of the Seafarer \*
- 26** Int'l Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking \*
- 26** United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture \*
- 26** Discovery Day
- 27** Canadian Multiculturalism Day \*

\* *celebrated on the same date each year*