



## DIVERSITY CALENDAR – JUNE

This monthly calendar has been created by [Diversity Thunder Bay](#) to mark annual observances. Although not intended to be comprehensive (there are hundreds of worldwide observances each month), it demonstrates the great variety of holidays, celebrations and observances - both religious and secular - that occur worldwide and here in Thunder Bay.

### JUNE MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- **National Indigenous History Month:** During the month of June we recognize the history, heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Canada. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).
- **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month:** Established to recognize the positive impact that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on the world. LGBTQ groups celebrate this special time with pride parades, picnics, parties, memorials for those lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS, and other group gatherings.
- **Filipino Heritage Month:** This month is an opportunity to highlight the invaluable contributions that Canadians of Filipino descent have made to the social, economic and cultural fabric of Canada. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).
- **Italian Heritage Month:** Canada has declared this month as a time to showcase the rich culture and heritage of Italian Canadians. Canada is home to more than 1.5 million Canadians of Italian descent. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).
- **Portuguese Heritage Month:** June is a time to recognize and celebrate the contribution of Canadians of Portuguese descent to our country. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).
- **African (Black) American Music Appreciation Month:** Created by President Jimmy Carter in 1979, this month celebrates and is dedicated to the African American musical influences that comprise an essential part of the nation's treasured cultural heritage. In 2016 President Barack Obama officially declared June to be African American Music Appreciation Month.
- **National Caribbean American Heritage Month:** Adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005 to recognize the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States.

### Late May, or June: Corpus Christi

A Catholic holiday celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, 60 days after Easter, or, in countries where it is not a holy day of obligation, on the following Sunday. This day celebrates the presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist.

### **Mid-June: Sacred Heart of Jesus**

The Feast of the Most Sacred Heart is a solemnity in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church, and falls 19 days after Pentecost. The devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practised and well-known Catholic devotions.

### **June 12: Loving Day**

Loving Day is an annual celebration held on June 12 in several U.S. cities including Washington, D.C. It marks the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision *Loving v. Virginia*, which struck down all anti-miscegenation laws remaining in sixteen U.S. states.

### **June 14: Flag Day**

Observed in the United States to celebrate the history and symbolism of the American flag.

### **June 19: "Juneteenth", Freedom Day, or Emancipation Day**

Juneteenth (officially Juneteenth National Independence Day) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of African-American slaves. It is also often observed for celebrating African-American culture.

### **June 20: International Father's Day**

Father's Day is celebrated annually on the third Sunday in June in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, India, and a number of other countries around the world. It honours the contribution of fathers to the family unit.

### **June 20: World Refugee Day**

The Day, proclaimed by the United Nations, offers a chance to raise awareness of the plight of refugees around the world and of the efforts to protect their human rights. Read more on the [United Nations website](#).

### **June 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day**

This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of [First Nations](#), [Inuit](#) and [Métis](#) peoples. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).

### **June 21 or 22: Summer Solstice**

Many worldwide cultural celebrations take place on this day, the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere.

### **June 24: Saint Jean Baptiste Day**

This holiday is associated with the Christian Saint John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus. It is a statutory holiday in the province of Quebec. Read more at [Canada.ca](#).

**June 27: Canadian Multiculturalism Day**

This is a day of learning more about the contributions of various communities to Canadian society, and to celebrate Canada's richness and diversity. Learn more on [Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca).