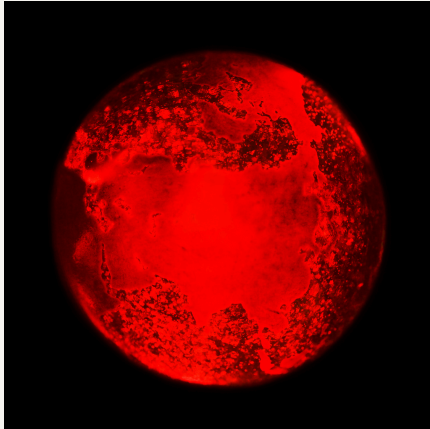




# Multi-Cultural and Diversity Newsletter

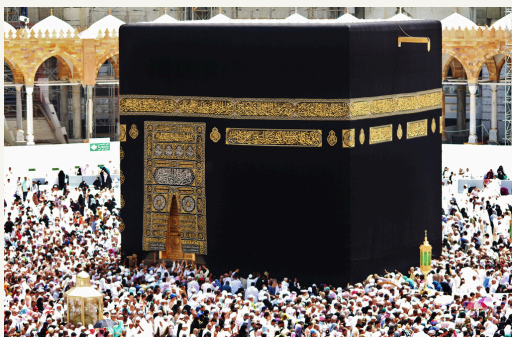


## Red Earth Fair (Indigenous, Canada and USA)

*June 1-3- Cultural Festival takes place in Oklahoma City for 3 days. Over 150 Native tribes from U.S. and Canada gather in downtown Oklahoma City to share and participate in their rich and diverse heritage through highest quality original art, drum and dance juried competitions.*

## Dragon Boat Festival (China and Hong Kong)

*June 10- This day honours the patriot poet Chu Yuan who drowned himself in the Milo River, south of China in protest of the political injustice in 277 B.C. The villagers raced to the river and jumped into dragon boats but never found him. As they searched, they beat drums to scare off fish and dragons that might attack his mortal remains. It is a holiday celebrated by boat races in the shape of dragons.*



## Day of Hajj, Day of Arafat (Islam)

*June 16- Muslims perform the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. The pilgrimage is one of the five Pillars of Islam. All Muslims are expected to perform the Hajj at least once in their lifetime if they have the physical and financial capacity. About 6 million Muslims from over 70 countries journey to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. In one of the rites of the Hajj, pilgrims move in a circular, counterclockwise procession around the Kabah.*





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## Eid-ul-Adha (Islam)

**June 17-** It concludes the Hajj and is a three-day festival celebrating Abraham's test of obedience to Allah when he was asked to sacrifice his son Ismael. At the last minute, Allah replaced Ismael with a lamb. Since Eid is determined by the first sighting of the new moon, the date varies by a day depending on whether the Saudi Arabian or North American sighting is being observed. This calendar follows the North American dates which is a day later.

## National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)

**June 21-** This is an event growing in importance in Canada when the outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis are recognized.



## Multiculturalism Day (Canada)

**June 27-** The Government of Canada officially recognized June 27th as Canadian Multiculturalism Day on November 13, 2002. This day acknowledges the contributions that various communities make to Canadian society and to celebrate the country's richness and diversity.

## Other Celebrations

- June 1- Gawai Dayak (Malaysia)**
- June 5- Yom Yerushalayim (Israel)**
- June 12-13- Shavuot (Jewish)**
- June 21- Litha (Wicca)**
- June 21- Inti Raymi (Peru)**

## Other Celebrations

- June 23- Pentecost (Christian)**
- June 24- Matariki (New Zealand)**
- June 24- Dia de San Juan (Puerto Rico)**
- June 29-Jul 3- Gahambar**
- Maidyoshem (Zoroastrian)**



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## National Indigenous History Month (Canada)



*June is National Indigenous History Month as declared by the Canadian Parliament in 2009. It is a fitting tribute to the heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities across Canada. Aboriginal History Month is an opportunity not only to recognize the historic contributions of Indigenous people to the development of Canada, but also the strength of present-day Indigenous communities and their promise for the future.*

## Pride Month (Canada, USA, and Australia)

*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Events are celebrated by communities across Canada and United States on different dates during June through to early August. There is a Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia annually in February/March. During this time people find that they are not alone and can take pride in their community's history. The most significant date in LGBTQIA2+ history occurring in June, was the 3-day protest in 1969 at the Stonewall Inn in New York City, an event that marked the first time the gay community joined together to fight for its rights, thereby gaining national attention. The anniversary of this event was one of the reasons June was chosen as the nationally proclaimed month to celebrate LGBTQIA2+ Pride.*



## Reference

Khanna, A., Mody, P., Powers, S., Raza. R. (2024. Multicultural Calendar 2024. Toronto: