

Dates of Significance – February 2025

Black History Month: During Black History Month, people in Canada celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada a culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous country. District resources for Black History Month are updated annually on Richnet [here](#).

Date	Category	Day of Significance
February 1-7	Cultural	<u>World Interfaith Harmony Week</u> The World Interfaith Harmony Week provides a platform—one week in a year—when all interfaith groups and other groups of goodwill can show the world what a powerful movement they are. It is hoped that this initiative will provide a focal point from which all people of goodwill can recognize that the common values they hold far outweigh the differences they have, and thus provide a strong dosage of peace and harmony to their communities.
February 2	Faith-based Hinduism	<u>Vasant Panchami</u> A day that is believed to be the birth of the Goddess Saraswati, and is dedicated to this Hindu Goddess of knowledge, music, arts, wisdom and learning.
February 5	Faith-based Christianity	<u>Ash Wednesday</u> In Western Christianity, the first day of Lent, occurring six and a half weeks before Easter.
February 12	Cultural	<u>Lantern Festival</u> A Chinese celebration that marks the end of the Lunar New Year.
February 12	Faith-based Buddhism	<u>Magha Puja Day</u> A major holy day observed by most Buddhists on the first full moon day of the third lunar month. A day of prayers, chants, and offerings.
February 15	Faith-based Buddhism	<u>Nirvana Day</u> Buddhists commemorate the death of Buddha and his entry into final or complete Nirvana. A solemn day for reflection on death and impermanence.
February 17	Cultural	<u>Family Day</u>

		Family Day was introduced in BC in 2013 to recognize the great contributions that families make to our lives, our communities and our province.
February 20	Anti-oppression	<u>World Day of Social Justice</u> The day is an opportunity to remember that social justice is necessary for peace, security, and development around the world.
February 21	Anti-oppression	<u>International Mother Language Day</u> A United Nations day that focuses on how languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion, and the Sustainable Development Goals' focus on leaving no one behind.
February 26	Faith-based Hinduism	<u>Maha Shivaratri</u> One of the major festivals in Hinduism dedicated to worshipping Lord Shiva. People celebrate Maha Shivaratri by fasting, keeping vigil and doing pujas at homes and temples
February 26	Anti-oppression 2SLGBTQIA+ Rights	<u>Pink Shirt Day</u> A student created day in Canada to stand up to homophobic bullying. A video of co-founder of Pink Shirt Day can be found here .
February 28 – March 29	Faith-based Islam	<u>Ramadan</u> Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic lunar calendar. Muslims consider this whole month a blessed month. They fast during the days of this month and make special prayers at night. People also give more charity and do extra righteous deeds. Information is posted on Richnet here on how schools can recognize and be considerate of colleagues, students, and families.

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