

Diversity Calendar

November 2022

Gibson Chowdhury Mediation
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November 1st Christianity All Saints' Day

This is a Christian festival celebrated in honour of all the saints, known and unknown.

November 2nd Christianity All Souls' Day

Commemorating the souls of faithful Christians, who have perished. Visits to cemeteries of the dead and special meals are prepared in celebration.

November 4th Hindu Diwali – The Festival of Lights

This is one the biggest 5-day celebrations in the Hindu faith. Many followers of the Sikh faith also take part in the festivities. Diwali commemorates, Lakshmi, the Goddess of wealth and good fortune. Many traditional festivities take place on this day, including puja, lighting candles, adorning new clothes and family gatherings.

November 11th Global Remembrance Day/Veteran's Day

In remembrance of those perished in their line of duty during the First World War. A minute's silence is usually observed at 11 am and wearing a poppy flower on the day as a mark of respect.

November 20th Roman Catholic Feast of Christ the King

A Roman Catholic holiday to celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord over all creation. This observance was created by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as a way of instituting strength of the faith against secularism.

November 25 America Thanksgiving

A day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year.

November 28th - January 6th Eastern Orthodox Nativity

Celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches in preparation for the Nativity of Jesus. The faithful will often show their spirituality through fasting (abstinence from dairy, fish, meats wine and oil), prayers and confessions.

November 28th - Dec 24th Christianity Advent

The season Advent begins four Sundays before leading up to Christmas day. Traditionally, Advent was seen as a time to reflect on our actions and make positive changes. Many followers would also fast during this time.

November 30th Christianity St. Andrews Day

The feast day for St. Andrew within various Christian faiths. It is also marked as a National day in Scotland and Romania.

Movember

Men's Health Awareness Month

Established in 2003, the month of November has been known for raising awareness on men's health issues. Traditionally, men started to grow their mustaches to raise money for research and to support millions of men across the world.

About the Calendar

This calendar shows some of the multicultural celebrations for the month of November 2022. There may be some celebrations that have not been included in this calendar and customs may vary. If you would like Afsana to add a special holiday or vary the customs, please send an email to afsana@gcmediation.com.

This calendar was produced by, Gibson Chowdhury – Clear Collaborative Mediation, through careful research and references to various sources and materials.



Afsana Gibson-Chowdhury, Q.MED, A.D.F

Afsana is a lawyer and Qualified Mediator and founder of 'Gibson Chowdhury', a Toronto-based mediation boutique, specializing in civil and commercial disputes, business contracts, neighbour, and residential construction/renovation disputes. Afsana is the co-founder and Senior Vice President of the Diversified Dispute Resolution Institute of Canada (DDRIOC) and an Adjudicator at the Property Standards Committee for the City of Toronto. Afsana is an active member of the Ontario Bar Association and is the current Chair of the ADR Section Executive board. As part of the Section, she has recently co-chaired a groundbreaking report with an OBA Working Group called "Neutral Diversity in Ontario". She has written several CLE programs on Equity Diversity and Inclusion and intercultural communications. She developed a 4 day course, "Intercultural Communication and Diversity for Professionals" which is an accredited course through DDRIOC. She is a member of the International Academy of Mediators' DEI committee where she continues to build helpful tools for lawyers and mediators. Afsana is often asked to attend speaking engagements globally to present on topics such as Dispute Resolution and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in ADR. Afsana is the recipient of the ADR Institute of Ontario, Star Award 2021.

Afsana is an English-born UK national and a daughter of British Muslim Immigrant parents from Bangladesh. She is now a Canadian immigrant where she enjoys the company of her husband and three children. She lives in the traditional territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, commonly known as Toronto.