

Spirit Bear's  
Guide to

# Reconciliation

2025

Calendar



**Thank you** for supporting the child- and youth-led reconciliation based events and initiatives with your purchase of Spirit Bear's Guide to Reconciliation Calendar 2025!

Our calendar can support all people living in Canada to take *pawsitive* actions toward reconciliation in *beary* caring and respectful ways year-round. We also hope you will participate in our reconciliation campaigns and events, including Have a Heart Day, Elderbeary Day, Bear Witness Day, Reconciling History, School is a Time for Dreams, Reconciliation Ambearristers, and so much more!

**Just because we're small doesn't mean we can't stand tall!**

**Follow us on social media and share  
your actions toward reconciliation with us!**

 @SpiritBear    @CaringSociety  
 CaringSociety    SpiritBearAndFriends

All of the images in this guide are adapted from Spirit Bear's motion pictures, especially his fourth film, *Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past*.







**In January**, I will read the book and watch the film *Spirit Bear and Children Make History*. Doing this will help me write letters to people elected to represent us in the Canadian government. In my letters, I will ask them to fully implement the *Spirit Bear Plan*. I will also take time to learn about the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal case for First Nations child welfare and Jordan's Principle.





# January

On this day in 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal found that the Government of Canada was discriminating against First Nations children.

sunday    monday    tuesday    wednesday    thursday    friday    saturday

			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 National Ribbon Skirt Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 International Day of Education	25
26	27 Isra and Mi'raj	28	29	30	31	



On February 14, I will take part in Have a Heart Day! I will stand with First Nations kids and their families. I plan to send a Valentine's Day card or letter asking elected people in government to treat First Nations kids with love and kindness.





# February

On this day in 2007, the Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society filed a complaint with the Canadian Human Rights Commission alleging that Canada is discriminating against First Nations children by providing less child welfare funding on reserves.

saturday

1

Black History Month Begins

8

Chinese New Year

15

Have a Heart Day  
Valentine's Day

22

Yukon Heritage Day (YK)

28

Ramadan Begins

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

2

Groundhog Day

3

10

Public Holiday in many provinces and territories

4

11

18

25

5

12

19

26

Pink Shirt Day  
Maha Shivaratri

6

13

20

27

7

14

21

23

24

On this day in 2013, the hearings began for the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal case.

On this day in 2012, Shannen's Dream passed in the House of Commons.



**In March**, I will participate in School is a Time for Dreams and learn more about Shannen's Dream by watching Shannen Koostachin's speech at the Attawapiskat Youth Forum in 2008. After I do this, I will write letters to elected officials asking them to ensure First Nations children and youth have the opportunity to get a good education in schools that are safe and comfy. I plan to thank my Elders on Elderbeary Day by making them thank you cards, drawing them pictures, or baking them cookies to show I care. I'm *beary* thankful for what they do for all of us!





# March

saturday

1

School is a Time  
for Dreams Begins

8

International  
Women's Day

15

22

World Water Day

29

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

2

3  
World Wildlife Day

4

5  
Ash Wednesday

6

7

9  
Daylight Savings  
Time Begins

10

11

12

13  
Purim

14  
Holi  
Pi Day

16

17  
St. Patrick's Day

18

19

20  
Spring Equinox  
**Elderberry Day**

21  
International Day for  
the Elimination of Racial  
Discrimination

23

24

25

26

27  
Lailat al-Qadr

28

30  
Ramadan Ends

31  
International Transgender  
Day of Visibility  
Eid al-Fitr



**In April**, I will continue to participate in School is a Time For Dreams by reading the book and watching the film *Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams*. I plan to take care of the land too! Uncle Huckleberry told us in the book *Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams*, that we can all do things to take care of the land. He says, "You can recycle, support fish hatcheries, prevent forest fires, and make sure not to put bad stuff on the earth or in the water. You can also learn from First Nations peoples – they know how to look after the land and the animals."





# April

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

		1 April Fools' Day World Autism Month Begins	2 World Autism Day	3	4	5
6 Ram Navami	7	8	9	10	11	12 Passover Begins
13 Palm Sunday	14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter	21 Easter Monday	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26
27	28 National Superhero Day	29	30 School is a Time for Dreams Ends			

Since 2011, April 27 has been known as Shannen's Dream Day of Action.



On May 10, I will celebrate Spirit Bear's *bearthday* and participate in Bear Witness Day to honour Jordan River Anderson and his family for the gift of Jordan's Principle. I will write letters to elected people in the Government of Canada, asking them to commit to the *Spirit Bear Plan*. I will also ask elected officials in my province or territory to make Spirit Bear Day a recognized holiday. Did you know that in 2021, Manitoba made Spirit Bear Day a provincial holiday through the *Spirit Bear Day Act*?





# May

sunday    monday    tuesday    wednesday    thursday    friday    saturday

On this day in 1998, the initial meeting to discuss the creation of the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society happened.

On this day in 1999, the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society was created!

					1 May Day Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams Begins	2	3
4	5 Red Dress Day	6	7	8	9	10 Spirit Bear Day (MB) Bear Witness Day Spirit Bear's Bearthday	
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14 Children and Youth in Care Day (ON)	15	16	17	
18	19 Victoria Day	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

On this day in 2008, Shannen and her friends marched on Parliament Hill for safe and comfy schools for First Nations children and youth.



**In June**, I will continue to participate in Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams, and I will plant a heart garden in honour of residential school Survivors and the children who did not come home. I will make a promise toward reconciliation in response to *Spirit Bear's Guide to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action*. I will write my promise on a paper heart and plant it in my Heart Garden.





# June

On this day in 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's closing ceremonies occurred and its 94 Calls to Action were shared.

sunday    monday    tuesday    wednesday    thursday    friday    saturday

1 Indigenous History Month Begins Pride Month Begins	2 Shavuot Begins	3	4	5	6	7 Eid al-Adha
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Father's Day	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth (US)	20 Summer Solstice	21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
22	23	24 St. Jean Baptiste Day (QC)	25	26	27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day	28 World Pride Day
29	30 <b>Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams Ends</b>					

On this day in 2019, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls closing ceremony took place. They shared their Final Report and Calls for Justice.





**In July**, I will honour Shannen Koostachin. I will watch Alanis Obomsawin's film *Hi-Ho Mistahey!* to learn about the life of Shannen Koostachin and her home community of Attawapiskat First Nation. I will also read the book and watch the film, *Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams* to learn how Shannen's Dream was created.



# July

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

		1 Canada Day	2	3	4	5
6 Muharram	7	8	9	10	11	12 Shannen Koostachin's Birthday
13	14	15	16	17 World Day for International Justice	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

In some places in Canada, July 1 is known as Chinese People's Railroad Day. On this day, we are all invited to honour over 17,000 Chinese workers, many of whom lost their lives building the Canadian Pacific Railway.



**In August**, I will learn about the traditional and ancestral homelands and territories of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and learn the original place names of major cities and towns across Canada. I will make sure I know the original place name of where I currently live and learn more about the origin of its name as part of my learning about Canada's history in a balanced and truthful way.





# August

friday

saturday

1	2
8	9 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
15	16
22	23
29	30

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

3	4 Public Holiday in many provinces/territories	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 International Youth Day	13	14	15	16
17 Dr. Peter Henderson Bryce's Birthday	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 International Dog Day	27	28	29	30

31  
International Overdose  
Awareness Day  
Alanis Obomsawin's  
Birthday



**In September**, I will read the book, *Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past*. After reading the book, I will participate in Reconciling History by sending a letter to Dr. Peter Henderson Bryce at Beechwood Cemetery. I will also write letters to elected people in the Government of Canada asking them to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the *Spirit Bear Plan*.





# September

On this day in 2013, *Hi-Ho Mistahey!*, directed by Alanis Obomsawin, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival.

sunday    monday    tuesday    wednesday    thursday    friday    saturday

	1 Labour Day	2	3	4 Mawlid al-Nabi Begins	5	6
7	8 International Literacy Day	9 National Teddy Bear Day	10 World Suicide Prevention Day	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 International Day of Peace	22 Autumn Equinox Rosh Hashanah Navaratri Begins	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Orange Shirt Day National Day for Truth and Reconciliation				

On this day in 2016, *We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice*, directed by Alanis Obomsawin, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival.

On this day in 2007, the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.





**In October**, I will honour Jordan River Anderson. I will watch Alanis Obomsawin's film *Jordan River Anderson: The Messenger* to learn about his life. I will also read the book and watch the film *Spirit Bear and Children Make History* to learn about why Jordan's Principle was created.



# October

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

saturday

			1 Yom Kippur	2 International Day of Non-Violence	3	4 National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
5 World Teachers' Day	6 Sukkot Begins	7	8	9	10 World Mental Health Day	11 International Day of the Girl National Coming Out Day
12	13 Thanksgiving Day	14 Simchat Torah	15	16	17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	18
19	20 Diwali	21	22 Jordan River Anderson's Birthday	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	





**In November**, I will honour First Nations, Inuit, and Métis veterans by learning about their legacies and all that they have done for Canada. Reading *Spirit Bear: Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams* will help me to do this.



# November

On this day in 2010, Shannen's Dream campaign was launched by youth in Attawapiskat First Nation.

saturday

1

All Saints' Day  
Dia De Los Muertos Begins

8

National Indigenous Veterans Day

15

22

29

sunday

monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

2

3

4

5

6

7

Daylight Savings Ends

9

10

11

12

13

14

Remembrance Day

16

17

18

19

20

21

World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse

World Children's Day  
Transgender Day of Remembrance

23

24

25

26

27

28

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

30

On this day in 1989, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child.



**In December**, I will reflect on all the promises for reconciliation that I made this year. I will commit to taking further actions to advance reconciliation in 2026. To do this, I will read *Spirit Bear's Guide to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action* and *Spirit Bear: Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams*.





# December

On this day in 2007, Jordan's Principle passed unanimously in the House of Commons.

sunday    monday    tuesday    wednesday    thursday    friday    saturday

	1	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities	4 National Cookie Day	5	6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
7	8	9	10 International Human Rights Day	11	12	13
14 Hanukkah Begins	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Winter Solstice	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26 Boxing Day Kwanzaa Begins	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			

On this day in 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its Final Report.



**The First Nations Child & Family Caring Society** works to ensure the safety and wellbeing of First Nations children, youth, and their families through educational activities that engage individuals of all ages in reconciliation and by providing quality resources to support First Nations communities. The Caring Society works proudly with our partners far and wide to promote the rights of Indigenous children. All proceeds from the sale of this calendar go to helping ensure First Nations kids can grow up safely at home, get a good education, and be healthy and proud of who they are.



**First Nations Child &  
Family Caring Society**

[fncaringsociety.com](http://fncaringsociety.com)