



OUR NEWSLETTER

CANADIAN HISPANIC CONGRESS EST. 1983



LABOUR DAY

Labour Day is a national holiday that can be traced back to a printers' revolt in 1872 in Toronto when labourers tried to establish a 54-hour workweek maximum. Labour Day is celebrated on the first Monday of September. Back in 1872, any union activity was considered illegal, leading to the incarceration of the revolt's organizers. This detonated protest marches of around 10,000 people in response to this injustice. This eventually ended with Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald repealing the anti-union laws and arranging for the release of the imprisoned organizers.

We commemorate the Nine-Hour Movement and the printers' strike, on Labour Day, an annual celebration, officially declared a national holiday in Canada on July 23rd, 1894. We celebrate Labour Day with a long weekend. Canadians appreciate the day of rest and enjoyment of many seasonal attractions. The hard work and persistence of those that came before us gave us the foundation upon which current labour law has been built. Many interesting facts about this celebration are at our fingertips. We hope you take a moment to learn more about this and other historic events and that you and yours enjoy a happy and healthy Labour Day weekend.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- LABOUR DAY
- THE AUTUMNAL EQUINOX
- GENDER EQUALITY WEEK
- NATIONAL DAY FOR THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

REGULAR FEATURES:

- MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
- CHC UPCOMING EVENTS



THE AUTUMNAL EQUINOX



The Autumnal Equinox, also known as the September Equinox, is a natural occurrence that takes place every year either on September the 22nd or 23rd. But what does this mean? This event marks the moment when the sun is directly above the equator while moving from north to south. Additionally, this also represents the astronomical beginning of Fall in the Northern Hemisphere, meaning that from that moment on, the days become shorter, and nights grow longer as the sun rises later and sets earlier.

Cultures around the world commemorate the arrival of Fall with ancient traditions and rituals. Although these celebrations can be traced back to ancient civilizations, the traditions surrounding the Autumnal Equinox are kept alive by people from different communities. These alongside newly created rituals and traditions sprouting everywhere to commemorate the autumnal season. Fall fairs and festivals, celebrate the arrival of the Fall season. Halloween preparations and the harvesting of pumpkins are just some of Fall's delights. Thanksgiving is our official holiday to offer thanks to the land for all the food that the bounty it has produced. Let us all enjoy the beginning of this generous season. May you find many ways to enjoy these impressive natural happenings.

GENDER EQUALITY WEEK

Defining the concept of "Gender equality", is difficult. It is easier to explain what, by definition, gender inequality means, and provide examples that practically demonstrate the effects of the varying degrees of absence of gender equality. Gender equality has been defined as people of all genders having equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities". One explanation of "gender equality" asserts that every human being, has, individually, the right to be free from coercion, intimidation, and violence at work and at home. Again, it is easier for example, to explain the ways in which gender inequality affects women. From the overarching issues of women being victims of exclusion, to the complexities of everyday life and the disadvantages of women lacking the right to self-determination and decision-making, which translates into access to economic and social resources.

The disproportionate effect the pandemic has had on women has highlighted the extent of gender inequality. It has added another layer of urgency to the work of achieving gender equality. Despite the lengthy discussion the world has had about the problems of gender inequality, across the years, not a lot has changed. Now, as always, women are more likely to experience unemployment and economic hardship, are more susceptible to poverty and food insecurity, and are at an increased risk of experiencing gender-based violence. Advancing the goal of gender equality will help us to reach the balance of fairness and prosperity and allow for a thriving society. Gender Equality Week is celebrated throughout the fourth week of September. **Do your part!**



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30 has been declared Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. A day to honour the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. Providing some context for this commemoration, the UBC Indigenous Foundation says, "The term residential schools refers to an extensive school system set up by the Canadian government and administered by churches that had the nominal objective of educating Indigenous children but also the more damaging and equally explicit objectives of indoctrinating them into Euro-Canadian and Christian ways of living and assimilating them into mainstream white Canadian society". The devastation resulting from this strategy continues to impact survivors, their families and Canadian society.

The declaration of a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a day of reflection, whose main objective is the public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools. This declaration is a vital component of the reconciliation process. This commemoration, having emerged just under a year ago, is therefore relatively new to many Canadians and there is great interest among Canadians in learning more and connecting with the original owners of Canada's territory, now living in over 50 Indigenous Nations within over 600 communities,

This celebration offers the world another opportunity to learn more, reflect and participate in this celebration. Please wear your orange shirt on September 30.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends of the Canadian Hispanic Congress,

It is hard to believe that Summer 2022 has come to an end. Students will be heading back to school soon, the days will become shorter, and the leaves will begin to change colours.

Fall in turn will bring us the breathtaking sceneries that characterize the Fall season and the promise of celebrations and family gatherings.

For us at the CHC, September marks the beginning of our year-long celebration of the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Canadian Hispanic Congress. We are filled with gratitude for your support and encouragement. While there will be many celebratory activities throughout this year that we invite you take part in, for the next 60 days, until the end of October 2022, we ask you to take a moment and take a picture of yourself and/or your family, with your best smile and your right hand over your heart. Please let us know your country of origin and we will add your flag to the picture. We will be publishing your picture at least once over the next 60 days, through our social media platforms.

**Please send your pictures and comments to
membership@canadianhispaniccongress.com**

We want to wish you a wonderful Labour Day weekend and a blessed Thanksgiving celebration 2022. We look forward to receiving your pictures and messages.

Warm regards,

Monique Forster
President
Canadian Hispanic Congress

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CHC UPCOMING EVENTS

CHC 40th ANNIVERSARY

A YEAR LONG CELEBRATION AWAITS...

For us at the CHC, September marks the beginning of our year-long celebration of the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Canadian Hispanic Congress. We are filled with gratitude for your support and encouragement. While there will be many celebratory activities throughout this year that we invite you take part in, for the next 60 days, until the end of October 2022, we ask you to take a moment and take a picture of yourself and/or your family, with your best smile and your right hand over your heart. Please let us know your country of origin and we will add your flag to the picture. Finally we ask you to send a small text with your thoughts on the CHC's work so that we can complement your photo with your comments. We will be publishing your picture at least once over the next 60 days, through our social media platforms.



Please send your pictures and comments to:
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