

Durham - It appears that June is a month of controversial celebration. With the anti-Woke movement in full swing. People are questioning 'GAY PRIDE' as over rated. Many questioning why some groups only get days of celebration and the 2SLGBTQ+ get a month. Same controversy, surrounds the National indigeneous Month as being over politicized. Nonetheless both are celebratory in June. Other groups that celebrate June as their month include: Filipino, Italian and Portugese nationalities. Ontario Celebrates Seniors Month. Province celebrating seniors by continuing to support more than 400 local active living centres across Ontario. June is Seniors Month in Ontario, a time to honour and celebrate the contributions seniors have made to help make this province the great place it is today. This year's Seniors Month theme Ontario Seniors – Let's Get Moving, highlights the importance of helping seniors stay active and engaged in their communities. "Seniors Month is a time to celebrate the contributions of our seniors, giving them the dignity and respect they deserve every day," said Raymond Cho. "Our government is continuing to support seniors across the province by ensuring they have access to affordable, reliable community programs and services that help them stay active, connected and independent."

The government is focused on helping seniors stay socially connected and close to home, by investing more than ever before in hundreds of local programs across the province.

To support active, healthy living for seniors, the province has invested up to \$22.8 million in more than 400 Seniors Active Living Centre programs across Ontario, including nearly 100 new programs approved in 2024-25, giving more seniors access to activities and services close to home.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Seniors Active Living Centre programs, established under the Elderly Persons' Centres Act, 1966. For six decades, these programs have helped seniors across Ontario stay active and socially connected, supporting their independence and overall well-being while strengthening communities across the province.

In June Ontario will hold its annual Ontario Senior Achievement Award ceremony to honour and recognize seniors receiving the 2025 awards.

Seniors are recognized through two provincial senior award programs. Nominations for these awards can be made at any point in the calendar year.

Ontario held 104 Seniors Active Living Fairs (SALFs) in 2025-26 in partnership with the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario

# June recognizes many observances

<b>SENIORS MONTH</b>  Honouring the past. Celebrating the present. Inspiring the future.	<b>PRIDE MONTH</b>  Celebrating 2SLGBTQ+ communities and advancing inclusion and equality for all.	<b>NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH</b>  Honouring the rich histories, diverse cultures and lasting contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.
<b>FILIPINO HERITAGE MONTH</b>  Commemorates the contributions of Filipino Canadians to the national social fabric.	<b>ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH</b>  Honors the history, culture, and achievements of Italian Canadians.	<b>PORTUGUESE HERITAGE MONTH</b>  Recognizes the profound impact of Portuguese Canadian heritage across the country.

Let's come together to celebrate, reflect and build a stronger, more inclusive Canada.

(OACAO) to provide information and support to seniors.

Five of the first six Elderly Persons' Centres that received grants under the Elderly Persons' Centres Act, 1966 are still operating as SALC programs today. Celebrate Recreation and Parks Month across the region this June!

June is Recreation and Parks Month, and Durham Region

Health Department, in partnership with participating Durham Region municipalities, is excited to celebrate all month long. Participating municipalities in Durham Region will offer a passport adventure initiative throughout the month where residents can enjoy a variety of free recreation programs such as public swims, Free Fitness Fridays, as well as exciting new activities. Where available, passport details and event information can be found on participating municipalities' recreation websites or

in-person at local municipal recreation centres. June also coincides with Bike Month, making it an ideal time to get moving on two wheels. Residents are encouraged to explore [durham.ca/BikeMonth](http://durham.ca/BikeMonth) to discover cycling events and bike-friendly activities happening across Durham Region. "With both Recreation and Parks Month and Bike Month taking place in June, residents have many options to stay active and connected right here in Durham Region," said Tara Wheeler, public health

nurse with Durham Region Health Department. "There is always something fun to do in June. Everyone is encouraged to get active, explore local recreation opportunities and enjoy the many parks and outdoor spaces available throughout the region." To learn more, area residents can visit their local municipal recreation centre or municipal website for event details and participation information. Or read this newspaper as events get posted.

## Clarington Mayor's statement on Pride Month And Regional Chair Henry

Clarington Mayor Adrian Foster has issued the following statement. "Happy Pride month! Clarington strives to be a welcoming and inclusive community for our 2SLGBTQIA+ residents and all allies. Thank you to every caring person who works diligently to create safe spaces and a culture of respect here. Discrimination and hate struggle to take root where love and kindness are so well tended. This weekend, we'll be celebrating Pride month by walking in the Pride Durham Parade. We can be proud of how far we've come while recognizing we still have work to do to confront hate, build opportunities for unlearning prejudice, and champion progress. We must work together to make sure Clarington is a place where everyone can feel free to live authentically and with pride." Whitby, Ontario –Chair and Chief Executive Officer for The Regional Municipality of Durham: "Pride begins with a simple yet powerful message: everyone deserves to feel safe and valued, and experience a true sense of belonging. Across Durham Region, individuals, families, advocates and organizations continue to lead the way—challenging barriers, fostering acceptance and creating spaces where people can show up as their authentic selves, free from discrimination based on gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation. Pride Month is a time to celebrate, uplift one another and reaffirm our shared commitment to building communities where everyone can thrive. This spirit is at the heart of Youth Pride Durham taking place on June 13—an annual, family-friendly event that brings together youth, children, families and allies for an afternoon of celebration and connection. From one end of Durham to the other, we're working to advance equity and inclusion for Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex communities, so that everyone can feel seen, supported and empowered. Durham Pride is Durham-wide."

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