

Hello Everyone,

Happy Spring! Thank you to everyone who participated in our Staff Perception Scale, the feedback received is valuable information for determining where we are as an agency in terms of equity, diversity and inclusion, and how we should move forward.

### **What's happening?**

Over the past few months, the Mind Forward EDI committee has implemented some changes. Land Acknowledgments are being read at team meetings and have been incorporated into all Mind Forward email communications. Also, the application form on the Mind Forward website has been updated to include pronouns with a more diverse gender identity selection. In the coming months, EDI committee members will be presenting information regarding pronouns and gender identity at team meetings.

### **Acknowledgements, festivities and celebrations!**

We hope that you have been enjoying our acknowledgements and learning along with us with our communications. A diversity calendar for the months of April, May and June can be found in this newsletter. Please take a look and keep an eye out for some acknowledgements from the Mind Forward EDI committee!

Sincerely,

The Mind Forward EDI committee

#### Did you know?

Eid-al-Fitr is the first of two Eids of the Islamic calendar year; it rounds off the month of Ramadan. Eid-al-Fitr is regarded as a time to celebrate, with people gathering with their friends and family to show gratitude toward God following the previous month of reflection during Ramadan.

#### Did you know?

Songkran is Thailand's most famous festival and an important event on the Buddhist calendar as this day marks the beginning of the traditional Thai New Year. The name Songkran comes from a Sanskrit word meaning "passing" or "approaching".

# April 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2 Good Friday & World Autism Awareness Day	3
4 Easter Sunday & Refugee Rights Day	5 QingMing Festival	6	7	8 Yom Hashoah	9	10
11	12 Start of Ramadan	13 Songkran	14 International Day of Pink (Anti- Bullying)	15	16	17
18	19	20 Start of Rivdan	21	22 Start of Gathering of Nations & Earth Day	23 National Day of Silence (LGBTQIAA+)	24
25	26	27	28 National Day of Mourning	29	30	1
2	3	Arab-American Heritage Month Tartan (Scottish-American) Heritage Month Autism Awareness Month National Volunteer Month			Celebrate Diversity Month National Child Abuse Prevention Month Earth Month	

# May 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8
9 Laylat al-Qadr	10	11 Ramadan ends	12 Eid al-Fitr	13	14	15
16	17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia	18	19	20	21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day	ALS Awareness Month South Asian American Heritage Month Haitian Heritage Month Older Americans Month Indian Heritage Month			National Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month Jewish-American Heritage Month Mental Health Month	

# June 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5 World Environment Day	
6	7	8 Race Unity Day	9	10	11	12	
13 International Albinism Awareness Day	14	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	
20 World Refugee Day	21 National Indigenous Peoples Day	22	23	24 Litha, Summer Solstice	25	26	
27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day	28	29	30	1	2	3	
4	5	AIDS Awareness Month Pride Month (LGBTQIAA+) Alzheimer's Awareness Month National Caribbean American Heritage Month Black Music Month				National Aboriginal History Month/Indigenous People's Month Caribbean American Heritage Month Brain Injury Awareness Month 	