

**Interfaith Insider July 2023/Issue 23** 

Interfaith Centre, MB305

## HAVE FUN THIS JULY!



#### **CALGARY STAMPEDE!**

Every July in Calgary, there is a rodeo, exhibition, and festival known as the Calgary Stampede. One of the largest rodeos in the world, a parade, a midway, stage shows, concerts, agricultural competitions, chuckwagon racing, and First Nations demonstrations are all part of the tenday event, which calls itself "The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth". It also includes a parade, a midway, stage shows, concerts, and agricultural contests. The Calgary Stampede was honoured by being admitted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 2008.

### CANADA DAY!

Happy Birthday, Canada! July 1, 1867, the British Parliament passed legislation recognizing Canada as a domestically selfgoverning federation. However, not all of Canada's birthday celebrations have been honourable. 2023 marks the centennial of Canada's Chinese Exclusion Act. This Act was put in place after 38 years of increasing Head Taxes on Chinese immigrants proved unsuccessful in stopping their immigration. So in 1923, Canada outright banned immigration for all Chinese people, in many cases indefinitely separating families of Chinese people who lived and worked in Canada. This law was finally repealed after WWII, when the courageous volunteerism of these Chinese was recognized. Their love for a country that refused to give them citizenship is exemplary. We are hopeful that such atrocities should never be repeated and that our nation is ever growing in multiculturalism and diversity. Happy birthday, to all the Canadians who've helped make this nation beautiful.



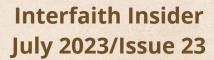
#### FREE BREAKFAST!



The annual city-wide stampede breakfast hunt begins! Before and during the Stampede, volunteers throughout the city prepare vast numbers of pancakes and other breakfast items for the general public as part of numerous community stampede events. These meals are frequently provided for free or at a low cost if the event is a fundraiser. Pancake breakfasts have been associated with the Stampede since 1923.

https://stampedebreakfast.ca/events/

Christians customarily hold pancake breakfasts on Shrove Tuesday, the day before the season of Lent begins, as many Christians give up fatty foods like eggs and milk as their Lenten sacrifice.







## JOHN WARE "COWBOY"

Did you know that the John Ware building at SAIT is named in honour of a rancher in the Calgary region who was born in 1845 into slavery and rose to prominence. He came to our country from the United States in 1883 as a cattle drover and later settled on a property east of Calgary.

In a time when people were judged by their commitment to their word, loyalty, and neighbourliness, he was revered by cowboys and ranchers equally for his knowledge of livestock, his riding skills, and his sense of humour. In the old west, John Ware was a role model and legend.

Despite being a great horseman, he died in 1905 in a riding accident. His funeral was the biggest Calgary had ever seen at the time.

Next time you visit the John Ware building, raise a glass in honour of his memory and impact on Calgary.

John Ware | The Canadian Encyclopedia. (n.d.). https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/john-ware

# Important Dates & Events

June 28-July 2
Eid al-Adha' - The
Festival of Sacrifice.

July 1
Canada Day

July 7 - July 16
Calgary Stampede

July 10
Martyrdom of The Báb –
the memorial of the
execution of The Báb in
1850.

July 27
Tish'a B'Av – the ninth of the month of Av is a major fast day.

List of festivals in Calgary:

https://www.todocanada .ca/festivals-in-calgary/



## Martyrdom in Bahá'í Faith

"It is said there are three kinds of martvrdom: One is to stand bravely and meet death unflinchingly in the path of God without wavering or under torture denying for an instant their faith. The second is little by little to detach one's heart entirely from the world, laying aside deliberately and voluntarily all vanities and worldly seductions, letting every act and word become a speaking monument and a fitting praise for the Holy Name of Bahá'u'lláh. The third is to do the most difficult things with such self-sacrifice that all behold it as your pleasure. To seek and to accept poverty with

the same smile as you accept fortune. To make the sad, the sorrowful your associates instead of frequenting the society of the careless and gay. To yield to the decrees of God and to rejoice in the most violent calamities even when the suffering is beyond endurance. He who can fulfill these last conditions becomes a martyr indeed."

- George Townshend, "The sufferings of Bahá'u'lláh and their significance", Bahá'í World, Vol. XII, S. 865 ff

Wikipedia contributors. (2023). Martyrdom in the Bahá'í Faith. Wikipedia. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrdom">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrdom</a> in the Bah%C3%A1%CA%BC%C3%AD Faith
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