



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Vancouver City Council Adds Sikh Heritage Month to Official Observances

VANCOUVER, BC – Vancouver City Council has unanimously endorsed a motion to formally recognize Sikh Heritage Month as one of the City’s official observances. Beginning in 2026, the City will proclaim April as Sikh Heritage Month, joining other jurisdictions across Canada in celebrating the history, culture, and contributions of Sikh communities.

The motion, brought forward by Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung, highlights the deep roots and enduring impact of the Sikh community in Vancouver and across Canada. Sikh Canadians have contributed to the country since their first arrival in 1906, with a lasting influence across sectors including politics, business, arts, medicine, and education.

“Sikh Heritage Month is a chance to honour the incredible contributions of Sikh Canadians and to reflect on the values that continue to strengthen our communities, such as compassion, equality, and service,” said Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim. “We are proud to officially recognize this month in Vancouver and to celebrate the Sikh community’s vital role in shaping our city.”

“As the mover of this motion, I am incredibly proud to see Vancouver formally recognize Sikh Heritage Month,” said Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung. “This is about celebrating the rich culture and traditions of Sikh Canadians and ensuring we uplift the stories, achievements, and values that have enriched our city for generations.”

The month of April also includes Vaisakhi, a significant religious and cultural celebration for Sikh communities, commemorating the founding of the Khalsa and the enduring spiritual legacy of Guru Nanak Dev Ji and the ten Sikh Gurus.

Adding Sikh Heritage Month to the City’s official observances is part of Vancouver’s ongoing commitment to inclusivity, cultural recognition, and honouring the City’s diversity. As with other observances, the City will issue an annual proclamation to mark the month and celebrate the contributions of the Sikh community.

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