

Pride in Canada

May 14, 1969

Bill C-150 comes into effect, decriminalizing homosexuality in Canada

August 28, 1971

Canada's first gay rights protest, the "We Demand" March, took place on Parliament Hill

August 1, 1973

The first Pride events in Canada took place during Pride Week of 1973, in several Canadian cities

December 15, 1973

The American Psychiatric Association removes "Homosexuality" as a disorder from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual

December 16, 1977

Quebec adds sexual orientation to its Human Rights Code, making it the first province in Canada to provide civil protections for the LGBT+ community

October 16, 1985

The "Equality for All" report is released by the Parliamentary Committee on Equality Rights, recommending that sexual orientation be added to the Canadian Human Rights Act

May 17, 1990

The World Health Organization removes "homosexuality" as disorder from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10)

July 27, 1990

The term Two Spirit (niizh manidoowag) is coined at the third annual Native American/First Nations Gay and Lesbian Conference in Winnipeg

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June 30, 1993

The Supreme Court rules that individuals can apply for refugee status on the basis of sexual orientation

May 25, 1995

Sexual orientation is incorporated into the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

June 20, 1996

Sexual orientation is incorporated into the protected grounds under the Canadian Human Rights Act

January 1, 1997

The first Trans art festival was held in Toronto

June 1, 1999

First appearance of Blockorama, a Black, queer space in the Toronto Pride festival. Blockorama celebrates Black, Queer, and Trans history, creativity, and activism.

April 11, 2000

Bill C-23 is passed, allowing same-sex couples to receive the same social and tax benefits as heterosexual couples, such as pensions, tax deductions, etc.

July 20, 2005

The Civil Marriages Act is enacted, making Canada the fourth country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage

June 27, 2009

The first Trans March is held during Pride in Toronto, but was not officially recognized as a programmed event

Pride in Canada

June 1, 2016

The Pride flag is raised for the first time on Parliament Hill

June 19, 2017

Bill C-16 was passed, incorporating gender expression and gender identity into the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code

December 12, 2017

The Ontario Government is the first to mark November 20 as Trans Day of Remembrance

June 21, 2018

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau apologizes for the criminalization of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and commits to expunging and destroying unjust criminal records

May 23, 2019

The World Health Organization removes “Transgender” as disorder from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10)

May 26, 2019

The University of Winnipeg launches the first Two Spirit archives

October 25, 2019

The Intersex Flag is raised at London City Hall to observe Intersex Awareness Day on October 26

December 8, 2021

Bill C-4 passes into law, criminalizing Conversion Therapy, which is “practice, treatment or service designed to change a person’s sexual orientation to heterosexual, or to change a person’s gender identity to cisgender.”