

Celebrating National Ribbon Skirt Day

January 4th, 2025



[Source](#)

The Story behind National Ribbon Skirt Day

The story of National Ribbon Skirt Day began with a brave 10-year-old girl named Isabella Kulak from Cote First Nation in Saskatchewan. [Source](#)

- For a formal day, Isabella wore her traditional ribbon skirt to school. She was shamed for her choice of attire.
- This incident sparked a nationwide movement celebrating Indigenous identity and resilience.
- The ribbon skirt is a sacred garment, representing womanhood and connection to Mother Earth in First Nations and Métis cultures. [Source](#)
- Today, these beautiful garments, adorned with vibrant ribbons, serve as powerful symbols of Indigenous identity, resilience, and survival, worn proudly by Indigenous women and girls across North America. [Source](#)

Mary Jane McAllum, a member of the Cree First Nation and a Senator from Manitoba, introduced a bill that declares January 4, 2023, as the first National Ribbon Skirt Day.

The federal government stated that "this day is meant to educate people about and celebrate Indigenous cultures, traditions, histories, and contributions to Canada." [Source](#)

Learn more about Ribbon Skirt Day

- [The Ribbon Skirt Project](#) (Indigenous Nouveau)
- [Story of the Ribbon Skirt](#) (Seven Generations Education Institute (SGEI))

Video

- [‘Ribbon skirts every day’: The importance and power behind the Indigenous garment](#) (Global News)
- [Ribbon Skirt Tutorial](#) (YouTube)
- [National Ribbon Skirt Day round dance](#) (APTN News. **Sensitive Content**
Warning: This film has content that may be sensitive and triggering. Viewer discretion is advised)

This resource was developed by the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Anti-Racism Office (IDEAA). If you have any comments or would like to suggest additional resources, please e-mail ideaa@hollandbloorview.ca

