



27 January 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to request that the Resort Municipality of Whistler declare March 21, 2025, the Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

While we take pride in our diverse local population and the international appeal that draws people from all corners of the globe, it is important to acknowledge that not all residents share positive experiences when attempting to establish a life here.

Drawing on the findings of the Whistler Multicultural Society's 2022 Racism, Bias, and Discrimination Survey, feedback gathered through the Resilience Allyship committee, and interviews with local temporary foreign workers (see [the Report on Challenges faced by Temporary Foreign Workers in Whistler](#)), it is evident that racialized people are facing discrimination in all areas of life in Whistler. In 2024, Whistler Multicultural Society hosted an event in recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for the first time. In 2025, a second event will be held to raise awareness of key areas of discrimination most often encountered in BC, and in Whistler.

The United Nations has designated March 21st as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, aligning with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which asserts that everyone is entitled to all rights and freedoms without discrimination, including factors such as race and color. Designating March 21st as the Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Whistler again in 2025 would reflect local commitment to combating discrimination and promoting a more just and inclusive community. We additionally request that the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit for March 21 and attach a request form.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we appreciate your dedication to making Whistler a welcoming place for everyone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raj Soni", written over a white background.

Raj Soni

Sea to Sky Resilience Coordinator
Whistler Multicultural Society

Whistler Multicultural Society

Resilience Whistler

Coordinator: Raj Soni

raj.soni@wmsociety.ca

(604) 935-6356

Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day - March 21, 2025

WHEREAS the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms, without distinction of any kind, such as race and colour, among others, racism and racial discrimination continue to affect people all over the world.

WHEREAS the United Nations has declared March 21 as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

WHEREAS racial discrimination refers to the practice of treating people differently or unjustly because of their race, ethnic origin, skin colour, language or religion.

WHEREAS racial discrimination can be systemic, built into the structures and institutions of society, it can have significant impacts on the lives of Indigenous peoples and racialized and religious minority communities.

WHEREAS racial discrimination can take place anywhere in daily life, including in the workplace, housing, education, and healthcare.

WHEREAS in March 2025 Whistler Multicultural Society is hosting an event exploring key inequities and injustices related to issues identified as key areas for human rights concern in BC and the extent to which they impact the most marginalized people in our communities.

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that March 21, 2025, shall be known as

“Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day”

in the Resort Municipality of Whistler.



Landmark Lighting Request Form

Please complete the form and scan/email to corporate@whistler.ca along with your cover letter addressed "To Mayor and Council" with information regarding your campaign or cause.

We will contact you to confirm the status of your request.

Contact Name	Carole Stretch
Organization	Whistler Multicultural Society
Business Address	9619 Emerald Place
City/Province/Postal Code	Whistler, BC V8E 0G5
Business Phone Number	604.935.8798
Business Email	carole.stretch@wmsociety.ca/info@wmsociety.ca
Website Address	https://wms.wmsociety.ca - https://resiliences2s.wmsociety.ca
Brief description of the event associated with your request - 75 words or less <i>(Information here will be used for communications and the sign on the bridge. RMOW will edit copy if necessary.)</i>	March 21st is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, aligning with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This declaration underscores that everyone is entitled to all rights and freedoms without discrimination, including factors such as race and color.
Optional: Social Media Campaign Title (include hashtags)	
Landmark Choice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fitzsimmons Covered Bridge
Date of Event	March 21, 2025
Colour Request	red and white

Signature: _____

Date: 27 January 2025

This application does not guarantee that your event lighting request will be approved or your date is available.