

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER WILL BE KNOWN AS ~~BOTH COLUMBUS DAY AND~~ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IN THE CITY OF EDMONDS.

**WHEREAS**, Columbus Day is observed as a federal holiday, established by order of President Roosevelt in 1937, and is officially recognized by some cities and states around the country on the second Monday of October, although is not an official City of Edmonds holiday; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus Day provides an opportunity to reflect on the colonization of North America by Europeans and the development over the past 500-plus years of a unique, diverse and complex civilization unlike that of other parts of the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the European colonization of North America also led to the suppression, forced assimilation, and genocide of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Coast Salish peoples, including Tulalip, Suquamish, Stillaguamish, Lummi, and other tribes, inhabited the Puget Sound region that encompasses the shorelands and uplands of Edmonds for thousands of years, using the area now known as Edmonds to harvest salmon, shellfish and land-based resources,

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples of the Puget Sound region enjoyed and exhibited a rich, diverse culture and enduring spirit that continues to be present and celebrated to this day in Edmonds and throughout the region; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous culture is enshrined in sovereign tribal nations throughout the region, memorialized in case law that recognizes historic fishing and water rights, and is celebrated and recounted in the statewide “Since Time Immemorial” curriculum required since 2015 in the public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Edmonds values the historic and contemporary contributions made to this community by all our region’s past and present Indigenous Peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011 the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, representing 59 Tribes from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana and some Alaskan Tribes, passed resolution #11-57:"Support to Change Columbus Day (2nd Monday of October) to Indigenous Peoples' Day"; and

**WHEREAS**, other cities and states around the nation, including such regional jurisdictions as Lynnwood, Seattle, Bainbridge Island, Spokane and Yakima, have acted to proclaim the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day; and

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of Columbus Day represents only a part of the history of this country's and region's cultural evolution; and

**WHEREAS**, officially recognizing Indigenous Peoples on the second Monday of October would help provide a more balanced representation of our region's cultural history and constitute a small act of restitution for the hardships endured by Indigenous Peoples since the onset of European colonization of the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents and elected leaders of the City of Edmonds embrace an open and affirming community that celebrates diversity and rejects oppression of minority peoples, including Indigenous Peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Edmonds is committed to promoting respect for, and understanding of, the region's indigenous community, their long history, and their continuing contribution to contemporary society.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDMONDS, AND THE MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

**Section 1.** The second Monday in October, currently recognized as a federal holiday known as Columbus Day, will ~~also~~ be known in the City of Edmonds as Indigenous Peoples Day.

**Section 2.** The City Council and Mayor encourage residents, businesses, organizations and public institutions in Edmonds also to memorialize and celebrate Indigenous Peoples on the second Monday of October.

**Section 3.** The City Council and Mayor encourage residents, businesses, organizations and public institutions in Edmonds to take steps to acquire a more complete and balanced history of this continent's and region's development since the arrival of European settlers, including an understanding of the contributions made by Indigenous Peoples, together with the hardships and sacrifices endured by Indigenous Peoples.

**RESOLVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2017,

APPROVED:

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MAYOR, DAVID O. EARLING

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

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CITY CLERK, SCOTT PASSEY