

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-135

A RESOLUTION declaring the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Yakima, encouraging other cities and institutions to also recognize this new designation; and reaffirming the City's commitment to promote respect for, and understanding of, the region's American Indian and Indigenous community, their long history, and their continuing contribution to contemporary society

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima recognizes that the community of Yakima was built upon territory settled and inhabited by members of the Yakama Nation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima values the historic and contemporary contributions made to this community by all of our past and present Indigenous Peoples, and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima affirms its opposition to the long legacy of racism towards Indigenous Peoples, which has subjected them to social inequities and hardships, and recognizes their resilience and enduring spirit; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima supports national and state policies and practices intended to help close the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through greater understanding and appreciation of their collective experiences and by honoring their collective contribution to our history and national character; 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, the City of Yakima aspires to protect and promote human rights, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and numerous other international human rights treaties, and to do so in a spirit of mutual friendship and respect; **THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

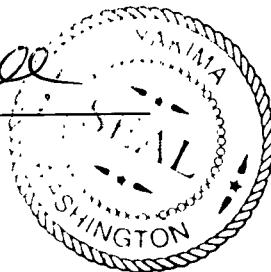
The City of Yakima strongly supports the proposition that Indigenous Peoples' Day shall be an opportunity to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of the region; affirms that it is City policy to participate in Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations and activities, and commits to work cooperatively with local Tribes, groups, and citizens

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 1st day of November, 2016.


Kathy Coffey, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sonya Claar Tee, City Clerk



CITY OF YAKIMA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima recognizes that the Indigenous People of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the fact that the City of Yakima is built upon the homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the value of many contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, spirituality, technology, science, philosophy, arts and the deep cultural contribution that substantially shaped the character of Yakima; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards Indigenous Peoples in the United States, which has contributed to high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbates disproportionate health, education, and social stability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensuring greater access and opportunity, and honoring our nation's Indigenous history and contributions; 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, the United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the "Declaration") on December 16, 2010, and the Declaration recognizes that "indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources"; and

WHEREAS, Article 15 of the Declaration recognizes the right of Indigenous Peoples "to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information" and places an obligation on State to "take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima firmly commits to promoting the well-being and growth of the Yakima Nation and Indigenous community; encourages the Yakima Public Schools to include the teaching of Indigenous Peoples' history; and encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kathy Coffey, Mayor of the City of Yakima and on behalf of the City Council hereby proclaim that the second Monday in October shall be recognized as

"INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY"

in the City of Yakima. The City of Yakima encourages all citizens to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous People on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that Indigenous Peoples add to our city.

Dated this 1st day of November, 2016

Kathy Coffey, Mayor