

A RESOLUTION relating to Indigenous Peoples' Day; declaring the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Milwaukee; encouraging other institutions to recognize the Day; and reaffirming the City's commitment to promote the well-being and growth of Milwaukee's Indigenous community.

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Commission recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Commission recognizes that Milwaukee is built upon the homelands, villages, and sacred mounds of the Indigenous Peoples of this region, that include the Mamaceqtaw (Menominee), the Meshkwahkihaki (Meskwaki), the Osawkiwaki (Sauk), the Nishnabek (Potawatomi), the Nishnaabeg (Odawa), the Anishinaabek (Ojibwe), the Miscouten; and through federal relocation, the Onoyote²a·ká (Oneida) the Muhhekaneok (Mohican), and the Eeyamquittoowauconnuck (Pequot and Mohegan), without which the erection of the City would not have been possible; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Milwaukee has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Commission promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's Indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Commission seeks with this resolution to celebrate and bring greater understanding to the people of Milwaukee regarding Indigenous cultures and the enormous contributions they have made and continue to make to our nation and to the City of Milwaukee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION, That in order to honor our City's Indigenous roots and history and its Indigenous people, declare the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Milwaukee; and

Further Resolved, That the Equal Right Commission requests the City of Milwaukee Common Council to adopt a resolution officially declaring the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day throughout the entire City of Milwaukee.