

# Whereas

*Whereas,* the City of Portland 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 Portland is built upon the homelands and villages, and traditional use areas of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Mollala and many other tribes who made their homes along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers, without whom the building of the city would not be possible; and

*Whereas,* Indigenous People hand down oral histories, science, governance, a distinct relationship with water, land, rocks, native plants, birds, fish and animals, and invaluable cultural knowledge and rich traditions that continue to thrive in Portland; and

*Whereas,* Indigenous People who have been here since time immemorial continue to contribute immeasurably to our country, state and city's heritage, distinguishing themselves as scholars, veterans, teachers, athletes, artists, entrepreneurs and leaders; and

*Whereas,* the Indigenous population of the Portland Metro area is over 70,000 people, who are members of or descended from more than 380 tribes from across the nation who have a unique political status and relationship with the United States of America; and

*Whereas,* the City of Portland has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards Indigenous Peoples of the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, social crises; and

*Whereas,* the City promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies, practices and investments that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensuring greater access and opportunity, and honoring our nation's Indigenous history and contributions; and

*Whereas,* the City of Portland continues to promote the prosperity and well-being of the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Indigenous community; and

*Whereas,* on October 7, 2015, Portland City Council passed a resolution resolving that the City of Portland shall recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October;

*Now, therefore,* I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim October 14, 2019 to be

## *Indigenous Peoples' Day*

in Portland, and encourage all residents, businesses, organizations and public institutions to observe this day by reflecting upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous Peoples on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that Indigenous Peoples add to our city.

