



Denis Law Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas, Columbus Day is observed as a federal holiday, established by order of President Roosevelt in 1937 and provides an opportunity to reflect on the colonization of North America by Europeans; 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 Peoples of the Puget Sound region enjoyed and exhibited a rich, diverse culture and enduring spirit that continues to be celebrated to this day in Renton and throughout the region; and

Whereas, the City of Renton 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, passed Resolution #11-57: Support to Change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day; and

Whereas, 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 City of Renton celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion, and 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, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2019, to be

Indigenous Peoples' Day

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all members of the community to join me in this special observation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 14th day of October, 2019.

Denis Law, Mayor
City of Renton, Washington

