

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 19-1082

In Observance of the Fourth Annual *Indigenous Peoples' Day* in the City and County of Denver

WHEREAS, the Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples have lived and flourished on the lands known as the Americas since time immemorial, and that Denver and the surrounding communities are built upon the ancestral homelands of numerous Indigenous tribes, including the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribes of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the tribal homelands and seasonal encampments of the Arapaho and Cheyenne peoples along the banks of the Cherry Creek and South Platte River confluence gave bearing to future settlements that would become the birthplace of the Mile High City; and

WHEREAS, Colorado encompasses ancestral homelands of 48 tribes and the City and County of Denver and surrounding communities are home to descendants of approximately 100 tribal nations; and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2016 the Council of the City and County of Denver unanimously passed CB16-801, officially designating the second Monday of October of each year as Indigenous Peoples' Day in Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City and County of Denver continues to recognize and value the vast contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, science, philosophy, arts and culture, and through these contributions the City of Denver has developed and thrived; and

WHEREAS, the Indigenous drum and song are integral to indigenous identity and remain an essential avenue for Indigenous people to maintain their connection in contemporary society; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous singers and drums carry their traditional teachings and stories on to future generations, are essential elements in cultural gatherings, prayers and celebrations like the annual Denver March Powwow, community honorings and community memorials, and are featured in local film *Voices from the Drum* and the accompanying art exhibit *Voices from the Drum; An Osage Collection*, all which promote Indigenous cultural resiliency in Denver.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver celebrates and honors the cultural and foundational contributions of Indigenous People to our history, past, present and future; and continues to promote the education of the Denver community about these historical and contemporary contributions of Indigenous People,

Section 2. The City and County of Denver, Colorado, does hereby observe October 14, 2019 as "Indigenous Peoples' Day."

Section 3. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the Denver American Indian Commission and the Colorado Commission on Indian Affairs.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL 14, 2019

PRESIDENT