

## Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, one of eleven federally recognized Native Nations in Wisconsin, is a neighboring community; and,

**WHEREAS**, Chequamegon Bay encompasses the spiritual center of Anishinaabe nations; and,

**WHEREAS**, throughout Wisconsin's history, Native American leaders such as Great Chief Buffalo, Walter Bresette and others from this area have defended Native rights and promoted sovereignty and prosperity for their people; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Washburn recognizes the historical sacrifices of Indigenous peoples and values the social, economic and cultural contributions they make; and,

**WHEREAS**, residents of the State of Wisconsin have a responsibility to oppose the systemic racism toward Indigenous peoples in our state and in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality and exacerbates disproportionate health, education and social outcomes; and,

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by the International Conference on Discrimination Against the Indigenous Population in the Americas, a delegation sponsored by First Nations leaders in the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, a growing number of communities across the United States of America, including the State of Wisconsin, have declared the second Monday of October as "Indigenous Peoples Day," recognizing the historic importance of the Indigenous populations that inhabited this region and the rest of the United States of America prior to European contact; and,

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Mary D. Motiff, Mayor of the City of Washburn, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to be

### Indigenous Peoples Day in the City of Washburn

**AND** strongly encourage City of Washburn residents to continue to promote racial equity and recognition of Indigenous cultures through education, engagement, and community outreach, reaffirming the commitment to demonstrate support of and appreciation for Indigenous peoples.

  
Mary D. Motiff, Mayor