



# *Proclamation*

Office of the Mayor, City of Mukilteo

## Native American Heritage Day November 27, 2020

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have inhabited the area now known as Washington State since time immemorial. Today, 29 federally recognized Indian Tribes, out of state tribes with treaty reserved rights, and other tribal communities reside in Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, members and descendants of tribes around the United States and First Nations of Canada also reside in the state of Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, Native American contributions and values have shaped the social, political, environmental, and economic fabric of the state, while also enhancing freedom, prosperity, and cultural diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus has affected us all, but is of particular concern to tribal communities. Historically, Native Americans have faced many foreign diseases and turned to their cultural knowledge as a resource during difficult times, which holds true today during the battle against COVID-19. Tribes and Indian organizations are actively working to protect elders, tribal communities, and families from the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, state law, RCW 28A.320.170, mandates the teaching of tribal history, culture, and government in common schools; which will contribute greatly to improving school's history curriculum and enhances awareness for a better cultural understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Washington has designated the Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday in November, a state legal and school holiday, known as Native American Heritage Day; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington joins other states across the nation in celebrating Native American Heritage Month, honoring the unique heritage of this continent's First People, and reaffirming the commitment to respect each tribe's sovereignty and cultural identity;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** I, Jennifer Gregerson, Mayor of the City of Mukilteo, hereby proclaim November 27, 2020 as Native American Heritage Day.

Signed this 24th Day of November, 2020

  
Jennifer Gregerson  
Mayor