

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING) RESOLUTION NO. 16-4748
OCTOBER 10, 2016 AS INDIGENOUS) Introduced by Council President Tom Hughes
PEOPLES' DAY IN THE METRO REGION)

WHEREAS, Metro is committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to address systemic inequities that impact our communities by providing support and tools to Metro staff, Metro Council and community partners to create an equitable region for all; and

WHEREAS, Metro recognizes that American Indians and Alaska Natives have lived on these lands we all cherish since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, it is important for us to never forget American history through the perspective of Native people in our country because it reminds us of forced migration, broken treaties and other injustices that should never be repeated. This history is a lesson to all of us of the perseverance and resilience of Native people in the face of these injustices and the continued integrity and vitality of their cultures and their governments. As we work together to forge a brighter future, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that Oregon's tribal people were impacted by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act that was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1954. As a result of this act many tribal governments were abolished and their members were relocated to urban areas, making Portland the 9th largest urban Indian population in the United States, with over 40,000 tribal people representing 380 tribes; and

WHEREAS, Native people have contributed to the unique culture of the Metro region and this country, with a special emphasis on traditional ecological knowledge and core values that go beyond materialism. Today, Native Americans are leaders in every aspect of our society -- from the classroom, to the boardroom, to the battlefield; and

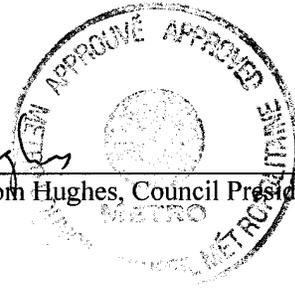
WHEREAS, recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day shall be an opportunity to celebrate the thriving traditions and deeply rooted values of the Indigenous people who reside in the Metro region, and of course, their ancestors before them; now therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council proclaims October 10, 2016 as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Metro region to honor and celebrate the many contributions made by the Indigenous peoples throughout our vibrant community. We encourage other businesses, organizations, public institutions and community members to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and take time to learn and teach others about the history and cultural significance of the American Indian and Alaska Native community.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 29th day of September 2016.

Tom Hughes

Tom Hughes, Council President



Approved as to Form:

Alison R. Kean

Alison R. Kean, Metro Attorney

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-4748, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 10, 2016 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE METRO REGION.

Date: Sept. 29, 2016

Prepared by: Patty Unfred; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Program Director, 503-797-1685

BACKGROUND

The Native people in our country have suffered forced migration, broken treaties and other injustices that should never be repeated. This history is a lesson to all of us of the perseverance and resilience of Native people in the face of these injustices and the continued integrity and vitality of their cultures and their governments. The second Monday in October is currently known as Columbus Day. While this is a federally recognized holiday, it is not recognized by the State of Oregon. Metro will be joining other local governments from around the region in recognizing the important history and culture of Indigenous People in our community, country, and around the world.

Last year on October 12 Metro declared Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day for the first time and did so by inviting local community partners to speak. This year, Metro is working with government partners and groups of organizations that represent and serve the American Indian and Alaska Native community to hold a larger, joint celebration event at the Oregon Zoo on October 10. In addition, Metro Council recently adopted the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, which will guide Metro in uplifting all communities who have historically been marginalized. Declaring October 10 as the second annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Metro region will honor, acknowledge and celebrate the resiliency of Indigenous communities.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition** None
2. **Legal Antecedents** Metro Council Resolution 15-4663
3. **Anticipated Effects** Declaring Oct. 10, 2016 as the second annual Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Metro region will honor, acknowledge and celebrate the resiliency of Indigenous communities.
4. **Budget Impacts** None

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the resolution proclaiming Oct. 10, 2016 as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Metro region.