

## PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on the Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and*

*WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day is a day to recognize and celebrate Indigenous heritage, culture, and history while honoring past, current and future generations; and*

*WHEREAS, Indigenous People's Day is a time to lift up the rich history and resilience of Indigenous people through colonization and assimilation, as well as to celebrate their culture and strength through self-determination; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Olympia honors and acknowledges the Indigenous people who have stewarded this land since time immemorial and who still inhabit the area today, the Steh-Chass Band of Indigenous people of the Squaxin Island Tribe; and*

*WHEREAS, today the Steh-Chass (Squaxin) people continue to steward these ancestral lands, from the Deschutes watershed and what is now Budd Inlet, and the Squaxin continue to call themselves "People of the Water" because of the bounty of the region's waterways and artesian waters, which have sustained the people for millennia; and*

*WHEREAS, both the Squaxin Island Tribe and City of Olympia honor the Medicine Creek Treaty and have established a strong government-to-government relationship between the two sovereigns; and*

*WHEREAS, On October 7, 2021, the City of Olympia re-signed and re-affirmed their Accord with the Squaxin Island Tribe in the spirit of understanding and mutual respect, and committed to the following long term-actions:*

- Coordinate and cooperate to support economic and infrastructure opportunities, protect natural resources, and respond to climate change;*
- Create more opportunities for public art, education, and community service that will promote a healthy exchange of cultures;*
- Establish an intergovernmental work group between the two Councils to advance these commitments and develop consultation protocol, a strategic plan, and enduring channels of communication;*
- Conduct biannual meetings of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council and the Olympia City Council in the Spring and Fall to maintain a shared vision, address issues of mutual concern, develop strategies and agreements, and overcome obstacles;*
- Renew this Accord every five years to celebrate our achievements, evaluate our processes, and update our priorities and actions; and*

***WHEREAS, the City of Olympia celebrates the thriving culture and value that Squaxin Island, Nisqually, Puyallup, Chehalis, Suquamish, Duwamish, and other Indigenous nations add to our City; and***

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim October 14, 2024 as***

***INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY***

***in the City of Olympia, Washington, and encourages all Olympians to continue reflecting on the experiences and contributions of Indigenous people and amplify their voices far beyond this day.***

***SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 8<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024.***

***OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL***

***Dontae Payne  
Mayor***