

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, the Olympia City Council reaffirms its commitment to reducing harm, being accountable for injustice, and collaborating with those most impacted by institutional oppression, 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, 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, on April 25, 2022, the City of Olympia formerly renamed Priest Point Park to Squaxin Park, a name chosen by the Squaxin Island Tribe that honors the importance of the people and culture that have inhabited the area for many thousands of years; 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 commit 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*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim October 10, 2022 as

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

In the City of Olympia, Washington, and encourages the community to attend an Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration at Squaxin Park on October 10, 2022, which the City of Olympia has the honor of hosting in partnership with the Squaxin Island Tribe

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 4th DAY OF OCTOBER 2022.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

***Cheryl Selby
Mayor***