

Proclaiming the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples Day began in commemoration of 500 years of survival and renewal of Indigenous Nations in the face of genocide, colonization, political, religious and cultural repression; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of this hemisphere (later known as “the Americas”) have lived on these lands since time immemorial, and the City recognizes the fact that La Crosse is built upon the homelands of the indigenous people of this region; and

WHEREAS, an indigenous culture that has been in the La Crosse area, as in all parts of this hemisphere, has been severely disrupted, and yet indigenous people have survived, and continue to persevere in the face of current injustices and oppression; and

WHEREAS, the Ho-Chunk people of this community were subjected to seven removals starting in 1829, and were forced to sign the Treaty of 1837, ceding all territory east of the Mississippi, and were then forced to hide while bravely returning to the land they call home; and

WHEREAS, other tribal nations were subjected to forced marches through the State of Wisconsin and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse was used as a removal point for native peoples; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse has many burial mounds sacred to native peoples, and whereas some have been destroyed, others have been preserved, consistent with a statewide effort to protect them; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse seeks to continue to support Indigenous Nations’ struggles for social and environmental justice, religious freedom and tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, the United States federal government and the State of Wisconsin currently, on the second Monday of October, have chosen to honor Christopher Columbus, a man whose life included violence and enslavement of native peoples, rather than those so mistreated; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse is taking steps to honor our City’s indigenous roots and history, and seeks with this celebration to bring greater understanding to the people of La Crosse regarding indigenous cultures and the enormous contributions they have made and continue to make to our nation and to the City of La Crosse.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse that Monday, October 8, 2018, will be recognized as Indigenous Peoples Day.

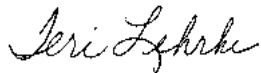
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse's governmental entities shall continue to recognize the second Monday of October of each year as Indigenous Peoples Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse will strive to collaborate with the indigenous communities of the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of all people in La Crosse who identify as indigenous, native, American Indian, or First Peoples.

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*I, Teri Lehrke, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse on October 11, 2018.*



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*Teri Lehrke, City Clerk  
City of La Crosse, Wisconsin*