

# Proclamation

## Disability Mentoring Day

**WHEREAS**, more than one million people with disabilities have entered the labor force since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990; and,

**WHEREAS**, as taxpayers, consumers, and workers, people with disabilities are contributing to our society and to their own fulfillment of the American dream; and,

**WHEREAS**, new generations of young people with disabilities are growing up in Sitka, graduating from high school, going to college, and preparing to participate in the workplace; and,

**WHEREAS**, job seekers with disabilities, regardless of age, are striving to attain economic independence through self-sufficiency and gainful employment; and,

**WHEREAS**, both students and job seekers with disabilities have the right to maximize their potential by making the most of their intellect, talents, and abilities in an environment free of physical, programmatic, and attitudinal barriers; and,

**WHEREAS**, Disability Mentoring Day provides an opportunity for students and job seekers with all types of disabilities to gain insight into career options by spending part of their day in the workplace "shadowing" an employee as he or she goes through a normal day on the job; and,

**WHEREAS**, employers from the private, governmental, and non-profit sectors may benefit from mentoring people with disabilities as a way of learning about the experience of disability, developing lasting relationships with disability community leaders, and recruiting new and emerging talent for meaningful internship and employment opportunities; and,

**WHEREAS**, these efforts are made possible through a broad partnership with the American Association of People with Disabilities (supported by a host of private corporations) and a dedicated local team of organizers from businesses, non-profit organizations, school districts, colleges and universities, and government agencies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the City of Sitka, Alaska, does hereby proclaim Wednesday, October 19, 2011, as:

### Disability Mentoring Day

in Sitka and encourages all citizens to recognize the enormous potential of people with disabilities and to work toward their full integration into the workforce.

*Signed and sealed this 11th day of October, 2011.*

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Cheryl Westover, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Colleen Ingman, MMC  
Municipal Clerk

