

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
City and Borough of Sitka

# Proclamation

## REAFFIRMING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

**WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and

**WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka recognizes the fact that Sitka is built upon the homelands and villages of the Tlingit people, who have occupied this land they called Sheet'ka since time immemorial, and without whom the building of the City would not have been possible; and

**WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka values the many contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts and the deep cultural contribution that has substantially shaped the character of the City and Borough of Sitka; and

**WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States and the City and Borough of Sitka, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

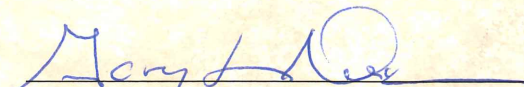
**WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka strives to promote the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our community's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2017, the Assembly of the City and Borough Sitka passed Resolution 2017-20 declaring the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and this Assembly desires to continue those commitments.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka firmly commits to continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of Sitka's Alaska Native, American Indian and Indigenous community.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** as Mayor of the City and Borough of Sitka that I do hereby reaffirm the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and encourage other businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and call upon Sitkans to commemorate this day with appropriate programs, activities, and celebrations.

*Signed and sealed on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary L. Paxton, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Peterson, MMC  
Municipal Clerk

