Resolution Declaring the Annual Recognition of ‘Indigenous Peoples’ Day

A RESOLUTION relating to Indigenous Peoples’ Day; declaring every second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples’ Day in the City of Ferndale; encouraging other institutions to recognize the Day; and reaffirming the City’s commitment to promote the well-being and growth of Ferndale’s American Indian and Indigenous community.

The City of Ferndale recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and

The City recognizes the fact that Ferndale is built upon the homelands and villages of the Fox, Sauk, Wyandot-Huron, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi Tribes of this region, without whom the building of the region would not have been possible; and

The City 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 of Ferndale; and

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

The City promotes 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 nation’s indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

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

The City of Ferndale was declared by the voice of the people to be a Human Rights City on November 7, 2006, committing itself to protect, respect and fulfill the full range of inherent human rights for all as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and numerous other international human rights treaties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERNDALE, THE MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:

The City of Ferndale strongly supports the proposition that Indigenous Peoples’ Day shall be an opportunity to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region.

The City of Ferndale affirms that it is City policy to participate in any annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day celebrations and activities.
The City of Ferndale strongly encourages Ferndale Public Schools to include the teaching of indigenous people’s history.

The City of Ferndale encourages other businesses, organizations, and public institutions within and outside the city to recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

The City of Ferndale firmly commits to continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of Ferndale’s American Indian and Indigenous community.

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Ferndale jointly declare every second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples’ Day in the City of Ferndale.

I, Marne McGrath, the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Ferndale, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Ferndale at a regular meeting held on September 26, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this 26th day of September, 2016.

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Marne McGrath, City Clerk