

RESOLUTION NO. R-2016- 2

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS "INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY" IN THE CITY OF DURANGO, COLORADO TO CELEBRATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS, THE ENDURING CULTURE AND TRADITIONS OF ALL NATIVE AMERICANS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the continents now known as North and South America have been occupied since time immemorial by many diverse and established Indigenous Peoples; and

WHEREAS, the City of Durango is situated near the two reservations in Colorado, the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Indian reservations, and is also a neighbor to the Jicarilla Apache and Navajo Nation in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, in addition to being near pre contact sites preserved at Mesa Verde National Park, Chimney Rock, Canyons of the Ancients National Monuments and Mount Hesperus, the northern most sacred mountain of the Navajo people; and

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges that this community was built upon the homelands of the Indigenous Peoples of this region, without whom the building of the City of Durango would not have been possible; and

WHEREAS, the institution of Indigenous Peoples Day is a means to better express the historical events surrounding the "discovery" of the Americas, the subsequent 500 years of Indigenous Resistance, and the presentation of the aforementioned events in an educational setting; 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 Durango is home to Fort Lewis College, founded as a Native American Boarding School, now an institution of higher learning with 1,100 Native American/Alaskan Native students representing approximately 155 different tribes; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes that Indigenous Peoples Day shall be a platform to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous People on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that the Ute, Navajo, Apache and other Indigenous nations add to the City of Durango; and

WHEREAS, the City Council 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 Durango; and

WHEREAS, the Durango's Community Relations Commission, established for the purpose of promoting social harmony among all residents and visitors within the City of Durango, has reviewed this Resolution and recommends that the City Council adopt this Resolution recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day as the second Monday in October; and

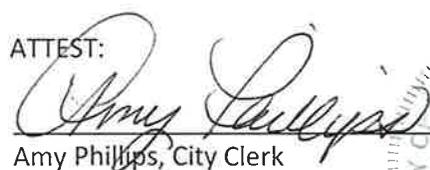
WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of diversity within the community and encourages other businesses, organizations and public entities to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day; and

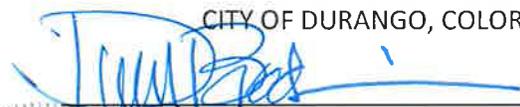
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Durango, Colorado, that the second Monday of October shall be known as "Indigenous Peoples Day" in the City of Durango to celebrate the contributions, the enduring culture and traditions of all Native Americans and Indigenous Peoples.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY 2016.

CITY OF DURANGO, COLORADO

ATTEST:


Amy Phillips, City Clerk


Dean Brookie, Mayor

