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## 814-2021

Proclamation

### Proclaim November 2021 to be Native American Heritage Month

Placed on File

Whereas, the City of Portland now rests on lands at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, a major crossroads for the economic, social, and political interactions of the tribal nations for thousands of years; and

Whereas, Native American people, who have been here since time immemorial, continue to contribute immeasurably to our City's heritage, distinguishing themselves as scholars, veterans, teachers, athletes, artists, entrepreneurs, and leaders; and

Whereas, the City of Portland acknowledges our country, state, and city history of colonization, oppression, genocide, forced assimilation, mistreatment and murder through government boarding schools and cultural erasure but instead celebrates ongoing Native American resilience and survival; and

Whereas, the American Indian and Alaska Native people of the Portland Metro statistical area is over 50,000 people, descended from more than 380 tribes or bands from across the nation, representing a diverse and intersectional community that deserves to be celebrated year round; and

Whereas, the City of Portland supports, in concert with its tribal partners, efforts to preserve for tribal members and their descendants' rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and is committed to moving beyond recognition and toward reconciliation; and

Whereas, the City of Portland strives to educate our employees, community and youth toward a better understanding of American Indian and Alaska Native people's authentic stories past and present, to preserve cultural values, and otherwise to promote the future welfare of Native American people; and

Whereas, stereotypes of oppressed groups used as sports mascots has been recognized locally and nationally as harmful, while representation of Native Americans in positions of leadership at the highest levels of government provide positive role models and a source of pride for our youth and community; and

Introduced by

[Mayor Ted Wheeler](#)

Prepared by

Miranda Mishan

Date Prepared

November 8, 2021

Requested Agenda Type

Time Certain

#### Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date

November 17, 2021

Requested Start Time

9:45 am

Time Requested

20 minutes

Confirmed Time Certain

Whereas,our local Native American community continues to contribute to the cultural fabric of the City of Portland and has found creative ways to provide mutual support, to maintain connection, and to build community amidst the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas,the City of Portland has formed the Indigenous PDX Affinity Group for employees who identify as American Indian and Alaska Native by allowing for an annual budget, paid time, support resources, and relationship to a network of other City Diverse and Empowered Employee affinity groups; and

Whereas,the Tribal Relations Program hosted the October 7<sup>th</sup>Tribal Relations Employee Training for government employees, attended by over 500 people, from 15 local jurisdictions and will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Tribal Summit on Nov 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> as a place for regional tribes to engage with each other and the City of Portland;

Now, therefore,I, Ted Wheeler, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim November 2021 to be

### ***Native American Heritage Month***

In Portland, Oregon and encourage all residents to observe this month.

## **Documents and Exhibits**

 [Proclamation](#) (114.94 Kb)

## **Agenda Items**

814 Time Certain in [November 17, 2021 Council Agenda](#)

Placed on File

# Whereas

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