

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

## RESOLUTION NO. 20525

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY IN THE CITY OF HELENA AND ENCOURAGE OTHER INSTITUTIONS TO RECOGNIZE THIS DAY IN HONOR OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WHO TRADITIONALLY LIVED IN THIS AREA.

**WHEREAS,** the City of Helena, recognize that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Helena has the responsibility to oppose the systematic racism toward Indigenous Peoples which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, which enhances historical trauma which contributes to the disproportionate health, educational and social crises;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Helena recognizes and values the contribution to our society's progress made by American Indian technology, thought, theory, process and culture;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Helena understands that to help enhance the understanding of Indigenous Peoples they, with other government entities, organizations and other public institutions should include an acknowledgement of its American Indian history experiences;

**WHEREAS,** the ideas of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

Resol. 20525

Nations-sponsored International Conference of Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;

**WHEREAS,** the United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on December 16, 2010 and the Declaration recognizes that "indigenous peoples have suffered from historical injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their land, territories and resources"; and

**WHEREAS,** other cities across the country are passing Indigenous Peoples Day recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA;**

**Section 1.** The Helena City Commission shall recognize Indigenous Peoples Day on the second Monday in October.

**Section 2.** That Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous People in our City, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that the Bitterroot Salish, Pend O'Reille, Kootenai, Blackfoot, Chippewa Cree, Little Shell Chippewa, Assiniboine, A'aninin (Gros Ventre), Dakota/Nakota/Lakota Sioux, Northern Cheyenne, Crow and

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA

Resol. 20525

other Indigenous nations add to our city.

**Section 3.** The Helena City Commission encourages other businesses, organizations, and public entities to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day.

**PASSED AND EFFECTIVE BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HELENA, MONTANA, THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2019.**

/S/ WILMOT COLLINS  
MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

/S/ DEBBIE HAVENS  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION