

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

**PROCLAMATION NO. 09-139**

Proclaiming November 2009 National Native American Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. November 2009 is National Native American Heritage Month
- b. American Indians and Alaska Natives are the original stewards of these lands and waters. They enrich the lives of all Oregonians with their deep spiritual heritage and the value placed on natural and cultural resources.
- c. The Portland Metro area rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla and many other Tribes who made their home along the Columbia River, creating communities and summer encampments to harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area.
- d. Portland has the ninth largest Native American population in the U.S. with people representing over 380 distinct tribes, including the nine Oregon tribes.
- e. American Indians and Alaska Natives strive to preserve their culture, traditions and way of life for the next seven generations.
- f. American Indians and Alaska Natives from youth to Elders make major contributions in the arts, education, economic development, public safety and sense of community in our region. And through a long tradition of military service continue to honor traditional warrior culture in defense of our country.
- g. We recognize that even with the large population and the strong evidence of need, resources have not been equitably distributed to the American Indian and Alaska Native community. Through the Multnomah County Health Equity Initiative, in partnership with the Native American Community, we hope to shed light on these disparities and eliminate barriers or perceived barriers thus gaining improved access to social services, health care, and education within the community.

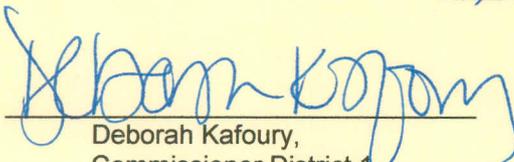
**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:**

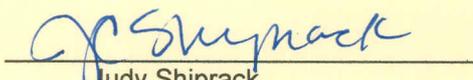
The month of November 2009 to be National Native American Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. We honor the history and pay respect to the contributions made by the Indian People to our Country, State and Nation. We urge all Americans to join in this observance.

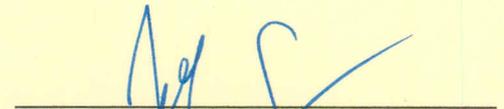
ADOPTED this 5th day of November, 2009.

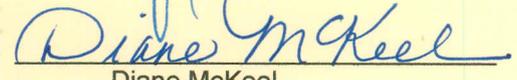
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

  
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SUBMITTED BY:  
Lillian Shirley, Director, Health Dept.