

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 08-130

Proclaiming Board Recognition of the Document, "Making the Invisible Visible" Created by Portland's Native American Community, and Celebration of its Unveiling at Portland's "Dancing in the Square: American Indian Day and Celebration" on September 26, 2008, in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Portland is the ninth largest Native American population in the United States with people representing over 380 distinct tribes.
- b. 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 homes along the Columbia River, creating communities and summer encampments to harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area.
- c. Twenty-four Portland Native American organizations through consensus created the "Making the Invisible Visible" document which tells the story of Portland's Urban Native community – its history, its present and its future.
- d. This document was created over an 18 month period, and every word was collectively agreed on and vetted by the twenty-four Native organizations and their leaders in cooperation with several Oregon Tribes.
- e. The "Making the Invisible Visible" document addresses the false perceptions that Native Americans no longer exist and chronic undercounts, inaccurate data and stereotypes that perpetuate this misconception.
- f. September 26, 2008 marks the second annual American Indian Celebration, "Dancing in the Square", a gathering of thousands of Native people.
- g. On September 26th, the unveiling and launch of "Making the Invisible Visible" will occur at "Dancing in the Square".

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

1. The Board proclaims recognition and support of the work of the twenty-four Portland Native American organizations who through consensus, created the

"Making the Invisible Visible" document to educate the larger Portland area community.

2. To show its support the Board of County Commissioners officially recognizes the document, "Making the Invisible Visible" and Portland's Native American Community and celebrates its unveiling at Portland's "Dancing in the Square: American Indian Day and Celebration" on September 26, 2008.

ADOPTED this 25th day of September, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON


Ted Wheeler, County Chair


Maria Rojo de Steffey,
Commissioner District 1




Jeff Cogen,
Commissioner District 2


Lisa Naito,
Commissioner District 3


Lonnie Roberts,
Commissioner District 4

SUBMITTED BY:
Ted Wheeler, Multnomah County Chair