

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming November 2013 National Native American Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

1. Multnomah County rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah Chinook, Clackamas Chinook, and Tualatin Kalapuya peoples. Many other sovereign, tribal nations made their home along the Columbia River, creating communities and summer encampments to sustainably harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area during this pre-contact period.
2. American Indians and Alaska Natives hold traditional ecological knowledge as original stewards of the lands and waters of Multnomah County. Native culture and people enrich the lives of all Oregonians with a deeply spiritual heritage and an intrinsic value placed on sustainably caring for our natural and cultural resources.
3. Multnomah County has more than 40,000 Native American (Community verified data) people among the population. Representing over 380 distinct tribal nations, including the nine federally-recognized tribes in Oregon.
4. Native people have been here since time immemorial and continue to contribute immeasurably to our county, state and city's heritage, distinguishing themselves as scholars, veterans, teachers, athletes, artists, entrepreneurs and leaders. American Indians and Alaska Natives have experienced historical and intergenerational trauma as a result of public policy. This trauma has had immediate as well as long-term effects which contribute to health, educational and socio-economic disparities for American Indian and Alaska Native peoples when compared with the general population.
5. American Indians and Alaska Natives strive to preserve their diverse cultures, traditions and ways of life for the next seven generations and beyond. Through a long tradition of military service, American Indians and Alaska Natives also give their lives to protect our country. We honor the history and pay respect to the contributions made by the Indigenous People of our County, State and Nation.
6. Multnomah County commits to work together in a spirit of mutual recognition, respect and reconciliation and calls upon residents of Multnomah County to commemorate Native peoples with appropriate programs and activities, and to celebrate November as Native American Heritage Month.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

The month of November 2013 to be Native American Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 2013.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Marissa Madrigal, Acting County Chair

**Liesl Wendt
Acting Commissioner District 1**

**Loretta Smith
Commissioner District 2**

**Judy Shiprack
Commissioner District 3**

**Diane McKeel
Commissioner District 4**

SUBMITTED BY:

Marissa Madrigal, Acting Chair, Multnomah County