

STATE of MINNESOTA

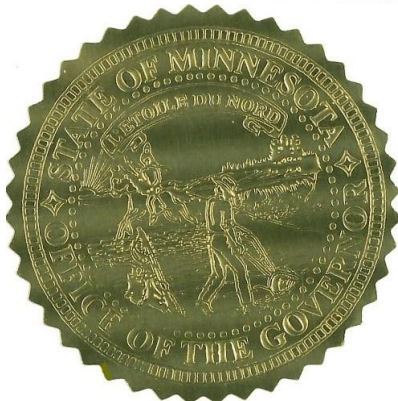
Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Henry Charles Boucha (Ogichidaa-Makwa Dodem) was born on June 1, 1951, in Warroad, Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: In his youth, Henry excelled in a multitude of sports, but was most prominently known for his excellence in hockey. Henry played on Warroad's 1964 Bantam State Championship hockey team and in the 1969 MSHSL Boys Hockey Tournament; and
- WHEREAS: Henry graduated from Warroad High School in 1969 and is considered the most electrifying high school hockey player in the State of Hockey; and
- WHEREAS: In August 1970, Henry was drafted by the United States Army to go to Vietnam. While in the Army, he competed internationally in the 1970 and 1971 World Championships and 1972 Olympics, earning a silver medal in Sapporo, Japan, for Team USA; and
- WHEREAS: Henry was drafted 16th overall in 1971 by the Detroit Red Wings and was the Red Wings Rookie of the Year in the 1972-1973 season. In 1973, Henry scored the fastest goal in NHL history scoring six seconds of play into the first period; and
- WHEREAS: Henry played six seasons in the NHL for the Detroit Red Wings, Minnesota North Stars, Kansas City Scouts, and Colorado Rockies; and
- WHEREAS: Henry retired from hockey in 1976 due to an eye injury he received while with the North Stars; and
- WHEREAS: Henry's impact on the game of hockey continued due to his work with the NHL Diversity Task Force Program; and
- WHEREAS: Henry was the first Native American inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 1995, and was inducted into the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame in 2022; and
- WHEREAS: Henry was inducted into the USA Hockey Hall of Fame in 1995, becoming the first Native American to be inducted into the U.S Hockey Hall of Fame; and
- WHEREAS: Henry died on September 18, 2023, and is survived by his daughters, Tara and Bridgette; sons, Henry Jr. and Jean-Paul; five grandchildren; and his siblings, Shirley, Jim, and Ed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, September 29, 2023 as:

HENRY BOUCHA DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 29th day of September.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE