



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The area known today as Minnesota is located on ancestral and contemporary lands that have been called home by the Anishinaabe and Dakota People since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS: The name "Minnesota" is derived from the Dakota phrase "Mni Sota Makaŋce," which translates to "Land Where the Waters Reflect the Clouds"; and

WHEREAS: The Indigenous peoples who resided on this land prior to the arrival of European settlers, particularly the Dakota and Anishinaabe, experienced a history defined by violence, broken promises, displacement, deprivation, and disease; and

WHEREAS: We must reconcile with this history as we seek to build a brighter future for all Minnesotans, while maintaining strong government-to-government relationships and recognizing tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota is home to the governments of eleven tribal nations, as well as a resilient and robust urban Native American community made up of citizens of tribal nations across the country; and

WHEREAS: Indigenous people have made immeasurable contributions to the history, culture, and economy of Minnesota, including traditional knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, industry, and arts; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota strives to eliminate systemic racism and discrimination towards Indigenous peoples; promote practices and policies that honor the state's Indigenous roots, history, and contributions; recognize Indigenous peoples as contemporary peoples; and commit to meaningful and genuine government-to-government relationships with the tribal nations that share geography with Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 at the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS: Indigenous Peoples Day serves as an important time to reflect on the history and experiences of Indigenous peoples to ensure greater understanding, increase access and opportunity, and ensure that One Minnesota includes and represents all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota joins a growing number of government entities across the country that have recognized the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day to promote appreciation, recognition, solidarity, reconciliation, understanding, friendship, and continued partnerships among all people and the Indigenous peoples of this land.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 9, 2023 as:

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES 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 6th day of October.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.
SECRETARY OF STATE