



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is located on ancestral and contemporary lands Indigenous peoples have called home since time immemorial; and
- WHEREAS: The name “Minnesota” is derived from the Dakota phrase “Mni Sóta Maḵoče,” which translates to “Land Where the Waters Reflect the Clouds”; and
- WHEREAS: Rich Native American history goes back 10,000 years and includes the Dakota, Ojibwe, Ho-Chunk, Oto, Hidatsa, Arikara, A’aninin, Cree, Blackfeet, Assiniboine, and the Sac and Fox Tribes; and
- WHEREAS: Today, Minnesota is home to the governments of 11 sovereign Tribal Nations – four Dakota and seven Ojibwe – as well as a resilient and robust urban Native American community made up of citizens and descendants of Tribal Nations across the country; and
- WHEREAS: Indigenous people make immeasurable contributions to the history, culture, and economy of Minnesota, including traditional knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, industry, and arts; and
- WHEREAS: The Walz-Flanagan Administration has supported major Tribal sovereignty initiatives, including the return of the Upper Sioux Agency State Park land to the Upper Sioux Community, updates to state symbols, and expanded Indigenous education mandates; and
- WHEREAS: In 2019, Governor Walz issued an executive order requiring state agencies to create and implement Tribal consultation policies; in 2021, Governor Walz signed a bill affirming Tribal sovereignty, requiring agencies to appoint Tribal-state liaisons and mandating state agency leaders and certain employees to attend Tribal-state relations training; and
- WHEREAS: Governor Walz became the first governor to visit all 11 Tribal Nations that share geography with the State of Minnesota, and in a historic moment on September 5, 2025, permanently raised the flags of the 11 sovereign Tribal Nations at the Minnesota State Capitol, and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota officially recognizes the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day to promote appreciation, recognition, solidarity, reconciliation, understanding, friendship, and continued partnerships with the Indigenous peoples of this land.

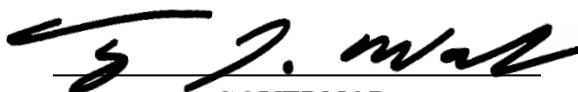
NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 12, 2026, as:

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 8th day of October.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE