



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Neighborhood and Community Relations

**Date:** September 22, 2014

**To:** Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee

**Referral to:** City Council

**Subject:** Indigenous Peoples Day

**Recommendation:** Direct the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, working with leaders in the American Indian community and Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors (MUID), to work across City departments to operationalize the spirit and intent of the Indigenous Peoples Day Resolution. The American Indian leaders working with NCR shall review the City of Minneapolis' programs, practices and policies as it relates to the intended impact of the Indigenous Peoples Day resolution. The Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, with support of all City departments, shall provide a report on the recommended practice and policy change recommendations will be presented in May 2015.

**Previous Directives:** On April 25, 2014, the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Betsy Hodges unanimously approved a resolution that recognizes the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day in Minneapolis, beginning this year.

### Department Information

Prepared by: Christine McDonald, American Indian Community Specialist, NCR  
Lance Knuckles, Access and Outreach Manager, NCR

Approved by: David Rubedor, Director, NCR \_\_\_\_\_  
Spencer Cronk, City Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: Lance Knuckles, Access and Outreach Manager, NCR

### Community Impact

#### City Goals

1. **One Minneapolis:** Disparities are eliminated so all Minneapolis residents can participate and prosper
  - a. All people, regardless of circumstance, have opportunities for success at every stage of life.
  - b. Equitable systems and policies lead to a high quality of life for all.

- c. Residents are informed, see themselves represented in City government and have the opportunity to influence decision-making.
2. **Great Places:** Natural and built spaces work together and our environment is protected
  - a. Iconic, inviting streets, spaces and buildings create a sense of place.
  - b. We welcome our growing and diversifying population with thoughtful planning and design.
3. **A City that works:** City government runs well and connects to the community it serves
  - a. Departments work seamlessly and strategically with each other and with the community.

### **Supporting Information**

On April 25, 2014, the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Betsy Hodges unanimously approved a resolution that recognizes the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day in Minneapolis, beginning this year.

Along with the federal government, Minneapolis has for many years recognized the second Monday in October as Columbus Day. The resolution recognizes the day as Indigenous Peoples Day, marking and celebrating the significance of the American Indian and Indigenous community in Minneapolis, as well as the city's history of American Indian activism.

The concept of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations at a United Nations-sponsored conference, and has since been adopted in various forms by several cities around the country.

Minneapolis' resolution, in part, states, "The City of Minneapolis recognizes the annexation of Dakota homelands for the building of our city, and knows Indigenous nations have lived upon this land since time immemorial and values the progress our society has accomplished through American Indian technology, thought, and culture."

It goes on to resolve that, "The City of Minneapolis shall continue its efforts to promote the well-being and growth of the Minneapolis American Indian and Indigenous community. ... Indigenous Peoples Day shall be used to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people on this land, and to celebrate the thriving culture and value that Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous nations add to our city."

As part of the resolution, the City of Minneapolis also encourages other businesses, organizations and public entities to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day.

[Language for complete resolution](#)