

Lilligren and Zimmermann

Opposing the genetic manipulation of and the issuance of patents for wild rice.

Whereas, wild rice, or Manoomin, is a central and sacred part of Anishaabeg sustenance, tradition, culture, and economy; and

Whereas, the Anishaabeg have inherent and established sovereign treaty rights to protect wild rice for future generations; and

Whereas, genetic modification of wild rice increases the likelihood of disruption of the natural reproductive cycle of wild rice and the possibility of hybridization with patty rice to allow man-made production of wild rice; and

Whereas, genetic research is being conducted at the University of Minnesota on wild rice and patents have been issued for cytoplasmic genetic male sterility of wild rice to Nor-Cal, a private seed company; and

Whereas on August 25, 2000, the City of Minneapolis passed a resolution urging the federal government to label and test genetically engineered foods and to assign liability to the developers of such foods;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City Council of Minneapolis formally requests that all genetic manipulation and patenting of wild rice be halted.