

PROCLAMATION
Recognizing the Second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day
in the City of Laramie, Wyoming

[Written in collaboration with the University of Wyoming; Keepers of the Fire Student Organization, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society Chapter of Wyoming, the Native American & Indigenous Studies Department, the Native American Education Research & Cultural Center]

Whereas, “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” was first proposed in 1977, by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;

Whereas, Columbus Day does not currently provide an opportunity to reflect on the colonization of Indigenous people by Europeans;

Whereas, prior to colonization, Indigenous peoples lived and flourished in the Americas for thousands of years;

Whereas, two federally recognized tribes reside within the State of Wyoming, the Northern Arapaho Tribe and Eastern Shoshone Tribe, and the at the City of Laramie encompasses the ancestral homelands of other tribal nations;

Whereas, numerous cities and state governments within the United States now recognize Columbus Day also as Indigenous Peoples’ Day in an effort to create a path of healing and reconciliation, and honor our nation’s Indigenous roots, history, and contributions;

Whereas, Laramie is honored to be home to the University of Wyoming, in which many Indigenous students that represent many Tribal Nations have chosen to continue their education;

Whereas, it is the responsibility of elected officials at all levels to foster inclusivity, racial equity, and justice for all people and oppose systemic practices that perpetuate oppression;

Whereas, the City of Laramie recognizes and values the vast contributions made to the United States by indigenous peoples’ knowledge, culture, education and encourages other businesses, organizations and community members to recognize and celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day;

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Laramie, Wyoming that the second Monday of October shall be known as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in the City of Laramie to celebrate the contributions, the enduring culture, and traditions of Indigenous Peoples, including the Northern Arapaho and the Eastern Shoshone tribes of Wyoming.

Paul Weaver, Mayor and President of Laramie City Council

Date

Attest:

Nancy Bartholomew, CMC, City Clerk