

1 2015 RES-289

2 ESTABLISHING THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IN  
3 DANE COUNTY  
4

5 Indigenous Peoples Day began in commemoration of five hundred years of survival and renewal  
6 of native cultures in the face of political and cultural repression. The indigenous culture  
7 flourishing in Dane County since time immemorial was a sustainable, peaceful culture based on  
8 cooperation among neighbors and respect for the land and for all creatures living on it. This  
9 indigenous culture was disrupted and destroyed in Dane County, as in almost all parts of this  
10 hemisphere, and yet it has survived.

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12 The University of Wisconsin-Madison is the most archaeologically rich campus in the nation  
13 because it is built on sacred ground. Dane County is also the site of Camp Randall, which held  
14 the troops that led the final push to drive the indigenous people west of the Mississippi under  
15 then-President Abraham Lincoln. The oldest trees in Dane County, including the tree on top of  
16 Observatory Hill, which holds five effigy burial mounds (two are still visible) have, in their  
17 lifetime, seen the population in this area go from 100% indigenous people to 1% Native  
18 Americans.

19  
20 South Dakota has celebrated "Native American Day" on the second Monday of October since  
21 1990, and the Governor of Alaska recently renamed Columbus Day "Indigenous Peoples Day,"  
22 joining a growing body of local governments from Albuquerque to Portland doing the same.

23  
24 Locally, the Indigenous Peoples Day awareness celebration has brought greater understanding  
25 to the people of Dane County regarding native cultures and the enormous contributions they  
26 have made and continue to make to world culture and to Dane County.

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28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT that the Dane County Board of Supervisors declares the second  
29 Monday in October each year as Indigenous Peoples Day in Dane County.

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31 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges the Cultural  
32 Affairs Commission and other county agencies, boards, and commissions to include recognition  
33 of this day in all its publicly distributed materials and calendars, such as the yearly Dane Arts  
34 calendars.