

2025 RES-237

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2025 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of November celebrates and recognizes Native American Heritage Month, also known as Indigenous Peoples' Month, acknowledging the history and continued heritage of survival, renewal, and cultural preservation of Indigenous people in the face of political and cultural repression; and

WHEREAS, 11 federally recognized tribal nations call Wisconsin home and actively shape the state's identity through their unique cultures, languages, and traditions; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Month is an opportunity to remember the historical truths about the devastating loss of life, displacement, and oppression of Indigenous people in our country, state, and county, and to organize against current injustice, while also celebrating and uplifting the Indigenous people and their resilience; and

WHEREAS, Dane County, Wisconsin, is located on the ancestral and traditional lands of the Ho-Chunk, Sauk, and Kickapoo Nations, where Indigenous people and cultures have flourished and established sustainable ways of living, rooted in cooperation among neighbors and respect for the land and for all living creatures; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of Dane County and its institutions directly displaced and disrupted the original homelands, villages, and sacred sites of Indigenous peoples, yet Indigenous residents have shown great resilience, preserved their cultures, and continued to thrive; and

WHEREAS, today, November 20, 2025, Dane County has kept its commitment to implementing more permanent visible acknowledgment of Dane County's Indigenous peoples and cultures, through dedicating a newly installed land acknowledgment display and exhibiting artwork that honors and uplifts individuals who carry the history, culture, and legacy of the tribal nations connected to this region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes November as Indigenous Peoples' Month. They offer their gratitude to the native people of the hemisphere and this region on behalf of all Dane County residents, in recognition of their care for this land, their culture and ways of being, and their continued vibrancy and contributions to our civic life in Dane County and beyond.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors acknowledges its responsibility and reasserts its commitment to oppose the systemic racism toward Indigenous people in the United States—which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality and exacerbates disproportionate health, education, and social crises—and to partner and collaborate with tribal governments and peoples to accomplish this commitment.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors commits to ongoing recognition and acknowledgement of Dane County's Indigenous people and cultures, to increasing communication with Indigenous residents and present-day tribal nations, and to promoting the culture, language, and traditions of our tribal brothers and sisters across Dane County.

Patrick Miles, Chair
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this
_____ day of _____, 2025.

Scott McDonell,
Dane County Clerk