

City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Rebecca Erickson



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Poulsbo recognizes that in order to fully honor and embrace its rich Scandinavian history and traditions, it is necessary to recognize the history, traditions, customs, and culture of the indigenous people from whence they came; and

WHEREAS, the Sámi people are the indigenous people of Sápmi, which today encompasses large parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Murmansk Oblast of Russia, and the Sámi people have lived on those lands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Sámi people, in recent history, have begun to enjoy a positive relationship with the colonizing governments of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia, but despite these relationships there are disparities in the fair treatment of the Sámi people, as well as ongoing prejudice, discrimination, and violations of the indigenous rights, and there is insufficient acknowledgment of the historical destruction of their culture; and

WHEREAS, the City of Poulsbo values the many contributions the Sámi people have made to the communities of our ancestors with their knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, and the deep cultural influences which have helped shape the character of our city; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 1917 the first Sámi congress was held in Trondheim, Norway, and in 1992, at the 15th Sámi Conference in Helsinki, Finland, a resolution was passed that the Day of the Sami People should be celebrated on this day; and

WHEREAS, the City of Poulsbo joins Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia in recognizing the sixth of February as the Day of the Sámi People, creating an opportunity to promote tolerance, understanding, appreciation, and friendship amongst all people; now therefore,

I, Rebecca Erickson, Mayor of the City of Poulsbo, Washington, do hereby proclaim the sixth day February, 2020 as

DAY OF THE SÁMI PEOPLE

and call upon the citizens of Poulsbo and the surrounding area to celebrate the cultures and values of the indigenous people of Scandinavia, to learn more about the history of the Sámi people, and to observe the occasion with appropriate programs and ceremonies.

Dated this 15th day of January, 2020.



Rebecca Erickson, Mayor

