

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 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 shaped 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 Sámi 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 February 6, 2023, as

DAY OF THE SÁMI PEOPLE

And call upon the citizens of Poulsbo and the surrounding area to observe the occasion with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



Dated this 1st day of February, 2023

Rebecca Erickson, Mayor