



RESOLUTION 19-278

Resolution Declaring that the Second Monday in October shall be known as Indigenous Peoples Day in the Municipality of Princeton Encouraging other Institutions to Recognize the Day; and Reaffirming the Municipality's Commitment to Promote the Well-Being and Growth of Indigenous Communities

WHEREAS the Municipality of Princeton offers respect to the Nanticoke Leni-Lenape Tribal Nation, the Powhatan Renape Nation, and Ramapough Lenape Nation (the Lenape), recognizes the forced diaspora of the Delaware Tribe and the Delaware Nation of Oklahoma, and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community of Wisconsin, and acknowledges that the Municipality was built on this small portion of Lenapehoking, the vast territory of which the Lenape were stewards for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS the Municipality honors the Lenape in New Jersey and elsewhere for their practices of environmental sustainability and their understanding of the ways in which all elements are mutually interdependent; and honors also their cultural resilience throughout this nation's history; and

WHEREAS the residents and elected leaders of the Municipality of Princeton strive for an open and mutually supportive community that celebrates diversity and rejects systemic racism and oppression that targets all minority and indigenous peoples, including the Lenape; and

WHEREAS Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations at the International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas sponsored by the United Nations, and the United Nations later issued its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007; and the Municipality applauds the reaffirmation of tribal nation status to the Nanticoke Leni-Lenape and other indigenous nations in New Jersey by New Jersey Attorney General S. Gurbir Grewal in 2018; and

WHEREAS the act of officially recognizing indigenous peoples on the second Monday of October will encourage the development and dissemination of truthful representations and acknowledgements of wrongs committed by European colonists and their descendants, who, since their first occupations in the Americas in the 16th century, engaged in forced removals of indigenous peoples from their homelands and committed acts that nearly exterminated them; and

WHEREAS the Municipality of Princeton, New Jersey, seeks to join a growing number of other states and communities across the United States that currently honor the lives of tribal peoples, including their cultures, traditions and arts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Princeton Council as follows:

1. The Municipality of Princeton supports the formal institution of Indigenous Peoples Day to provide impetus for developing educational opportunities to explore and celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the indigenous peoples in our region and beyond.

2. The Municipality of Princeton affirms its support for the Princeton Civil Rights Commission to collaborate with community partners to develop annual programming and educational outreach in commemoration of Indigenous Peoples Day.

3. The Municipality of Princeton commends the Princeton Public Schools for their continued efforts to integrate the study of the complex history, traditions, and arts of indigenous peoples into the schools' curricula in order to revise distorted histories of "Indians" and applauds all other Princeton schools that engage in similar curricular revisions.

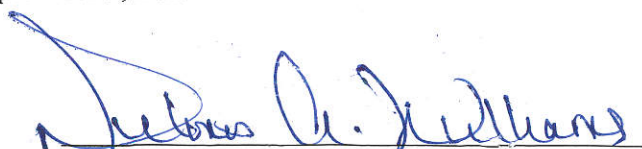
4. The Municipality of Princeton encourages all businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day.

5. The Municipality of Princeton firmly commits itself to continue its efforts to promote the wellbeing and growth of New Jersey's indigenous communities.

6. The Mayor and Princeton Council jointly declare the second Monday in October to be Indigenous Peoples Day in the Municipality of Princeton, New Jersey.

Councilperson	Absent	Present	1 st	2 nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Disqualified
Mr. Cohen		X			X			
Ms. Crumiller		X			X			
Ms. Fraga		X	X		X			
Ms. Niedergang		X			X			
Mr. Quinn		X			X			
Mr. Williamson		X		X	X			
Mayor Lempert		X						

I, Delores A. Williams, Municipal Clerk of Princeton, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of Princeton at a meeting held September 9, 2019.



Delores A. Williams, Municipal Clerk