

Whereas

Whereas, Native Americans, the indigenous peoples of this land, flourished with vibrant cultures, had one of the largest areas of trade economy and were the original stewards of Mother Earth, such as in Portland, the confluence between the mighty Columbia and Willamette Rivers;

Whereas, the city of Portland now rests on the ceded lands of the Tualatin, Kalapuya, Clackamas and Chinook peoples; and

Whereas, Indigenous People hand down oral histories, science, governance, a distinct relationship with water, land, rocks, trees, birds, fish and animals and invaluable cultural knowledge and rich traditions that continue to thrive in Portland; and

Whereas, Indigenous People have been here 10,000 years – time immemorial – continue to contribute immeasurably to our country, state, and city's heritage, distinguishing themselves as scholars, veterans, teachers, athletes, artists, entrepreneurs and leaders; and

Whereas, the Indigenous population of Portland is the 9th largest in the United States with nearly 60,000 people, descended from more than 380 tribes/bands in the Portland area; and

Whereas, the community continues to contribute to the cultural fabric of Portland through many events throughout the year such as pow wows, festivals, celebrations, and active community organizations;

Now, therefore, I, Sam Adams, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim November 2011 to be

Native American Heritage Month

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this month.

