

City of Pittsburgh  
Council of the City of Pittsburgh

WILL OF THE COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that Pittsburgh is built upon the homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region, without whom the building of the City would not have been possible; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh values the many contributions made to our community through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts and the deep cultural contribution that has substantially shaped the character of these lands and the City of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh has a responsibility to oppose the systemic racism towards Indigenous people in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh promotes the closing of the equity gap for Indigenous Peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Pittsburgh declared Pittsburgh a human rights city on April 6, 2011, in an attempt to build infrastructure for racial justice, conflict prevention, human security, sustainable development, and create a place for active engagement at the local, national, and global level to join with other human rights cities that provide leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby affirm its commitment to human rights by recognizing the 12th of October as "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in order to promote tolerance, understanding and friendship, and to overcome prejudice and eliminate discrimination stemming from colonization and racism.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh will work with residents to educate our community, include the teaching of indigenous peoples' history as recommended Indigenous communities in our public schools, and to achieve a Resolution that more formally recognizes and officially celebrates Indigenous Peoples' Day.