

Proclamation

WHEREAS, American Indian Month is celebrated every year in the month of May to recognize an important time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of American Indian people; and

WHEREAS, It is also an opportune time to educate the general public about its vibrant urban community and tribes, raise a general awareness about the unique challenges American Indian people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens and nations have worked to conquer these challenges; and

WHEREAS, The land in present day known as Ramsey County is located on the ancestral and contemporary lands of American Indian people, and home to the American Indian people of Turtle Island since time immemorial, and without whom, the building of this county would not have been possible and holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for its original stewards; and

WHEREAS, The name Ramsey County uncovers the truths and long-standing impact, harm, genocide and racism, at the direction of Governor Ramsey to forcefully remove the area's American Indian residents from their homelands, including the declaration that "the Sioux Indians of Minnesota must be exterminated or driven forever beyond the borders of the state," which led to the lynching of 38 Dakota men in Mankato on December 26, 1862; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County strives to eliminate systemic racism towards American Indian people and seeks to promote practices and policies that honor the state's American Indian roots, history and contributions, and reflect the experiences of American Indian people, to ensure greater access and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, American Indian people have made essential contributions to the landscape of Minnesota and Ramsey County, including, intrinsic traditional knowledge, experience, labor, technology, science, philosophy, industry, arts, as well as their cultural belief system that stipulates American Indian people as protectors and stewards of our natural environment for the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, We recognize and honor the treaties made by tribal nations and the United States Government that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares May 2024 as American Indian Month in Ramsey County in order to promote appreciation, healing, reconciliation, understanding, friendship, and continued partnerships with the American Indian community; and Be It Further


PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners encourages all residents in the community to honor and celebrate the many American Indian Minnesotans and Ramsey County residents that remind us daily of our rich American Indian heritage.



Trista Martinson, Board Chair, District 3


Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2


Rafael Ortega, Commissioner, District 5


Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, District 7


Nicole Frethem, Commissioner, District 1


Rena Moran, Commissioner, District 4


Mai Chong Xiong, Commissioner, District 6


Johanna Berg, County Manager