

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING THE)	RESOLUTION NO. 23-5336
FIFTH OF EVERY MAY AS THE NATIONAL)	
DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE		Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with
GREATER PORTLAND AREA		Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Metro stands with other tribal, local, and regional, state, and national governments and organizations in support of the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, commonly referred to as MMIP; and

WHEREAS, the lasting effects of colonization and history of oppressive policies directly correlate to the rise of violence against Indigenous women, girls, men and two-spirit relatives in what is now known as the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America; and

WHEREAS, the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous People is not isolated to reservations or rural communities, but impacts urban areas like the Portland metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaska Native women are 2.5 times more likely to experience violent crimes – and at least twice as likely to experience rape or sexual assault crimes – compared to all other races;

WHEREAS, in a 2022 report to US Congress, it was identified that 84% of American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) women and 82% of AI/AN men reported experiencing violent victimizations in their lifetime;

WHEREAS, Metro Council supports Tribal Governments and tribal communities' efforts to increase awareness and action on the issue of missing or murdered Indigenous Peoples through programs and activities;

WHEREAS, Metro has an opportunity and responsibility to ensure its projects, programs and activities are culturally informed, accessible and meeting the needs of members of Indigenous communities in the region;

WHEREAS, Metro Council asks all levels of government to address three common barriers to the federal government's and criminal justice systems' ability to understand and address MMIP including: the lack of cultural specific services for Native American crime victims who live outside of tribal lands, the complicated jurisdictional overlaps between federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies which can confuse the responsibility for investigation and prosecution of crimes committed on tribal land, and gaps in federal, state, local and tribal criminal justice data collection efforts; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council shall recognize every May 5th as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Day of Awareness in the greater Portland region. We encourage other businesses, organizations, public institutions, and community members to wear red to show solidarity, support and raise awareness about the systemic obstacles that contribute to this acute crisis Indigenous Peoples face.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this fourth day of May 2023.

Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney