



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
**KIM JANEY**

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
OF  
MAYOR KIM JANEY

An Executive Order Relative to Indigenous Peoples In Boston

WHEREAS, the city of Boston is located on the traditional, Indigenous territory of the Massachusett Tribe, who are the original inhabitants of what is now known as Boston;

WHEREAS the City pays respect to the people of the Massachusett Tribe, past and present, and honors the land itself, which remains sacred to the Massachusett Tribe;

WHEREAS, the city is home to many Indigenous peoples including members of the Massachusett, Wampanoag, Nipmuc tribes, and other historic Massachusetts tribes, Native American, Native Alaskan, First Nations, Inuit and Metis tribal members in addition to Indigenous peoples from other countries;

WHEREAS, the cultures of Indigenous Peoples are worthy of being promoted, their histories and futures are rich, diverse and worthy of celebration, and the actions and policies of European colonizers including in the city of Boston actively destroyed and suppressed parts of those cultures;

WHEREAS, the City renounces the racist and colonial history of Boston and its impact on Indigenous peoples;

WHEREAS, the City celebrates and honors the contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples and is firmly invested in improving government-to-government relations with all Indigenous nations to which Boston has historical obligations to provide meaningful channels of support and representation;

WHEREAS, in collaboration with Indigenous community leadership and activism, an internal working group of City employees has developed a series of proposals as the beginning of a long-term healing process;

WHEREAS those proposals include land acknowledgement, recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day, expanded capacity within the City to engage the Indigenous community and to support Indigenous youth

and families, increased public representation of Indigenous peoples in the City, and an increased focus on housing, economic and workforce development for tribal members;

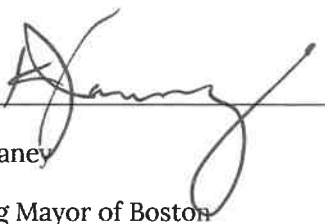
WHEREAS, the City acknowledges the need for consultation with Indigenous organizations, such as North American Indian Center of Boston, in order to properly achieve these proposals and demonstrate Boston's commitment to supporting Indigenous residents.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Executive Officer by order of the City of Boston pursuant to St. 1948, c. 452, s. 11, and every other power hereto enabling, I hereby order and direct as follows:

1. I, Kim Janey, Mayor of Boston, hereby declare the second Monday of October every year to be Indigenous Peoples Day in the City of Boston to affirm the City's commitment to reconciliation and support for the rights of Indigenous peoples;
2. I advise my fellow Bostonians, including and especially future administrations, to join me in proactively engaging local tribal leaders in more than conversation, and also in taking meaningful, heartfelt actions to champion these rights going forward;
3. I encourage the city of Boston to observe Indigenous Peoples Day in lieu of Columbus Day by reflecting upon the dispossession of the homeland of the Massachusett Tribe, who lived here for millenia prior to the arrival of European settlers and whose members are a continuing presence as the caretakers of the land;
4. I further encourage all Bostonians to celebrate the survival of Indigenous Peoples against all odds, and the thriving cultures and knowledge that Indigenous Peoples have brought and continue to bring to our City;
5. I encourage businesses, organizations, and public institutions to recognize and observe Indigenous Peoples Day; and,
6. I strongly urge City administrations, cabinets, departments, agencies, and offices to take all necessary steps to implement the aforementioned proposals, including supporting events and curricula that celebrates and perpetuates the cultures, histories and diversity of Indigenous Peoples.
7. To this end, I hereby order every City cabinet, department, agency, and office to take all necessary steps to implement this Executive Order.

October 6, 2021

Date

  
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Kim Janey  
Acting Mayor of Boston