Proclamation

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, American Indian Heritage Month, also known as Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month, honors and celebrates the important history and heritage of tribal communities within North Carolina's recognized tribes and Indian organizations; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to eight state-recognized tribes: the Eastern Band of Cherokee, Coharie, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, Haliwa-Saponi, Sappony, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, and the Waccamaw-Siouan; and

WHEREAS, today, there are more than 130,000 North Carolinians who identify as American Indian, living in all 100 counties, making it the second-largest American Indian population east of the Mississippi River and the seventh-largest American Indian population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black Mountain recognizes Indigenous people have lived upon this land since time immemorial and values the progress our society has accomplished through the contributions of the Indigenous peoples' culture; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black Mountain recognizes and celebrates Indigenous people and wishes to preserve and promote the history and culture of all Indigenous people.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Black Mountain Town Council that the month of November 2024 be proclaimed Indigenous Peoples' Heritage Month in the Town of Black Mountain and commend its observance to all citizens.

Proclaimed this, the 12th day of November 2024.