



NDSA-11-2122

A Resolution in Support of an Official Holiday for Indigenous Peoples' Day

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota's 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, in November of 2021, the NDSA passed NDSA-07-2122: A Resolution Supporting Additional Time Off During the Fall Semester, that supports additional time off during the fall semester to promote students' mental health and well-being; and,

WHEREAS, this resolution serves to expand upon NDSA-07-2122 and provide a recommendation for a specific date and justification for providing a day off to students; and,

WHEREAS, the NDUS Academic Calendar has eighty scheduled days of classroom instruction required for students in the fall semester; and,

WHEREAS, of these required classroom instruction days, forty-seven of them, or roughly seven weeks, take place consecutively without a break for students from September through November; and,

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday that is not currently recognized by the NDUS within this seven-week time frame; and,

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day is traditionally observed on the second Monday of October every year; and,

WHEREAS, the NDSA makes the distinction that this is a holiday commemorating the histories and cultures of the indigenous peoples of America; and,

WHEREAS, recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day allows for education and awareness around the history of America; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NDSA recommends that the NDUS makes Indigenous Peoples' Day an officially recognized holiday; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NDSA recommends that Indigenous Peoples' Day be celebrated on the second Monday of October, allowing students an opportunity to observe the historical significance of the day and providing a break from college instruction.

*Approved by the NDSA General Assembly,
Saturday, February 26th, 2022*