

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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- Patricia Soutas-Little, District #5
- Carolyn Rentenbach, District #6
- Melinda C. Lautner, District #7



**Chet Janik**, County Administrator

Leelanau County Government Center  
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**Leelanau County Resolution #2020-015  
 A Resolution to Recognize the First Day of October as Indigenous Peoples Day**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Leelanau is situated on a peninsula of unique and unparalleled beauty, which provides a bounty to its residents through fertile land and access to Lake Michigan and the Grand Traverse Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Leelanau would not exist nor its residents enjoy its beauty and bounty but for the annexation of its lands from the homelands of the Anishinabek people, who lived here since time immemorial and to the present day; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Leelanau understands that the historical relationship that brought it into being, now wishes to recognize with gratitude the roots, history, and contributions of the Anishinabek people towards its existence; and

**WHEREAS**, an international movement began in 1977 to initiate an Indigenous Peoples Day by a delegation of native nations to the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1990, representatives from 120 Indigenous Nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance unanimously passed a resolution to use Columbus Day as an opportunity to educate the public about Indian cultures that pre-existed European contact and still exists and thrives today; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1990, numerous municipalities throughout the United States have incorporated the principles of the First Continental Conference by voting to institute an Indigenous Peoples Day and to use the day to honor the culture, heritage, and contributions of their native citizens and neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1990, Congress passed a joint resolution requesting the President designate November as National American Indian Heritage Month by a proclamation of the President of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Leelanau County wishes to extend recognition to, and appreciation of, its Anishinabek citizens and neighbors, and their shared history;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Leelanau County shall forthwith recognize the First Day of October as INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY; and,

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Leelanau County shall recognize the National American Indian Heritage Month of November; and,

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED**, that INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY and National American Indian Heritage Month shall be used to reflect the ongoing challenges posed to indigenous people of this land, and to celebrate their continued existence and culture; and to honor and appreciate their commitment to protecting and preserving the earth, her resources, and all living beings.

*William J. Bunek*  
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 William J. Bunek, Chairman, District #3

*Tony Ansonge*  
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 Tony Ansonge, District #1 Commissioner

*Ty Wessell*  
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 Ty Wessell, District #4 Commissioner

*Carolyn Rentenbach*  
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 Carolyn Rentenbach, District #6 Commissioner

*Melinda C. Lautner*  
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 Melinda C. Lautner, Vice-Chairman, District #7

*Debra L. Rushton*  
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 Debra Rushton, District #2 Commissioner

*Patricia Soutas-Little*  
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 Patricia Soutas-Little, District #5 Commissioner

*Chet Janik*  
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 Chet Janik, Administrator

State of Michigan  
County of Leelanau



I, Michelle Crocker, Clerk of said County and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, the same being a Court of record having a seal, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Record now remaining in my office of the whole thereof. In testimony whereof, I have hereto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court the 15th day of September, 2020.

*Michelle L. Crocker*  
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 Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk  
 Clerk to the County Board of Commissioners