

**LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

**Resolution to Support the Recognition of the use of
Land Acknowledgement and to Celebrate
Indigenous Peoples' Day at LCC**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lansing Community College was held in the Board Room of the College, Administration Building, 610 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48933, in the Community College District, on September 20, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Standard Time.

PRESENT: Thomas, Proctor, Abood, Hidalgo, Mathews, Buck

ABSENT: Vaive

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Hidalgo and supported by Trustee Thomas.

The *Board of Trustees* of Lansing Community College resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College recognizes the greater Lansing area is built upon the ancestral homelands, villages, and traditional use areas of the Indigenous People and tribes of this region who have been caretakers of these lands we cherish since time immemorial; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan has a total of twelve federally recognized Indian tribes, with each having established sovereign governments and an inherent right to self-governance and self-determination, and all twelve functioning on their own governing structure, culture, traditions, laws, regulations, and policies; and,

WHEREAS, the United States history is stained by the brutal treatment of Indigenous People, including systematic murder of Native populations, separation of families, and land theft; and,

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College acknowledges that the area comprising the college campuses was originally inhabited on the contemporary Lands of the Anishinaabeg – which are Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples; and,

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College acknowledges that the Anishinaabeg peoples have a history of surviving the atrocities of enslavement, colonialism, genocide, racism, discrimination, theft, gender-based violence, forced assimilation, and other brutality actions driven by local, federal, and global governments; and,

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WHEREAS, Lansing Community College acknowledges that early environmentalists and conservationists contributed to the forceful removal of indigenous people, and further acknowledges their denial of Indigenous practices, wisdom, and rights to the land; and,

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College is unwavering in its commitment to embed diversity, equity and inclusion into the fabric of college process, practices, and procedures; and,

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College does not just offer rhetoric or soothing words, but rather is committed to cultural awareness 365 days a year, with an intentional dedication to diversity, kindness, respect, collaboration, accountability and inclusion; and,

WHEREAS, Lansing Community College acknowledges Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer's continued proclamations that the second Monday of every October is recognized by the State of Michigan to honor the significance of Indigenous Peoples and their contributions, as well as their ancestral lands, and that the day is acknowledged in various spaces in the United States, and all over the world, as Indigenous People's Day, to uplift our country's indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and,

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day transforms a celebration of colonialism, conquest, enslavement, and genocide into a commitment to emphasize and realize a new future through partnerships and celebration of the enduring traditions, languages, governments, and histories of Indigenous People; and,

WHEREAS, this history is a lesson to us all, of the continued strength, vitality, and resolution of Indigenous People to persist, and as we work together to forge a brighter future and achieve these ideals, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Lansing Community College will recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of every October beginning October 11, 2021, with an annual celebration and dedication; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following land acknowledgment statement is provided for optional use at Lansing Community College events, celebrations and activities, or published in printed materials:

Lansing Community College occupies the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabeg – Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. In particular, the City of Lansing and LCC reside on land ceded in the 1819 Treaty of Saginaw.

While all of our campuses are beautiful and inviting, we remember that we are guests as we walk on Mother Earth. As we delight in the sounds of the Grand River, we remember that this waterway has been used by the original inhabitants of this land daily for farming and transportation between Portland and Okemos.

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We would like to take a moment to acknowledge our relationship to Indigenous communities, especially as we examine our relationship to our Indigenous faculty, staff, and students and their contributions to the LCC Community. Each day, as we walk on each of our campuses, we remember that similar footsteps were walked along these same paths for generations before us.

As we honor those who have walked these paths before us and the seven generations to come, we reflect on how we honor them in our interactions with Indigenous communities, the land, and all of humankind.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the first two sentences of this statement will serve as a shortened land acknowledgment, also intended for optional use at events, conferences, and other LCC events and meetings; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees charges the President to create a campus-wide etiquette protocol for when or how land acknowledgments should be implemented, such that it honors and shows respect when used at departmental meetings, Academic Senate meetings, and other events; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution regarding land acknowledgment use and the promotion and celebration of Indigenous People is just the first step needed in honoring the land, culture, wisdom, and contributions of the indigenous peoples throughout the Lansing Community; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the College will establish and strengthen relationships with the Anishinaabeg – Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples by engaging in a meaningful tribal consultation process to understand their unique needs, concerns, and knowledge as the original caretakers of the land; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the College will engage with Lansing's American Indian Cultural Community and other American Indian stakeholders to elevate American Indian traditional ecological knowledge, concerns, and expertise; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the College will be committed to recruit, retain, and support American Indian and Indigenous students, faculty, and staff. Moreover, we affirm that LCC must support Indigenous communities and nations in Michigan, as well as communities across the Fourth World.

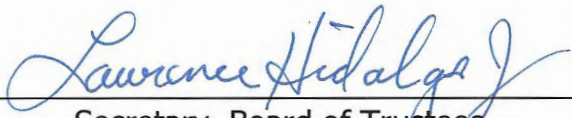
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Lansing Community College supports and recognizes the historic communities of Indigenous members, including Michigan's twelve federally recognized Indian nations who live here now, and for those who were forcibly removed from their Homelands. While our campuses are beautiful, we will hold fast to remember that we are guests as we walk on Mother Earth that is the traditional, contemporary, and ancestral homelands of the ***Anishinaabeg*** (Anishnabe).

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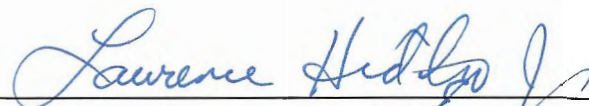
AND BE IT THUS RECORDED THIS 20TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

Ayes: Thomas, Proctor, Abood, Hidalgo, Mathews, Buck
Nays: None
Absent: Vaive

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Secretary, Board of Trustees
Lansing Community College

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Lansing Community College, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on September 20, 2021, and that public notice of the said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act 267.


Secretary, Board of Trustees
Lansing Community College