

## TOWN OF APEXH CAROLINA

## Proclamation

## Indigenous Peoples Day 2023

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex recognizes that the lands we now know as the Americas were occupied by their Indigenous Peoples long before European Settlers arrived; and,

WHEREAS, Apex is built upon land where Indigenous Peoples cultivated communities, coexisted with nature, and worshipped, and we recognize the profound responsibility we have in honoring and maintaining this Indigenous heritage and tradition in our town; and,

WHEREAS, The community southwest of Apex, known as Friendship, brought together Indigenous Peoples, African Americans, and European Americans; and,

WHEREAS, The town acknowledges the numerous contributions Indigenous Peoples have made to our town and country through their knowledge, technology, philosophy, art, and culture; and.

WHEREAS, The town is committed to promoting policies and practices that enable our society to continue making progress toward the ideal of "Liberty and Justice for all", including for all Indigenous Peoples; and,

WHEREAS, The United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on December 16, 2010, which states "Indigenous Peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories, and resources." The Town of Apex stands in affirmation with this Declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2023 as Indigenous Peoples Day in the Town of Apex, and invite all residents to join me in celebrating the rich traditions and history of Indigenous Peoples in our town and country, and in committing ourselves to furthering equality in our community.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor