

ASNMU



A Resolution to Support the Recognition of Indigenous People's Day at NMU

Where did this come from?

The students of Northern:

Native American Student Association, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, and the Native American Language and Culture Club wrote the original petition

From a Petition to a Resolution

“We, the students enrolled at the Marquette Campus of Northern Michigan University, in order to... take action in the best interest of the student body and university community... establish... the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University.” – ASNMU Constitution Preamble

ASNMU has a responsibility to the students we serve. The General Assembly wrote and passed a resolution in support of the original petition, which was signed by President Lindsey Lieck and written by Sheila Williams. We used the power given to us by our Constitution to serve the student body and the campus community.

Gathering Support Campus Wide

The Resolution was sent to two places after it was signed:

- 1. The President's Council:** no objections or amendments to the Resolution
- 2. The Academic Senate:** the resolution passed a vote of the faculty senate

A year after the original Resolution was passed by ASNMU, we finally had the campus wide support that we needed: the students, the faculty, the staff, and the administration.

Now, we have brought it to you, the Board of Trustees of NMU.

IPD at Other Locations

- South Dakota has been celebrating Native American Day since 1990
- Vermont's Governor last year proclaimed Indigenous People's day to celebrate "Indigenous Heritage and Resiliency"
- The State of Alaska adopted Indigenous People's Day, and the Governor, Bill Walker, explained in a resolution that Indigenous People's Day was to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of the region and oppose racism
- Our Resolution has been noticed by the Student Government of GRCC and Michigan Tech

Why are we here now?

We are seeking the approval of the ultimate governing body for our institution.
With your approval we will:

- 1) Establish Indigenous People's Day on October 11 (traditionally Columbus Day)
- 2) Implement annual educational platform with full support from NMU
- 3) Address the history of Indigenous People and heal as a community

Our University resides on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe.

We are the first University in Michigan to have a Native American Studies major.

The first graduates of that program graduated last semester.

One of our core values as a university is "Inclusion."

This is about recognizing history and moving forward as one community.

Questions and Discussion