

**RESOLUTION 2019- \_\_\_\_\_**

**CELEBRATING APRIL AS A MONTH OF  
SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION IN WHATCOM COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, Sikhs have been living in the United States and Whatcom County for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Washington, Oregon, California and Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a significant and growing population of Sikh Americans in Whatcom County; and

**WHEREAS**, Vaisakhi is one of the most historically significant days of the year for Sikhs and is celebrated in April of every year; and

**WHEREAS**, 2019 is the 550th anniversary of the founder of Sikhism and this day is celebrated by Sikh American Community in Whatcom County, many other locations in United States and worldwide, and

**WHEREAS**, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions and make rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including service as members of the United States Armed Forces and significant contributions to our great nation in agriculture, information technology, small businesses, the hotel industry, trucking, medicine, and technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Whatcom County is committed to the value of religious diversity, tolerance grounded in First Amendment principles, a culture of mutual understanding, and the diminution of violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arch of Healing and Reconciliation monument in Bellingham to honor the brave immigrants to the Pacific Northwest from India, China, and Japan, including Sikhs, and in recognition of all immigrants who have come to America since the late 1800's seeking better opportunities for themselves and their families through hard work and determination; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the Whatcom County seeks to further the diversity of its community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Whatcom County Council that on this day, March \_\_\_\_, 2019, the Council hereby proclaims the month of April 2019 to be Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

ATTEST: WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

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Rud Browne, Council Chair

APPROVED as to form:

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Civil Deputy Prosecutor