

Proclamation

City of Edmonds • Office of the Mayor

National Hispanic Heritage Month

- WHEREAS,** National Hispanic Heritage Month, known as “Mes nacional de la herencia hispana”, is celebrated nationwide from September 15th through October 15th each year. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988, to cover the month at which it is celebrated today. Understanding that September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and 18, respectively; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Edmonds looks forward to celebrating “Mes nacional de la herencia hispana”, with the greater community to highlight the rich heritage, arts, histories, food, music and traditions of all 21+ Latin-American nations. These dates honor and pay tribute to all for their contributions to our city and our society; and
- WHEREAS,** Latinos are individuals that are descendants from Latin American countries and may speak a variety of different languages. Hispanics are individuals that speak Spanish and are descendants from Spanish speaking countries, including Spain. Latinx is a gender neutral or non-binary term for people of Latin American descent, and we recognize the Latinx identity also encompasses people in Black/African, Asian, Indigenous, and Queer communities; and
- WHEREAS,** recognizing that Hispanics make up 7% of the Edmonds population, and that 9% of children in our community speak Spanish predominantly at home. Understanding that Hispanics are extremely entrepreneurial and play a vital role in our economy; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Edmonds recognizes the significant contributions of all Hispanic city employees, the Edmonds Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Commission, and numerous grassroots leaders and outreach groups that help increase cultural awareness, education, enrichment, and community engagement with our residents. It is through their support and community involvement that our city has continued to become more culturally diverse and a welcoming city for everyone; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Edmonds is committed to recognizing Hispanic/Latino and Latinx culture and heritage as an important part of the city and its strong, inclusive community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Mike Nelson, City of Edmonds Mayor do hereby proclaim September 15th – October 15th, as National Hispanic Heritage Month and call its observance to all residents.


Mike Nelson, Mayor ~ September 19, 2023