**Resolution No. 19-15**

**A Resolution in Support Chinook Indian Nation's Federal Recognition**

**Whereas,** the Chinook Indian Nation is the sovereign nation comprised of the five western-most Chinookan speaking tribes of the Lower Columbia including the: Clatsop and Cathlamet of present-day Oregon and the Lower Chinook, Wahkiakum and Willapa of what is now Washington; and

**Whereas,** the Chinook Indian Nation has been acknowledged through acts of Congress as the rightful heirs of these tribes; and

**Whereas,** the Chinook Indian Nation are pursuing a bill through Congress to clarify their federal status; and

**Whereas,** including the Chinook Indian Nation amongst the other recognized tribes of the United States is long overdue; and

**Whereas,** the Chinook's long important history at the mouth of the Columbia River and their important historical influence in the Pacific Northwest deserves to continue and flourish; and

**Whereas,** the Chinook Indian Nation's territory does not extend beyond Oak Point, but the Chinook Indian Nation has interest in communities upriver, because what happens upstream from their territory affects conditions of their territory; and

**Whereas,** the people of Chinook Indian Nation have since time immemorial traveled throughout the Columbia River basin, conducting trade and building relations with neighboring Chinook communities on the river and other tribes, including the both the historical and contemporary communities residing in Battle Ground, Washington; and

**Whereas,** we know the Chinook people and acknowledge the important contributions that they have made to the local and surrounding community; and

**Whereas,** they are an important player in the enhancement and preservation of our natural resources and their traditional knowledge enriches us all and should be preserved; and

**Whereas,** Federal recognition would make the Chinook Indian Nation Tribal Members eligible to exercise their inherited rights, and admit them the same protections as other federally recognized tribes so that they may preserve and carry on the tribe's language and culture; and

**Whereas,** the City Council of the City of Battle Ground recognizes the important historical and continuing influence of the Chinook Indian Nation on the Pacific Northwest.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the City Council of the City of Battle Ground, Washington as follows:

Section One. The City of Battle Ground, Washington provides full support of the Chinook Indian Nation and their efforts to clarify their federal status.

**Adopted at the regular session of the City Council of the City of Battle Ground, Washington this 18th day of November, 2019.**

Approved:
City of Battle Ground, Washington

Mike Dalesandro, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kay Kammer, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Christine Hayes, City Attorney