

# Town of Sharon

## Proclamation



*WHEREAS, the cultures of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas are worthy of being promoted, their history is rich, diverse, and worthy of celebration, the actions, and policies of European colonizers of the Americas actively destroyed and suppressed parts of those cultures, and Indigenous Peoples have explained for decades that public celebrations of Columbus as a hero are damaging; and*

*WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial, and the Town of Sharon is situated on ancestral land of The Massachusetts Tribe and Pokanoket.*

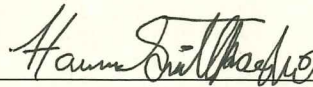
*WHEREAS, the Town wishes to honor our nation's Indigenous roots, history and contributions; and*

*WHEREAS, upon the dispossession of the homelands and villages of the Massachusetts and the Pokanoket people of this region who lived here for millennia prior to the arrival of European settlers, and upon the history of the other Indigenous Peoples who have lived in Sharon, and to celebrate the survival of Indigenous Peoples against all odds, as well as to celebrate the thriving cultures and values that Indigenous Peoples have brought and continue to bring to our Town and the wider community;*

*NOW THEREFORE, BY THESE PRESENTS, the Town of Sharon, acting through its Select Board, does hereby proclaim that the second Monday in October to be Indigenous People's Day*



Given this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022



Hanna R. Switekowski, Chair



Emily E. Smith-Lee, Clerk



Kiana Pierre-Louis, Member