

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 22-053

A RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 21, 2022, AS UNITED NATION'S ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAY **OF PEACE**

WHEREAS, each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21st. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire; and

WHEREAS, achieving true peace entails much more than laying down arms. It requires the building of societies where all members feel that they can flourish. It involves creating a world in which people are treated equally, regardless of their race; and

WHEREAS, as UN Secretary-General António Guterres has said, "Racism continues to poison institutions, social structures, and everyday life in every society. It continues to be a driver of persistent inequality. And it continues to deny people their fundamental human rights. It destabilizes societies, undermines democracies, erodes the legitimacy of governments, and... the linkages between racism and gender inequality are unmistakable;" and

WHEREAS, as conflicts continue to erupt across the globe, causing people to flee, we have seen race-based discrimination at borders. As COVID-19 keeps attacking our communities, we have seen how certain racial groups have been hit much harder than others. As economies suffer, we have seen hate speech and violence directed at racial minorities; and

WHEREAS, we all have a role to play in fostering peace, and tackling racism is a crucial way to contribute; and

WHEREAS, we can work to dismantle the structures that entrench racism in our midst. We can support movements for equality and human rights everywhere. We can speak out against hate speechboth offline and online. We can promote anti-racism through education and reparatory justice; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 theme for the International Day of Peace is "End racism. Build peace." We invite you to join the efforts of the United Nations as we work towards a world free of racism and racial discrimination. A world where compassion and empathy overcome suspicion and hatred. A world that we can truly be proud of;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council hereby recognizes September 21, 2022, as International Day of Peace in Snohomish County.

APPROVED this 21st day of September, 2022.

Megan Dunn Council Chair

Councilmember

Councilmember

Council Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

Debbie Eco, CMC Clerk of the Council