

PROCLAMATION

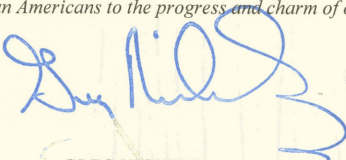
- WHEREAS, *the City of Seattle draws great strength from a diversity of cultures, heritages, and traditions; and*
- WHEREAS, *Scandinavian immigrants helped settle the City of Seattle, and over 10% of Seattleites are of Scandinavian heritage; and*
- WHEREAS, *Icelandic-born Leif Erikson was the first recorded European to set foot on North American shores; and*
- WHEREAS, *a statue of Leif Erikson, originally unveiled at the Seattle World's Fair in 1962, has been refurbished and is ready to stand on the Seattle shoreline for another 45 years; replicas of Seattle's statue have been given to Norway and Greenland; and*
- WHEREAS, *the Leif Erikson International Foundation, working with the Port of Seattle, has created a public plaza with rune stones bearing the names of over 800 immigrants from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden; and*
- WHEREAS, *On October 7, 2007, Scandinavian Americans and their families will join together to witness the unveiling of the refurbished statue and to celebrate the creation of Leif Erikson Plaza;*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREGORY J. NICKELS, Mayor of the City of Seattle, do hereby proclaim October 7, 2007 to be

SCANDINAVIAN HERITAGE DAY

in Seattle, and I encourage residents to join me in celebrating and recognizing the contributions of Scandinavian Americans to the progress and charm of our city.




GREG NICKELS
Mayor