



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SETH FLEETWOOD

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Winter Solstice is the first day of winter and the longest night of the year. A day that the National Coalition of the Homeless and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council have designated as National Homeless Person Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of the holiday season of giving provides an opportunity for affirmation and renewal of the commitment to end homelessness; and

WHEREAS, homelessness raises one's risk of illness, injury, victimization, and death; and

WHEREAS, service providers create relationships with people in the homeless community and they, along with friends and family members, need an opportunity to say goodbye and have closure in the grieving process; and

WHEREAS, people without homes have a lot to offer our community and this loss of life is a loss to us all; and

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Seth Fleetwood, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim December 21, 2023 as

A DAY OF OBSERVATION AND MOURNING OF THOSE WHO DIED WHILE HOMELESS

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and encourage all residents to remember those who have died and to encourage citizens to come together to celebrate their lives by working to resolve the factors that lead to homelessness in Bellingham.



Signed this 1st day of December 2023

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor
City of Bellingham