



Proclamation

WHEREAS, May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, May 18 is the birthday of Vincent Chin, who was brutally murdered in a hate crime in 1982, and his murder fueled a national Asian American activist movement that continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, we have seen a staggering rise in bullying, discrimination, and hate crimes against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, every day, kids of all ages suffer from being bullied in schools and online across the country; and

WHEREAS, in the AAPI community, this problem is often compounded by cultural, religious, and linguistic barriers that can keep these youth from seeking and receiving help. And certain AAPI groups – including South Asian, Muslim, Sikh, Micronesian, LGBTQ, immigrant, and limited English proficient youth – are more likely to be the targets of bullying; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 4 Asian American youth face COVID-19 related bullying, two-thirds of Sikh American students are victims of bullying, and half of Muslim American students report being bullied because of their religion; and

WHEREAS, we will continue to empower students by advocating for systemic change and providing resources to promote healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County is committed to this important issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, do we, Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and Seth Fleetwood, City of Bellingham Mayor, hereby proclaim May 18, 2021 to be:

AAPI Day Against Bullying and Hate

Throughout Whatcom County in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Vincent Chin, and encourage the public to foster dialogue, share resources, and learn more about what they can do to fight bullying.

Signed this 27th day of April, 2021

Satpal Singh Sidhu

Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive
Whatcom County

Seth Fleetwood

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor
City of Bellingham

