



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DAN PIKE

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Bellingham recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe and loving families through adoption; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 510,000 children in foster care in the United States, and more than 129,000 of them are waiting to be adopted. Through no fault of their own, these children enter foster care as a result of abuse, neglect and/or abandonment; and

WHEREAS, National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to make the dreams of thousands of children come true by working with courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies, advocates and others to finalize adoptions and find permanent, loving homes for children in foster care;

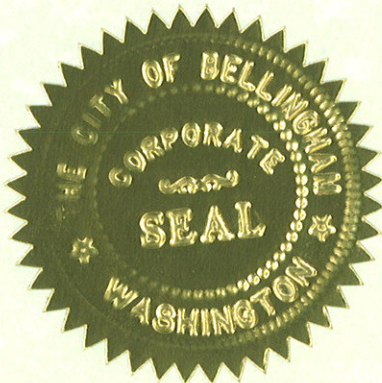
WHEREAS, Whatcom County Superior Court will preside over multiple adoptions on Friday, November 20, 2009 to finalize adoptions of local children and join other organizations to celebrate all families who adopt; and

WHEREAS, this effort, along with an estimated 300 similar celebrations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim November 20, 2009 to be

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington and urge all Bellingham residents to join in a national effort to raise awareness about the importance of adoption.



Signed this 20th day of November 2009.

Dan Pike, Mayor
City of Bellingham