



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
DAN PIKE

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Western Washington University's Vehicle Research Institute's Viking 45 team made an inspirational run through the Progressive Automotive X-Prize competition this past summer; and

**WHEREAS**, the \$10 million competition was held to promote the design and construction of the next generation of ultra-fuel-efficient cars; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western VRI team used its modest resources and outlasted multinational corporate teams with nearly unlimited funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western VRI team was one of more than 100 entries in the competition and was the only North American university to finish in the top 10 in the competition; and

**WHEREAS** the Western VRI team was the popular underdog in the competition of because of its uniquely Western approach of student and faculty collaboration; and

**WHEREAS**, the X-Prize team brought new levels of prestige and honor to the VRI and Western; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western VRI team attracted media coverage in outlets such as Consumer Reports, Sierra Magazine, Popular Mechanics, National Geographic and National Public Radio; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western VRI team showed the world that Western's students, faculty and alumni can compete with anyone on the highest level; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western VRI team rallied the university and community behind an amazing program that benefits not only Bellingham but the whole world with its research.

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I**, Dan Pike, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim October 8, 2010

### **WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY VEHICLE RESEARCH INSTITUTE VIKING 45 DAY**

in the City of Bellingham, Washington.



Signed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2010.

Dan Pike, Mayor  
City of Bellingham