

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF

DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, *Assyrians are a transnational ethnic group indigenous to parts of Iraq, Iran, Turkey, and Syria. United through ethnicity, language, and culture, they form a distinctive community; and*

WHEREAS, *according to the Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation, the United States is home to more than 600,000 Assyrian Americans, with approximately 100,000 living in the Chicagoland area; and*

WHEREAS, *the first day of April is annually celebrated as the Assyrian New Year, also known as 'Akitu' and commonly referred to as 'Kha b-Nisan.'; and*


WHEREAS, *marking the start of spring and serving as a symbol of revival, the Assyrian New Year serves to remind the residents of Des Plaines of the many substantial contributions the Assyrian community has made to the social cohesion of our city; and*

WHEREAS, *it is imperative that members of the Assyrian community across the globe feel seen, valued, and encouraged to celebrate and preserve their cultural heritage.*

Now, therefore, I, ANDREW GOCZKOWSKI, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DES PLAINES, do hereby proclaim the first day of April as

ASSYRIAN NEW YEAR

Dated this 1st day of April 2024.



Andrew Goczowski, Mayor