



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Historians concur that the first European to enter Minnesota state boundaries in the seventeenth century was Frenchman Pierre Radisson; and

WHEREAS: Most of the great State of Minnesota was once a French colony, a distinguished heritage that survives today in the state motto, "L'Etoile du Nord," and in many geographic place names; and

WHEREAS: The first book about Minnesota was written in 1683 by French Catholic Missionary, Father Louis Hennepin; and

WHEREAS: More than 250,000 Minnesota residents claim French or French-Canadian heritage; and

WHEREAS: The French Independence celebration known as Bastille Day will be celebrated in Minnesota on Saturday, July 14, 2012, with a full evening of observance at the Hotel Sofitel in Bloomington, Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim July 14th, 2012 as:

FRENCH ROOTS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 3rd day of July.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE