



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: By moving to America, early Finnish immigrants intended to create new lives through the formation of Finnish communities in the New World; and
- WHEREAS: These pioneers became the vanguard for what can be termed "the Modern Finnish Migration to North America;" and
- WHEREAS: The first group got off a river boat in Red Wing, Minnesota in 1864, and established the oldest continuous Finnish community in North America in Cokato, Minnesota the following year; and
- WHEREAS: This ethnic group has continuously provided programs throughout the years with the motto "We remember so that others don't forget;" and
- WHEREAS: Cokato is hosting a day-long event on Saturday, May 24, 2014, to remember these first families; and
- WHEREAS: On this day, we recognize and celebrate Finnish pioneers, and all pioneer groups that established communities in Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 24, 2014, as:

FINNISH PIONEERS 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 7th day of May.




GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE