

**OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION  
CITY OF MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA**

**WHEREAS,** *the Mission of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is "To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans;" and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Vision of the VFW is to "Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country;" and*

**WHEREAS,** *the annual VFW Buddy Poppies has been officially recognized and endorsed by governmental leaders since 1922 as a day set aside for the distribution of this symbol of appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored dead; and*

**WHEREAS,** *VFW Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans and the proceeds of this worthy fundraising campaign are used exclusively for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the basic purpose of the annual fundraiser of the Buddy Poppies by the VFW is eloquently reflected in the desire to "honor the dead by helping the living"; and*

**NOW, THEREFORE,** *I, Del Rae Williams, Mayor of the City of Moorhead, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2015:*

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
BUDDY POPPY DAY**

*in the City of Moorhead and I urge our citizens to recognize the merits of this cause by showing support through their donations to the Buddy Poppy Program. I encourage all citizens to express their patriotism by donating generously and wearing a Buddy Poppy as evidence of our gratitude to the men and women of this country who have risked and given their lives in defense of the freedoms that we continue to enjoy as American Citizens.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** *I have set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Moorhead, State of Minnesota, to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.*



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Del Rae Williams, Mayor  
City of Moorhead, State of Minnesota