

Declaration of Interdependence

| | Independence | Interdependence |
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| Part I | It has become necessary for us to dissolve political bonds with you and assume a separate and equal political identity. We should and will explain why. | It has become necessary for us to dissolve political boundaries with others and assume a more integrated political identity, given global communication, media, finance, markets, and travel. |
| Part II | Lists all the rights that all men have (unalienable rights) - Life, Liberty, the Pursuit of Happiness - The government has a responsibility to protect these rights. | All 192 states of the UN have signed on in agreement with the 1948 "Universal Declaration of Human Rights," including, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person." Governments are responsible for protecting these rights. |
| Part III | The lists contain 27 offenses by the British king and others against the colonies - Helps explain why it became necessary to seek independence. | Many of the most important issues today are global and require cooperation across national borders. These issues include racial justice and equity; wellness; environmental protection; peace; financial regulation; and economic security. |
| Part IV | Olive branch Petition - Peaceful petition asking to make a happy and permanent reconciliation - King George rejected petition, and sent more troops to patrol the colonies. | The world needs a World Of Metropolitan Areas Network (WOMAN) to nurture a flourishing global culture that is peaceful, prosperous, just, and sustainable. This network can also help ensure that human rights are protected everywhere. |
| Part V | Public declaration that the colonies are free and independent states. They will no longer accept any political control by the mother country. | Our city or town hereby dedicates itself to the proposition that all people can flourish together in harmony and happiness, serving each other while caring for our beautiful and only home, the Earth. |

DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

It has become necessary for us to dissolve political boundaries with others and assume a more integrated global political identity, given global communication, media, finance, markets, and travel. The world is becoming a single social and economic culture connected by the Internet and facing global issues such as climate change; a major pandemic; the threat of nuclear war; racial discrimination; and economic inequity. Large international corporations now have supply chains, productive capacity, customers, and shareholders all over the world. National governments, many of which did not exist a few hundred years ago, are no longer able to govern effectively. The world needs a truly global and effective political network to address global issues.

All 192 states of the UN have signed on in agreement with the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person." Governments are responsible for protecting these rights. The mayors of large metropolitan areas throughout the world are already responsible for protecting these rights within their jurisdictions. They need global support to adopt best practices and resolve conflicts that cross national borders.

Global issues include racial justice and equity; wellness; environmental protection; peace; financial regulation; and economic security. Black Lives Matter protests across the U.S. and the world following the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota have increased awareness that racial injustice anywhere affects people everywhere. Covid-19 has shown that new diseases ignore national borders and must be identified quickly and stopped at their source. Environmental protection requires addressing climate change; ocean, lake, and river pollution; topsoil erosion; and deforestation. Peace requires resolving conflicts effectively and wisely while reducing the threat of nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction, conventional military weapons, small arms, and domestic violence. Global financial regulation is required because money travels instantly and all major financial centers are connected. Economic security requires a social safety net in all parts of the world to ensure that everyone has clean water and sanitation; nutritious food; adequate housing; and other basic services.

The world needs a World Of Metropolitan Areas Network (WOMAN) to nurture a peaceful, prosperous, just, and sustainable global culture. The beginning of this network exists in Mayors for Peace www.mayorsforpeace.org (Boston, Cambridge, and Newton are members), Local Governments for Sustainability www.iclei.org, and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy www.globalcovenantofmayors.org. A robust global network of metropolitan areas can coordinate responses to global issues, identifying and supporting best practices, so that people everywhere can thrive while leading lives that are productive, meaningful, and fulfilling.

Our city or town hereby dedicates itself to the proposition that all people can flourish together in harmony and happiness, serving each other while caring for our only home, the Earth. We adopt this "Declaration of Interdependence" and encourage other cities and towns throughout the world to adopt it as well. Humanity has the potential to unite in a single global culture that meets the basic needs of all people everywhere for physical well-being, security, love, connection, honesty, respect, play, peace, autonomy, purpose, meaning, and self-actualization.