

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

City of Brookings, South Dakota

WHEREAS, tourism fosters vibrant communities, drives innovation, and powers the economy as one of South Dakota's top industries; and

WHEREAS, during 2022, 14.4 million visitors came to South Dakota spending \$4.7 billion in our state, which generated \$361 million in taxes to help pay for things like parks, streets, police and fire protection; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the tourism industry, each household in South Dakota saves \$1,015 per year in taxes; and

WHEREAS, visitors to Brookings County spent \$115 million on lodging, food and beverage, recreation, retail, and transportation in 2022 and generated \$8.6 million in state and local taxes for our community; and

WHEREAS, the tourism industry supports 1,897 jobs in Brookings with an annual payroll of \$32.7 million for residents in our community; and

WHEREAS, Visit Brookings is the official destination marketing and promotion organization for tourism in Brookings with staff working diligently to promote our community to travelers coming to try our restaurants, see our attractions, and participate in tournaments, meetings, and events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor of the City of Brookings, do hereby proclaim May 7-13, 2023 as

NATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURISM WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have placed the Seal of the City of Brookings, State of South Dakota, this 9th day of May, 2023.

Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor