

## Parish of Lafourche State of Louisiana PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS Louisiana's Cajun Bayou – Lafourche Parish is an unapologetically Cajun destination and is comprised of many different ethnicities that make a unique "cultural gumbo" not found anywhere else in the world; and

WHEREAS Lafourche Parish is connected to the Acadian Regions of Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada through Acadian ancestral and historical ties and acknowledges the significant contributions made by the Acadians to our parish and region; and

WHEREAS in 1881 at the National Acadian Convention in Memramcook, New Brunswick, the decision to adopt a national day was made and in 2003 the National Acadian Day Act was passed by the Government of Canada; and

WHEREAS on August 15<sup>th</sup> each year, National Acadian Day has been observed in Canada to recognize the distinct nationality, history, and cultural significance of the Acadians; and

WHEREAS the State of Louisiana has observed Acadian Day on the Friday after Thanksgiving to commemorate the Acadian people and recognize that much of the early economic and political development of Louisiana is directly attributed to the industry of the Acadian people, through cultivation of the land, utilization of natural resources, and the interest of the Acadian people in political self-determination and American democracy; and

WHEREAS in 2022, the Lafourche Parish Tourist Commission (Louisiana's Cajun Bayou Tourism) formed a working partnership with the Acadian Regions of Nova Scotia and the Congres Mondial Acadien titled "From Acadian to Cajun – Two Countries, One Culture" and is continuing that partnership with the purpose of promoting tourism and increasing awareness of our shared cultural connections, including food, music, history, and ancestry; and

**WHEREAS** we understand the ongoing need to preserve, promote, and celebrate our own Acadian and Cajun heritage in Lafourche Parish and to educate the public about our diverse and distinct culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Archie Chaisson, III, President of Lafourche Parish, do hereby proclaim August 15, 2023:

## **Acadian Heritage Day**

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I do hereunto set my signature and have cause to be affixed the official seal of the Parish of Lafourche, State of Louisiana on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.

Archie Chaisson, III, President Lafourche Parish Government