



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, Keith Petersen, Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS) Associate Director and State Historian, will retire on September 1, 2015, after 16 years of distinguished service to the citizens of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen has been an essential influence on and has served key roles in numerous initiatives across our state, including:

- Idaho Coordinator of the national Lewis and Clark Bicentennial and leader of the Museum Initiative for museums along the Lewis and Clark Trail in Idaho
- A member of the State Capitol Commission and lead historian and content developer for the *Governing Idaho: How People and Policies Shape our State Capitol* exhibition
- Manager of the ISHS Outreach and Community Enhancement Grant Program
- Manager of the ISHS statewide publications program
- Leader of the state's "Get Territorial: Idaho at 150" Territorial Sesquicentennial Commemoration, including the *Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique*, one of the largest and most comprehensive exhibitions on Idaho ever created
- Lead historian and content developer for the *Abraham Lincoln: His Legacy in Idaho* exhibition, a feature of the Idaho State Archives
- Lead historian and content developer for the exhibitions under development for the new Idaho State Historical Museum, opening in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen, a champion of historical best practices, has been a strong supporter of outreach and assistance in advancing preservation and the promotion of history at the local level by serving as a consultant and advocate to many rural historical societies throughout Idaho; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Idaho College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences in 2014 in recognition of his career as an exemplary historian who understands and articulates the value of history in all aspects of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen is an extraordinary author, having written numerous books and scholarly essays on Idaho and Northwest History, including "Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho," and "The Potlatch Lumber Company," "River of Life, Channel of Death: Fish and Dams on the Lower Snake," "This Crested Hill: An Illustrated History of the University of Idaho," "John Mullan: The Tumultuous Life of a Western Road Builder," and more; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen has twice received the Idaho Library Association's Book of the Year Award as well as the *Esto Perpetua* Award and Idaho Humanities Council Outstanding Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen has played an important role partnering with the Executive Director of the ISHS to ensure that a high standard of excellence is maintained and that the Society's services remain highly valued by all stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen will be honored by the American Association for State and Local History as the 2015 Idaho recipient of the Association's prestigious Award of Merit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Petersen is admired and highly respected by all who know him, citing his personable demeanor, his compassion, his scholarship, and his grace; and

WHEREAS, it is indeed right and proper that the career of Keith Petersen be duly recognized on the occasion of his retirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim in recognition of the professional and scholarly accomplishments of the Idaho State Historical Society Associate Director and State Historian Keith Petersen, on the occasion of his retirement, July 31, 2015 as

KEITH PETERSEN DAY

in Idaho, the 185th anniversary of the birth of John Mullan, the subject of Mr. Petersen's richly researched biography of one of the Northwest's most interesting historical figures; and do hereby extend the warmest wishes on behalf of the citizens of Idaho to Mr. Petersen for a fulfilling and rewarding retirement.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 22nd day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-fifth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE