


### EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THE SUMMIT PROJECT

- WHEREAS,** Maine service members and their families have made monumental sacrifices during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan; and
- WHEREAS,** The Summit Project, a living memorial founded on Memorial Day 2013, by Bangor native, Major David J. Cote, USMC, honors and sustains the memories of service members from Maine who have given their lives in the line of duty since September 11, 2001; The Summit Project pays proper tribute to our state's newest war casualties and the faithful spirit of all Mainers; and
- WHEREAS,** The Summit Project is dedicated to create and promote an environment in which their surviving family and friends may continue the healing process and share their memories of the fallen with others; and
- WHEREAS,** Major David J. Cote, USMC has traveled throughout Maine to visit with the families of the fallen and has asked each family to search for a stone that uniquely represents their loved one; and
- WHEREAS,** The act of carrying memorial stones during these commemorative hikes and other tribute expeditions within Maine and around the world has become a symbol of solidarity that recognizes the sacrifices of our brave Maine heroes and their families and reinforces the values that all Mainers hold dear; and
- WHEREAS,** The Summit Project is committed to ensuring that the experiences and service of our fallen heroes inspires a new generation of patriots from Maine and continues the proud legacy of veterans from Maine; and
- WHEREAS,** The Summit Project has reinforced the City of Bangor's commitment to its veteran population through participation in the Bangor-Brewer Veteran's Day Parade and the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Eastern Maine Community College's Student Veteran's Association lounge; and
- WHEREAS,** The mission of honoring and remembering the sacrifices of Maine's veterans, fallen and living, is one that is shared by The Summit Project and the City Council of Bangor.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Benjamin A. Sprague, Mayor of the City of Bangor,** on behalf of the City Council and the citizens of Bangor, do hereby proclaim our thanks and appreciation for the important work and efforts undertaken by Major David J. Cote, USMC and the Summit Project, honoring and remembering the sacrifices of Maine Military Service Members and their families.

Given this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

  
Benjamin A. Sprague, Mayor