

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Kathy Cahill <kathyhigginscahill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 11:22 AM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Indigenous Peoples day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Please share with council members.

My vote is to change our Columbus Day holiday name to Indigenous People's Day. The article and letter that follow provide ample rationale for Concord city council to support this .

Thank you for your service . K Cahill

Hamilton, Ashley

From: J Roff <jmroff@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 10:03 AM
To: * City Clerk; BYRON CHAMPLIN
Subject: Indigenous People's Day please!

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

The Roff family of 6 Bradley Street supports the change from Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day in the city of Concord.

We find it horrifying and embarrassing that our city recognizes Christopher Columbus, who was NOT a hero by any means, with a holiday. We feel that it would be appropriate to change the holiday to Indigenous People's Day to publicly bring attention to the fact that we, as a city, are trying to do better by those who had their lands colonized by white Europeans.

We do not feel that discontinuing Columbus Day erases history. We will still teach our children about Columbus, but we don't need a holiday celebrating him in order to do that.

If a holiday is required to also celebrate Italian Americans, let's please put it on one of the remaining 364 days of the year.

Thanks for your considering. THANK YOU for listening!

Jennifer, Brian, Florence, and Duncan Roff
Ward 4

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 7:22 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Indigenous Peoples Day in Concord

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>
Date: November 8, 2021 at 7:21:38 AM EST
To: Sherry Gould <sherrygould@tds.net>
Subject: Re: Indigenous Peoples Day in Concord

Thank you!

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

On Nov 8, 2021, at 6:59 AM, Sherry Gould <sherrygould@tds.net> wrote:

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Alamikkawô odophanemok ta odowinnoak (Greetings distinguished ladies and gentlemen):

I have been asked by friends in Concord to contact you in support of the measure you will take up tonight regarding the holiday Concord celebrates the second Monday of October. Many of us as Abenaki people feel that the decision of what Euro Settlers here in Nd'akinna chose to celebrate is a debate only you can have. For us every day is Indigenous Peoples Day and we do not celebrate individuals who perpetrated violence against our people. Today Concord gets to choose what you think is right for our capital city.

I was born and raised in Hillsborough, NH. My husband and I settled in Warner in 1981 and raised our family here. Last year a group of us from the Nulhegan Band of Abenaki started a project we call Abenaki Trails Project. We have focused our studies of the Abenaki history of Hopkinton, Henniker, Bradford and Warner. Hopkinton had already made the decision to change the second Monday of Oct to IPD. Warner made the same

choice last year. The people in New Hampshire are very interested in hearing from the original people of our land. We as Abenaki people who have always lived here are very interested in sharing not only our history, but also who we are today.

As each community grapples with what it wants to celebrate, Abenaki people across the state are ready to assist in any way we can, We pray for wisdom for each of you as you make your choices today.

Sincerely,

Sherry Gould, co-founder Abenaki Trails Project
Tribal Genealogist
Nulhegan Band of Coosuk Abenaki
Department of Cultural and Historic Preservation
3210 State Route 114
Bradford, NH 03221
603 938-2613

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 5:17 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Indigenous Peoples Day, resident ward 9

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Asma Elhuni <asma@radnh.org>
Date: November 7, 2021 at 5:05:55 PM EST
To: jpbouley@comcast.net, "Keach, Fred" <FKeach@concordnh.gov>, chamby@comcast.net, "Fennessy,Nathan" <NFennessy@concordnh.gov>, "Bouchard, Candace" <CWBouchard@concordnh.gov>, "Sexton, Amanda" <AGradySexton@concordnh.gov>
Cc: "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>, "Matson, Gail" <GMatson@concordnh.gov>, "Nyhan, Keith" <KNyhan@concordnh.gov>, "Kenison, Linda" <LKenison@concordnh.gov>, "Werner, Robert" <RWerner@concordnh.gov>, kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com, "Kretovic, Jennifer" <JKretovic@concordnh.gov>, pierce4council@comcast.net, brenttoddconcord@gmail.com
Subject: Indigenous Peoples Day, resident ward 9

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Mayor, Candance Bouchard, Nathan Fennessy, Amanda Sexton, Fred Keach, and Byron Champlin, and other Concord Councilors:

My name is Asma Elhuni and I am a resident of Concord. I just moved in August and I live in a diverse neighborhood which brings me joy because being a person of color seeing diversity makes me feel welcomed. I want to express my deep support for this opportunity for our city to help our community move forward together in honesty and not continue to perpetuate a harmful history by celebrating a man with a very violent history.

The people we honor says a lot about who we are as a community and about the values we hold dear. Honoring a man like Columbus is neither good for Italian pride, Indigeous community, or any of us in Concord. It is also a disservice to the students who are being lied to by sending messages that Columbus has done good, as why else would a holiday be named after him.

I think it's really important that as a community we change Columbus day to Indigenous Peoples Day as a correction for past historical inaccuracies. As a Libyan American I'd love to see the day people like me are celebrated in this country, Unlike the Italians who have been mostly accepted into mainstream American culture, we are oftentimes stigmatized and made fun of still, but if a Libyan participated in a

violent act, the last thing I would want is to associate my culture or Libyan pride with their violence. Nor would I ever want a day associated with a violent history, caused by someone from my culture, to be used to celebrate us as a people as that really does not make any sense by any logic.

Tomorrow is a day we can move our community towards healing past mistakes and teaching our students and community members that the project of America was a messy one, and we must not run from our past mistakes. We need to acknowledge them and we try to repair them.

I am confident that the city I moved to and am falling in love with, will do the right thing for the sake of our future and the multiracial democracy we want to live into. Please do the responsible thing by changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day.

Best
Asma Elhuni
Ward 9 Resident

--

Asma Elhuni
Movement Politics Director
Rights and Democracy NH
asma@radnh.org

"Collective Liberation or No Liberation"

Hamilton, Ashley

From: JLiv Inspirations <jessica@jlivinspirations.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 4:22 PM
To: * City Clerk; jpbouley@comcast.net; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; chamby@comcast.net; brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; pierce4council@comcast.net; Kretovic, Jennifer; Werner, Robert; Kenison, Linda; Nyhan, Keith; Matson, Gail; Bouchard, Candace; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com
Subject: Indigenous Peoples Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Mayor and City Council:

I strongly urge you to vote to change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Christopher Columbus and his actions are nothing to celebrate. He committed genocide and other atrocities which led to the colonization of this land and the continued harm against Indigenous Peoples, which persists to this day.

In July of 2016, this City Council passed a resolution to be a Welcoming City. This debate about whether or not to celebrate a genocider does not align with this resolution. Nor does it align with the commitment this Council made in June 2020 in which you pledged to use your “voices and policies to combat systemic racism, to listen to the experiences of community members most impacted, and to reflect on our own roles in how to address these challenges as we shape our path forward together.”

I recently met with Denise Pouliot, Sag8moskwa (Head Female Speaker) of the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki People. I had reached out to her to build a relationship and learn more about how we could include and honor Native cultures in the Concord Multicultural Festival. I knew that Welcoming Week - even the term “welcoming” - was a matter of contention for Native Americans, so I acknowledged that and asked her to share more about this feeling with me. She chuckled sardonically and said “This isn’t your land to welcome people to.” I was grateful for her honesty and education, and that she and her husband Paul, the Sag8mo (Head Male Speaker/Grand Chief) participated in the Festival leading the opening ceremony and welcoming all to share in the land.

Changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day is not just a matter between Italians and Native Americans. **It is a moral statement of who we are as a community.** We are fortunate to be a diverse community, thanks in most part to the many New Americans (former refugees) who have been resettled here and made Concord their home. As you may know, many of the New Americans are from countries like Rwanda and Congo. They were forced to flee their home countries due to genocide and colonization that has led to ongoing civil wars. Refugees from these countries have endured traumas worse than many of us can imagine. Many are survivors of rape, witnessed the murder of their family members, and were subjected to diseases and illnesses. These experiences are very similar to what the Indigenous Peoples have endured ever since Christopher Columbus “discovered” them.

As the Director of the Concord Multicultural Festival, I am someone who embraces multiculturalism and inclusion. It has been the honor of my career to embrace diversity, celebrate cultures, and uplift marginalized communities. I am also proud of my Italian and Spanish heritage - my great grandfather was from Sicily and my great grandmother was from Spain. I am not proud that Christopher Columbus hails from these nations, and I certainly don’t want to celebrate him. There are many ways to embrace and celebrate our heritage in positive ways. Ironically, the initial motion to change the name happened during Welcoming Week. Welcoming Week is all about celebrating the positive contributions of immigrants and refugees to the United States. Let’s do that! Let’s celebrate Italian cultures and contributions during Welcoming Week! The Welcoming Week planning committee would be happy to help make this happen.

Since Columbus' infamous journey, Indigenous people of the Americas have been treated as less than human by the US government. Even the naming of Columbus day disregarded the lived experiences and generational trauma of one group in order to bring status to another. Indigenous people in NH have told us so many times, in various ways how Columbus is a reminder of the genocide of their people. Choosing not to change the name, is once again saying to them, "*we think you are lesser than human.*" And that same message will be relayed to our New American friends and neighbors, as well.

The option to keep Columbus Day and add Indigenous Peoples Day on August 9 isn't an acceptable compromise. Neither is celebrating Indigenous Peoples on the day after Thanksgiving. This would continue to put the celebration and recognition of Indigenous People second to European colonizers. Per your pledge to "listen to the experiences of community members most impacted" please consider the statement below from the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook Abenaki People regarding Indigenous Peoples Day:

'As for establishing Indigenous People's Day in New Hampshire- August 9 is the United Nation's (UN) International Day of Indigenous People.

The issue at heart is taking stock in who we celebrate and uplift in this nation. We feel that changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day would maintain consistency throughout the nation. To honor the Indigenous population in August and then celebrate their slaughter and enslavement 2 months later in October by honoring Columbus turns a contested issue into a blatantly racist holiday.'

As you consider this important decision, I urge you to remember your previous commitments to being a Welcoming City and to combat racism. Additionally, please keep in mind the effects that your decision will have on those who aren't able to testify or weigh in on this issue, especially the Native and New Americans.

This decision will speak volumes to the community about the moral stance of Concord's City Council, and the legitimacy of your proclamations and pledges.

Jessica Livingston
Ward 4

Pronouns: she, hers (*what's this?*)

JLiv Inspirations: Nonprofit + Community Event Planning
Director: [Concord Multicultural Festival](#)
Outreach + Development: [Overcomers Refugee Services](#)
Event Organizer: [Herb & Garden Day](#), [Umoja Gala](#)

[603.568.5740](tel:603.568.5740) (call/text)

- - -

jlivinspires.com

Hamilton, Ashley

From: melissabernardin7@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:50 PM
To: jpbouley@comcast.net; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; chamby@comcast.net; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com
Cc: brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; pierce4council@comcast.net; Kretovic, Jennifer; Werner, Robert; Kenison, Linda; Nyhan, Keith; Matson, Gail; Bouchard, Candace; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; * City Clerk
Subject: Indigenous Peoples' Day - SUPPORT (Ward 4 Resident)

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Mr. Mayor and Concord NH City Councilors:

I have lived the majority of my life in Concord and it is my hope that our city council take the opportunity to right the wrong of observing Columbus Day and instead rename the day Indigenous Peoples' day. As a gradeschool student here in Concord at Kimball School, I learned about the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria. I did not learn that Columbus and his fellow invaders stole from, enslaved, raped, mutilated, and killed thousands of largely peaceful and giving native peoples.

As we open our eyes and newly learn that the history we were taught lied to us by omission, and we now know that people like Columbus who we have traditionally celebrated committed heinous acts -- we can no longer honor them through holidays.

Following a meeting in June 2020 the Concord NH City Council released a statement in light of the racial justice issues in our country. In it, you committed to identifying actionable steps to ensure that we are delivering on our commitment to racial justice. Voting to change the name of this holiday would be a small but meaningful step to demonstrate this commitment.

Please vote yes to change the name of this holiday to Indigenous Peoples' Day, so that we may end the celebration of Columbus Day, and instead use the day to begin to learn about and celebrate a people whose histories we have traditionally overlooked.

Thank you and I will be remembering your votes and taking them into consideration when making my voting decisions in the next election.

Melissa Bernardin
Ward 4
Concord NH

Hamilton, Ashley

From: lovewinnip@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:45 PM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Council meeting vote

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Renaming Columbus Day is just ridiculous
Audrey Blodgett
Lifetime Concord resident

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:47 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Columbus/Indigenous People's Day

More support for Indigenous People's Day!

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>
Date: November 7, 2021 at 11:43:47 AM EST
To: Lindley and Andy
Subject: Re: Columbus/Indigenous People's Day

Thank you so much!

I will pass this along for the public comment record to the Mayor and other Councilors as well. Thank you for your support!

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

On Nov 7, 2021, at 11:29 AM, Lindley and Andy <sajlrk@hotmail.com> wrote:

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Ms Rice Hawkins,

I support a change in the day to recognize the martyred American indigenous people and to minimize the celebration of Christopher Columbus because of his role in this atrocious piece of our history.

I support a change in the name and celebration of Concord's Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day.

Lindley Kinerk

149 East Side Dr.
Concord, NH 03301

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Please vote for indigenous peoples day

Yet another Concord resident in support of changing to Indigenous Peoples Day!

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kathy Cahill
Date: November 7, 2021 at 11:33:53 AM EST
To: "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>
Subject: Please vote for indigenous peoples day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

The more I read about our history with Native Americans the more responsible I feel to have this holiday to honor the past and current souls.

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:24 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Save Columbus Day

For the public record: also noting that State Rep. Al Baldasaro, known for his racist, misogynistic, and anti-LGBTQIA2S comments around the State House, is included on this communication below and has likely been the source of the national group involvement.

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Virginia Gardner <viriniagardner@aol.com>
Date: November 6, 2021 at 4:03:18 PM EDT
To: "Nyhan, Keith" <KNyhan@concordnh.gov>, "Keach, Fred" <FKeach@concordnh.gov>, "Fennessy,Nathan" <NFennessy@concordnh.gov>, "Sexton, Amanda" <AGradySexton@concordnh.gov>, chamby@concordnh.gov, brettodd@concordnh.gov, "Kretovic, Jennifer" <JKretovic@concordnh.gov>, "Werner, Robert" <RWerner@concordnh.gov>, KLenison@concordnh.gov, "Bouchard, Candace" <CWBouchard@concordnh.gov>, "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>, "Bouley, Jim" <JPBouley@concordnh.gov>
Cc: al.baldasaro@leg.state.nh.us
Subject: Save Columbus Day
Reply-To: Virginia Gardner <viriniagardner@aol.com>

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear City Councilors of Concord New Hampshire:

As President of the National Chapter of the Italian American Alliance, I ask that the City of Concord New Hampshire read the following report by the Smithsonian as to why we celebrate Columbus Day. I urge you to vote to keep October 12, Columbus Day.

On March 14, 1891, a mob of thousands stormed a prison in New Orleans, demanding blood. The city's police chief had been shot to death, and hundreds of Italian-Americans had subsequently been arrested in connection with the murder. Of them, 19 had been indicted. But for the mob of vigilantes, fired up by anti-immigrant sentiment, due process didn't matter. After six acquittals and three additional mistrials, they stormed the city jail and proceeded to brutally murder 11 men. For nearly 130 years, the memory of the March 1891 attack has weighed heavily on members of Italian-American community.

Last Friday, the mayor of New Orleans officially apologized for the shameful event. According to Chris Finch of the local [Fox 8](#), Mayor LaToya Cantrell issued an official Proclamation of Apology to the Italian American community that morning: "What happened to those 11 Italians, it was wrong, and the city owes them and their descendants a formal apology" Cantrell said in her address. "At this late date, we cannot give justice. But we can be intentional and deliberate about what we do going forward." "This attack was an act of anti-immigrant violence," Cantrell continued. "New Orleans is a welcoming city ... But there remain serious and dark chapters to our shared story that remain untold and unaccounted for."

Immigrants who came to the U.S. from Europe and Asia in the late 19th century often confronted hostility in their new homeland. They were accused of taking "American jobs" during a time of economic depression. Italian immigrants, who often had darker complexions, became the focus of pseudo-scientific theories that trumpeted the superiority of individuals of northern European heritage over "Mediterranean types," according to the [Library of Congress](#).

New Orleans was home to the South's largest community of Italians, most whom were from Sicily. Though many managed to integrate into the life of the city, finding work and eventually building their own businesses, they were not universally welcomed. "Though Italians had been living in New Orleans since before the Louisiana Purchase, their language and customs were considered foreign and even dangerous by some," writes Erin Blakemore for [History.com](#).

It was amid that tense climate that New Orleans police chief David C. Hennessy was gunned down by unknown assailants while walking home from work. Rumors began to swirl that as Hennessy lay dying, he used a derogatory slur for Italians to identify his murderers. The fallout was devastating: individuals of Italian descent were arrested en masse and 19 people, including a 14-year-old boy, were indicted in connection to the crime, reports Meagan Flynn of the [Washington Post](#). There was no solid evidence against them; of the nine sent to trial, six of the accused were acquitted and the attempt to prosecute an additional three men ended in a mistrial. And yet, they were thrown back into prison with the rest of the accused, making it impossible for them to escape the violence that was to come.

News of the acquittals unleashed a fury in New Orleans. Residents speculated that the Mafia had influenced jurors, and local papers urged citizens to gather in the streets and "take steps to remedy the failure of justice," reports Flynn. The mob, which included a number of prominent New Orleans, pushed into the prison and shot and mutilated 11 men.

According to Jessica Williams of the [Advocate](#), the victims included: "fruit peddlers Antonio Bagnetto, Antonio Marchesi and Antonio Scaffidi; stevedores James Caruso and Rocco Geraci; cobbler Pietro Monasterio; tinsmith Loreto Comitis; street vendor Emmanuele Polizzi; fruit importer Joseph P. Machecha; ward politician Frank Romero; and rice plantation laborer Charles Traina." Some of them had not yet been tried in court, others had already been acquitted

"Outside the jail, the larger mob cheered as the mutilated bodies were displayed," writes Blakemore, describing the grizzly scene. "Some corpses were hung; what remained of others were torn apart and plundered for souvenirs."

Michael Santo, special counsel to the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy, told Flynn that he's not just upset by the brutality of the attack, but also by the way the national media covered it. Take a [1891 article](#) in the [Washington Post](#), for instance, which described the lynching as "work of vengeance." The mass lynching was, of course, not the only act of mob violence that blighted the U.S. during this period. "[A]t least several thousand African-Americans and more than 400 black Louisianans were lynched in the late 19th and early 20th centuries," Michael J. Pfeifer, a historian who studies collective violence in America, tells the [Associated Press](#)

Speaking before the audience on Friday, the [Advocate](#) noted that Cantrell called attention to the need to speak out about today about these past injustices that "have never ... [been] addressed."

"This is not something that's too little, too late," Santo told the [Post's](#) Flynn. For nearly 130 years, the memory of the March 1891 attack has weighed heavily on members of Italian American community. In turn, Santo welcomed Cantrell's official apology. "This is something that has to be addressed," he affirmed."

Italian Americans and leaders of the kingdom of Italy were outraged. Italy broke off diplomatic relations and recalled it's Ambassador from Washington. The Harrison administration in turn removed the US legation from Rome and there was even talk of WAR. Harrison remained silent on the matter until his December address to congress, when he called the murders "a most deplorable and discreditable Incident" and an "offence against humanity" The next April He agreed to Italy's demands to pay an indemnity to survivors of three victims who were citizens of Italy. Diplomatic relations with Italy resumed, but Italians were still upset that the US didn't prosecute the

murderers. A New York minister Francis Bellamy met with Harrison to urge a national holiday to promote patriotism. . With Harrison's support the congress passed a resolution calling for the holiday October 12 to celebrate Columbus . The biggest Celebration was in NY . A parade was held featuring 40,000 military and an army of 1,000 Native Americans marched as well. Columbus day became a permanent holiday in 1934

Christopher Columbus is the Symbol of the Italian American and immigrant communities is an issue of history, culture and an act of acceptance, not one of political opportunism.

Columbus was imperfect, to be sure, but he made possible the seeding of the new ideas to take hold in a new land. The origins of Columbus Day in the United States are founded in the very principles of equality and justice. A true understanding of American history will reveal the intertwining of Columbus and the contributions of early Italian explorers to the forming of America.

Moreover, I believe that the detractors of Christopher have not presented an honest account of his role in history. The rhetoric belies real scholarly research.

On behalf of all Italian Americans, I urge you to preserve October 12 as Columbus Day and in recognizing the last Friday of November as Indigenous Peoples Day, to coincide with Native American Heritage Day.

Columbus Day symbolizes unity and the fight against racism and discrimination against not only Italian Americans, but EVERYONE.

Virginia Gardner

National Italian American Alliance, President. (viriniagardner@aol.com)

[. New Orleans Apologizes for 1891 Lynching of Italian-Americans | Smart News | Smithsonian Magazine](#)

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Councilor <perce4council@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 7:21 AM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Italian-American Defense League - Monday's Meeting

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Good morning Madam Clerk.
Please include this document in the public testimony on this issue.
Thank you.

Erle Pierce
603-496-1665

Begin forwarded message:

From: Matthew Guarnieri <iadlnow@yahoo.com>
Date: November 6, 2021 at 23:20:59 EDT
To: brenttoddconcord@gmail.com, perce4council@comcast.net, JKretovic@concordnh.gov, kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com, LKenison@concordnh.gov, rwerner@concordnh.gov, knyhan@concordnh.gov, gmatson@concordnh.gov, cwbohard@concordnh.gov, zricehawkins@concordnh.gov
Subject: Italian-American Defense League - Monday's Meeting

Dear Concord Ward Councilors:

Please consider IADL's positive and unifying solution of keeping Columbus Day and Indigenous People's Day on two separate days to honor and respect all people. Suggestions of a possible Indigenous People's Day date includes August 9th (The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples), September 24th (Native American Day in California), or the Friday after Thanksgiving (the most appropriate date based on New England history).

I read in the Concord Monitor that there is a person of Italian descent who would consider changing Columbus Day. Likewise, there are people of Native American descent in favor of honoring both holidays. I am attaching a letter I received from the Native American Guardian's Association. It states, "we support your proposal to maintain the current Columbus Day holiday and designate another day to celebrate Indigenous People's Day." More information about the Native American Guardian's Association can be found at <https://www.nagaeducation.org/> .

We are all here now. Let's stand together.

Matthew Guarnieri
Founder of Italian-American Defense League

Call or Text 860-552-9597

<Italian American Defense League.pdf>

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Kretovic, Jennifer
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 7:03 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fw: Support renaming Columbus Day

For testimony on Indigenous People's Day - thank you.

Councilor Jennifer Kretovic

City of Concord, New Hampshire

Home Contact: 8 Gallen Drive, Concord, NH 03303, (603) 228-8395

jkretovic@concordnh.gov

From: Gale Taylor <galeforcefacilitators@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 8:11 PM
To: Kretovic, Jennifer
Subject: Re: Support renaming Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Yes, of course! Thank you so much! And thank you for all the time and effort you put into what you do for all of us.

Regards,

Gale Toale Taylor, Concord, NH
Mobile:603-321-7160

On Sat, Nov 6, 2021 at 5:47 PM Kretovic, Jennifer <JKretovic@concordnh.gov> wrote:
Hello Ms. Taylor,

Thank you for you email. I appreciate the thoughtfulness. May I share your comments with the rest of the Council as part of our Public Testimony?

Kindly,

Jennifer

Councilor Jennifer Kretovic

City of Concord, New Hampshire

Home Contact: 8 Gallen Drive, Concord, NH 03303, (603) 228-8395

jkretovic@concordnh.gov<mailto:jkretovic@concordnh.gov>

From: Gale Taylor <galeforcefacilitators@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 4:08:46 PM

Subject: Support renaming Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

I would like to let you know that I support the effort to use "indigenous peoples day" rather than Columbus Day. I just thought I would let you know in case you were looking for input

Regards,

Gale Toale Taylor

Mobile 603-321-7160 16 Sagamore Ct Concord, NH 03301

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Hawkins,Zandra-Rice
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:17 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Support Indigenous peoples day

Zandra Rice Hawkins
Concord City Councilor, Ward 10
(603) 892-2150 (text/call)
zricehawkins@concordnh.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: Anneliese Worster <anneliese.worster@gmail.com>
Date: November 6, 2021 at 1:46:21 PM EDT
To: "Kretovic, Jennifer" <JKretovic@concordnh.gov>, "Kenison, Linda" <LKenison@concordnh.gov>, "Sexton, Amanda" <AGradySexton@concordnh.gov>, brenttoddconcord@gmail.com, chamby@comcast.net, "Bouchard, Candace" <CWBouchard@concordnh.gov>, "Keach, Fred" <FKeach@concordnh.gov>, "Matson, Gail" <GMatson@concordnh.gov>, jpbouley@comcast.net, kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com, "Nyhan, Keith" <KNyhan@concordnh.gov>, "Fennessy,Nathan" <NFennessy@concordnh.gov>, pierce4council@comcast.net, "Werner, Robert" <RWerner@concordnh.gov>, "Hawkins,Zandra-Rice" <ZRiceHawkins@concordnh.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Support Indigenous peoples day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Mayor Bouley and city council,

As a Concord,NH resident in ward 7, I'm writing to request that you support changing Columbus Day to Indigenous people's day.

As a social studies educator, we must acknowledge that holidays drive a lot of the little social studies teaching that is implemented in elementary schools (due to testing etc but that's another fight)

When the town supports justice, it makes it easier for teachers to teach justice. With education under fire for teaching history through a historical thinking lens, promoting critical thought and presenting history through a justice lens instead of a white washed history lens, it is critical that you and the city council support this change of names if this holiday.

While we can truthfully teach that Columbus found trade routes and can teach that he did not discover United states when other people lived here AND he never set foot in the United States, we CANNOT teach to celebrate him when his actions were the kick off to mass genocide of Taino people and all other indigenous people in Central, South and North America. Having a holiday for this man perpetuates misinformation taught in schools.

Instead, we can honor indigenous peoples by acknowledging that there were people on this land way before Columbus, the diversity of tribes, the numbers of people who were here (millions), how they got here, the different ways of living, and begin to discuss how to respect native Americans who still exist today and put a stop to the continued genocide.

We can effectively teach about indigenous people through a historical thinking lens and support the development of opinions and hopefully civic engagement- the primary goal of social studies education (NCSS).

Thank you,
Anneliese Worster
Ward 7

Hamilton, Ashley

From: ellermannf@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 9:25 PM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Indigenous Peoples Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Council Members.

It's been over a year since Concord committed to do more learning about racial justice to make our community better. It is time to set some specific goals towards that end.

One such goal would be to finally recognize the people whose land we took and to honor the life that was lived by millions before European colonization.

It's time to celebrate Indigenous People with a day of remembrance.

One thing we have learned by now is the harm Christopher Columbus caused to Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. His actions, behaviors and attitudes, which are chronicled in his own hand, set off a pattern of degradation, slavery, and genocide which destroyed the vibrant and thriving populations of Indigenous people of New Hampshire. Continuing to recognize Columbus Day

is a reminder of his brutal actions and continues to cause harm by continuing the lie that "Columbus Discovered America". We all know he did no such thing.

As of now, 14 states— Alabama, Alaska, Hawai'i, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, and D.C – over 130 cities,

and growing numbers of school districts celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day in place of or in addition to* Columbus Day. Let's join them.

This is not about replacing one cultural group with another. (Besides, why do the Italians and Irish get to have special days while other groups do not? There are so many cultural groups in this country.

If we want to celebrate them, let's create a separate holiday for that purpose, but not this day of Columbus.) This day needs to be celebrated as Indigenous Peoples Day to erase the years of harm

we have done by creating a lie that Columbus was a hero and the people he harmed of no consequence.

Until we get rid of that disgusting statue of Hannah Dustin along the Merrimack River, this is the least we can do.

Maureen Ellermann

Concord

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Mary Danca <mdanca@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 3:18 PM
To: * City Clerk
Subject: Make the change

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Please vote to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. It's the right thing to do.

Thank you,

Mary Danca
2 Wildemere Terr, Concord, NH

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Melissa Hinebauch <mmhinebauch@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 12:08 PM
To: * City Clerk; jpbouley@comcast.net; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; chamby@comcast.net; brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; pierce4council@comcast.net; Kretovic, Jennifer; Werner, Robert; Kenison, Linda; Nyhan, Keith; Matson, Gail; Bouchard, Candace; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com
Subject: Honor Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear Concord City Council,

I suggested last year on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020 that Columbus Day be changed to Indigenous Peoples' Day. I am here once again requesting that we value and honor the original inhabitants of the land on which we stand instead of a genocidal, colonizing oppressor.

- I ask that you replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day, a day to acknowledge and celebrate the diverse Indigenous communities across the U.S. including the Abenaki, Penacook, and Wabanaki Peoples past and present in our area.
- The narrative of Christopher Columbus has been whitewashed and glorified, removing how damaging his personal actions and the role of colonialization is to Indigenous communities.
- Upholding the whitewashed narrative of Columbus Day perpetuates systemic oppression and harm against marginalized communities, particularly Indigenous communities.

Concord prides itself on being a "Welcoming City." However, continuing to celebrate Columbus Day is anything but welcoming. It honors a man who was actually judged harshly by his peers (and stripped of his title) for his tyranny, brutality, and depravity. I suggest that you, Concord's City Council, continue to evaluate your "intent versus impact" on your community. Have you spoken with Indigenous leaders about Columbus Day? Have you spoken with your immigrant constituents about how Columbus Day makes them feel? Have you had any conversations with racial justice leaders in Concord about Indigenous Peoples' Day? Have you actually had these important conversations?

Even though I think we should remove Columbus Day immediately from the calendar, I think it is important to address the argument coming from some within the Italian American community. I find it confusing that Italian Americans rally around Columbus and try to preserve Columbus Day when there are so many other Italians to celebrate that were not genocidal tyrants. These influential and historically significant Italians include Galileo Galilei, Leonardo da Vinci, Dante Alighieri, Leonardo Fibonacci, or even Mother Frances Cabrini, an Italian immigrant who in 1946 became the first U.S. citizen to be named a saint. If Italian Americans would like to celebrate their heritage and culture, surely they can do better than Christopher Columbus.

In closing, please honor Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day. It is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Mel Hinebauch
Concord, NH 03301
Ward 5

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Jeanne Cusson <jsirgus@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:53 AM
To: jpbouley@comcast.net
Cc: * City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Indigenous people's day

[CAUTION: *This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe*]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeanne Cusson <jsirgus@comcast.net>
Date: November 6, 2021 at 11:50:02 AM EDT
To: knyhan@concordnh.gov
Subject: **Indigenous people's day**

Dear Councilor Nyhan, and all on the concord City Council,

Let us finally acknowledge that the real founders of this country are the people who were here who welcomed the strangers from across the sea, until they learned that those people were here to conquer and displace.

Please vote to honor native Americans and replace Christopher Columbus Day with Indigenous People's day. It is the least we can do to acknowledge these people who suffered greatly at the hands of the colonialists.

Thank you, Jeanne Cusson
Ward 7

Sent from my iPad

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Gerri King <gerri@gerricking.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:44 AM
To: * City Clerk; Jim Bouley; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; Byron Champlin; brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; pierce4council@comcast.net; Kretovic, Jennifer; Werner, Robert; Kenison, Linda; Nyhan, Keith; Matson, Gail; Bouchard, Candace; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com; Stacey Brown
Subject: It's time

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Thank you, City Councilors, for all you do. Your dedication and hard work are much appreciated.

I'm hoping that you'll add the adoption of **Indigenous People's Day** to your accomplishments. We should be celebrating our country fairly and respectfully.

It's not like Concord to be behind the times.

Thanks for listening,
Gerri King

Gerri King, PhD.

Social Psychologist & Organizational Consultant
President, Human Dynamics Associates, Inc.
85 Warren St.
Concord, NH 03301

Author of The Duh! Book of Management and Supervision: Dispelling Common Leadership Myths

603-224-2841
gerri@gerricking.com
www.gerricking.com

Hamilton, Ashley

From: Annie Rettew <abrettew@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:02 AM
To: * City Clerk; jpbouley@comcast.net; Fennessy,Nathan; Sexton, Amanda; Keach, Fred; chamby@comcast.net; brenttoddconcord@gmail.com; pierce4council@comcast.net; Kretovic, Jennifer; Werner, Robert; Kenison, Linda; Nyhan, Keith; Matson, Gail; Bouchard, Candace; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; kmcnamaraward4@gmail.com
Subject: Indigenous Peoples Day-YES!

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe]

Dear City Councilors,

Please support the name change from Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. This process is taking too long. There is no lack of information or input from NH residents to support this. It's the right thing to do. Do it now, please.

It will make Concord a more welcoming place for all.

Thank you for your time,

Annie

Annie Rettew, RN
603-651-7000