

COOK COUNTY BOARD MEETING 2/25/2021

**SUPPORT FOR 21-0565 (INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY) and
21-0597 (COOK COUNTY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT)**

1. Molly Greening, Loyola University Chicago
2. Keyla Ferraro – Concerned Citizen
3. Leticia Gutierrez -Concerned Citizen
4. David Feiner – Chicago
5. Devika Ranjan – Albany Park Theater Project
6. Tracy Baldwin – Chicago
7. Sakirat Kuti – Concerned Citizen
8. Heather Sweeney – Concerned Citizen
9. Rebecca Severson – Concerned Citizen
10. Kristin Oberdorf – Chicago
11. Katherine Shonk – Evanston
12. Andrea Carlson – Concerned Citizen
13. Sean Kase – Concerned Citizen
14. Beth Yahne – Concerned Citizen
15. Natalie Gillespie -Concerned Citizen
16. Leigh Kelsey – Concerned Citizen
17. Matt Priest – Concerned Citizen
18. Angela Washelesky – Partner, Culhane Meadows
19. Leslie Beller – Concerned Citizen
20. Steve Dennis – Concerned Citizen
21. Jennifer Ciok – Concerned Citizen
22. Rodger Field – Concerned Citizen
23. Gloria Avalos – Concerned Citizen
24. Kelly Quesada – Concerned Citizen
25. Cassie Creswell – Chicago
26. Grace Barter – Concerned Citizen
27. Judy Karlov – Chicago
28. Brenna O'Brien, PhD – Concerned Citizen
29. Steve Serikaku – Concerned Citizen
30. Yakov Pekar -Concerned Citizen
31. Jay Sherby – Concerned Citizen
32. Anne K. Knafl, Ph.D. – University of Chicago Library
33. Charles Klepac – Concerned Citizen
34. Tracy O'Dowd – Concerned Citizen
35. Ryan O'Donnell – Chicago
36. Andrea Carlson – Chicago
37. Marie L. Winnick - Spanish and Italian > English Translations and Transcriptions
38. Sarah Dennis - Adjunct Professor of Education at UIC (formerly at NYU, Roosevelt University and Loyola University)

From: [Greening, Molly](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Cc: ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: Land Acknowledgment and Indigenous Peoples' Day in Cook County
Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021 12:53:35 PM

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To the Cook County Commissioners and Board Secretary,
My name is Molly Greening and I am a resident of Skokie, IL. It is time for Cook County to stop celebrating genocide and start honoring indigenous people, and changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day is one small step in the right direction.
Thus I support File #21-0565 and the Land Acknowledgment Resolution File #21-0597 which were both recently referred to the Legislation Committee. I urge you to call your committee and address these items for your March agenda.
I know many people in the Skokie community who support these changes and would be interested in attending the public hearing. As an ethicist and a community organizer, I am happy to be a continued conversation partner regarding the importance of righting the historical atrocities of colonialism.
I appreciate your time and service,
Molly Greening
PhD Candidate, Integrative Studies in Ethics and Theology
Loyola University Chicago
mgreening@luc.edu
Pronouns: she/her/hers

From: [Keyla Ferraro](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:39:41 PM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Keyla Ferraro

From: gutierrez.lety
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUBJECT: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 6:00:33 PM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Leticia Gutierrez

From: [David Feiner](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Subject: Support #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 3:44:50 PM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

As someone who has called Chicago home for more than 25 years, I feel compelled to stand in solidarity with the Indigenous people calling on Chicago and Cook County to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

Regardless of intent, Columbus Day is experienced by our Indigenous neighbors, friends, colleagues and fellow residents as a celebration of white supremacy and the genocide of Indigenous people. I support not only erasing this annual harm to the Indigenous community through the celebration of that murderer, but replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565). Because the general population in Chicago can't tell you whose stolen land they occupy, I also support the heartfelt reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597).

Join me, a person who cares about Indigenous people, in saying NO to ongoing Columbus triumphalism and to the continued erasure of Indigenous people's lives, and say YES to a celebration of Indigenous people's accomplishments, and "We see you" to Italian-Americans who don't want to be associated with the death of Indigenous people.

Support #21-0565 and #21-0597 please!

Sincerely,
David Feiner

From: [Devika Ranjan](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: Indigenous People's Day
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 3:28:48 PM

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To the Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am an immigrant and theater-maker, living in Chicago's Ravenswood neighborhood and working in Albany Park.

Columbus Day is a celebration of white supremacy and the genocide of Indigenous people. I support not only erasing this annual harm to the Native community through the celebration of that murderer, but replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565). Because the general population in Chicago can't tell you whose stolen land we occupy, I also support the heartfelt reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597).

Join me, a person who cares about Indigenous people, in saying NO to ongoing Columbus triumphalism and to the continued erasure of Indigenous people's lives, and say YES to a celebration of Indigenous people's accomplishments, and "We see you" to Italian-Americans who don't want to be associated with the death of Indigenous people. Support #21-0565 and #21-0597 please!

Many thanks,

Devika

Devika Ranjan
Resident Director
Albany Park Theater Project

she/her/hers

From: [Tracy Baldwin](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 2:19:53 PM

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Dear Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a lifelong Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

This is an easy and practical step you can take to help heal the wounds of the past and recognize and honor our collective history, the land before it became "Cook County," and the people who lived here.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tracy Baldwin

Chicago/Portage Park

From: [sakirat kuti](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); lpd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUBJECT: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 1:12:05 PM

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Thank you,
(Sakirat Kuti)

From: [Heather Sweeney](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 10:51:30 AM

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Dear Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

As you may know, the anniversary of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, when the U.S. Government stole the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was "civilizing" Native people.

As a Cook County resident with a shared commitment to racial equity, I imagine we agree that it is time to right the wrongs of the past. Please support Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597.

This is an opportunity to codify and make a public statement about our values and beliefs as a community.

Thank you,

Heather Sweeney

From: [Rebecca Severson](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 10:46:56 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Rebecca Severson

From: [Kristin Oberdorf](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 10:10:51 AM

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Thank you,

Kristin Oberdorf
Chicago, IL 60618

From: [Katie Shonk](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:50:25 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. I will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Katherine Shonk
Evanston

From: [Andrea Carlson](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:20:45 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am an Ojibwe woman and an artist who lives in Chicago's Loop. Columbus Day is a celebration of white supremacy and the genocide of fellow Indigenous people. I support, not only erasing this annual harm to my community through the celebration of that murderer, but to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565). Because the general population in Chicago can't tell you whose stolen land they occupy, I also support the heartfelt reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597).

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Support #21-0565 and #21-0597 please!

Miigwech,
Andrea Carlson

--

andrea.s.carlson

www.mikinaak.com

From: [Sean Kase](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:14:32 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Sean Kase

From: [Beth Yahne](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:11:10 AM

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Thank you,
Beth Yahne

From: [Natalie Gillespie](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:09:25 AM

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Thank you,
Natalie Gillespie

From: [Leigh Kelsey](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(District 10\)](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:03:55 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

It is absolutely time for this to happen. You can be on the right side of history.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

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Thank you,
Leigh Kelsey

From: [Matt Priest](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Cc: [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:57:24 AM

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as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items the next time we head to the polls...

Thank you,

Matt Priest Mount Prospect, IL

From: [Angela Washelesky](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:56:07 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

My address is 5521 N. Sawyer Ave, Unit 1, Chicago IL 60625.

Thank you,

Angela Washelesky

Partner

**CULHANE
MEADOWS**
PLC

☎ [773-320-0593](tel:773-320-0593)

✉ awashelesky@cm.law



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From: [Leslie Beller](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:43:22 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Leslie Beller

From: [Steve Dennis](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
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re-election.

Thank you,

Steve Dennis

From: [Jennifer Ciok](#)
To: [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Peter Silvestri](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [ipd4cps@gmail.com](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:21:25 AM

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Thank you,
Jennifer Ciok

From: [Rodger Field](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: Indigenous Peoples' Day
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:18:58 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597.

Thank you,
Rodger Field

From: [Gloria Avalos](#)
To: [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Peter Silvestri](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [ipd4cps@gmail.com](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 8:03:55 AM

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Thank you,

Gloria Avalos

From: [Kelly Quesada](#)
To: [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Peter Silvestri](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [ipd4cps@gmail.com](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. I will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and I will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Kelly

--

Kelly Quesada
kellyquesada.com

From: [Cassie Creswell](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:58:17 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Cassie Creswell
Chicago IL

From: [Grace Barter](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:38:03 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

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Now is the time to stand up and be on the right side of history. From the summer uprisings to the dark COVID winter, it's clear that status quo is NOT working for so many people. We must make changes if we are to ever live in a more just and free world. Please, start with this decision.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Grace

Grace Barter
gracembarter13@gmail.com
She/Hers

From: judy.karlov@gmail.com
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPP0RT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:22:50 AM

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PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Judy Karlov

773-904-7555

judy.karlov@gmail.com

3318 N. Lake Shore Drive

Chicago IL 60657

County of Cook

From: [Brenna O](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); lpd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 7:13:54 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

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All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just

as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Brenna O'Brien, PhD

From: [Steve Serikaku](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 6:23:36 PM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

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We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We owe so much to Native

Americans. Efforts at racial equity ring hollow when we do not honor their stewardship of this land.

From: [Yakov Pekar](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Cc: ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: Re: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and File #21-0597
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 2:47:53 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

I appreciate your thoughtful approach and personalized responses to me from some of you regarding this matter.

Fourteen states – Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont and Wisconsin – plus the District of Columbia and more than 130 cities observe Indigenous Peoples Day instead of or in addition to Columbus Day.

Cook County is known around the Midwest, the country, and the world for tolerance and inclusion. When people decide to move to Chicago to be more free than where they are coming from, they move to Cook County. Institution of Indigenous People's Day and acknowledgement of the history of the land where we live at Board meetings will send a clear message that:

- we know our history and history of this land
- we acknowledge the wrongs of the past and have learned from them in order to avoid

repeating them in the future

- we are indeed all equal, inclusive, united, and ready to support and uplift one another and especially minority groups

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597.

Thank you,
Yakov Pekar

From: [Jay Sherby](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); ipd4cps@gmail.com
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 10:17:47 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committees at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887 on Feb 8, 2021, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government stole the largest amount of Native land in our history under the offensive guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and try to begin the healing process for our government's past transgressions.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were originally Native lands. The roughly 65,000 current Native residents of Cook County aren't asking for the return of their land, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve to be honored, just as you did recently for our Black residents on Juneteenth!

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. The outcomes of these resolutions will be foremost on my mind during the next election season.

Thank you,
Jay Sherby

From: [Anne Knafi](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 10:58:05 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident (60609) strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committee at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Anne (60609)

--

Anne K. Knafl, Ph.D. (she/her)

Bibliographer for Religion, Philosophy, and Jewish Studies

The University of Chicago Library

From: [Charles Klepac](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 9:11:38 AM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

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We've just passed the 134th Anniversary on Feb 8, 2021 of the signing of the Dawes Act of 1887, one of the most devastating historical events to Native people in the history of this country, when the U.S. Government devised a way to steal the largest amount of Native land under the guise that it was helping Native people become "civilized." I and many thousands of other Cook County residents call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, and begin to right the wrongs of the past.

All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election. Please see my personal statement below.

As an American with Italian heritage, I implore you to support resolution 21-0565 in changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day.

I urge you to remember some critical facts regarding Columbus and how this day serves not as a proud moment for Italian-Americans, but as a farce, a hoax, and a lie.

*Columbus himself was not named Christopher Columbus but Cristoforo Colombo. Even **his** Italian heritage is not honored on this false holiday, his name Anglicized like so many of our Italian-American ancestors. Furthermore, Columbus served not for Italy, but for the Kingdom of Spain.*

Keep in mind that Italy is a country filled with a variety of ethnicities and heritages that was not unified until 1861 into the nation we recognize today. In Columbus' time the country bore little to no semblance to where our ancestors emigrated from. This fact renders Columbus a frail picture for Italian nationalism, much less Italian-American nationalism.

Additionally, the notion that Columbus exists as an Italian-American/American hero is unfounded and false as the man did not set foot on modern-day U.S. soil but on the Caribbean islands known as the West Indies - a misnomer based on the false understanding that Columbus had arrived in India.

The truth is that Columbus Day serves as a dismal reminder of the horrors of colonization and violent European expansion into the Western Hemisphere. Columbus and his army consisting primarily of mercenaries, pirates, and criminals brutalized the peoples of the Caribbean and made way for the genocide of the Indigenous peoples of North America and the Atlantic slave trade.

*We as Italian-Americans are supposed to honor a man, who worked for a Spanish Kingdom, whose heritage was rooted in a disjunct Italian nation hundreds of years away from ethno-unification, who never stepped foot on North American soil, **and** who sowed the seeds for genocide and slavery? Commissioners, it simply does not make sense.*

Even our Italian ancestors were discriminated against and shunned when we arrived in strong numbers. The Anglo-centric majority of America could not even accept my Sicilian grandfather, Salvatore Alfonso, who had to take the Anglo name Sam to be respected, accepted, and successful.

Much harsher than our European ancestor's discrimination, was the discrimination and genocide of the Native Americans who lived on this land for centuries. This Euro-centric nation has white-washed America's indigenous populations' history. We (historically as a nation) have forced Indigenous peoples to take names that are not their own, we have forced them to practice religions and observe holidays that do not reflect their culture, and we have failed to honor Native Americans (North, South, and Central Americans) in any way that credits their magnificent cultures and heritages.

An approval of resolution 21-0565 is a start in the right direction to respect the Indigenous population.

Thank you,

Charles

From: [Tracy O'Dowd](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Dennis Deer \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bill Lowry \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Stanley Moore \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Deborah Sims \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Donna Miller \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Luis Arroyo Jr \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Peter Silvestri \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [District 10](#); [John Daley \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Larry Suffredin](#); [Sean Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Brandon Johnson \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Alma Anaya \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Kevin Morrison \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Scott Britton \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Frank Aguilar \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Bridget Degnen \(Board of Commissioners\)](#); [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 9:39:35 PM

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Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

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All of Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve lands were Native lands before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition, and deserve honoring, just as you did recently with Juneteenth, as a first step in the long road toward justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this month, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these items when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,
Tracy O'Dowd

Public Comment to Cook County Board of Commissioners

Indigenous People's Day

Ryan O'Donnell

24 September 2020

It Matters

Firstly, I would like to thank the board for giving us your attention today and for recognizing the support of the diverse people of Cook County to recognize Indigenous People's Day and end Columbus Day.

As you've hopefully learned by now, Columbus was not someone worth celebrating. Columbus was a monster. And what can be said for societies that glorify monsters and name holidays after them? What can be said for civilizations that cover up the crimes of the monstrous? How can they be civilizations and torment the descendants left from a genocide with regular reminders that the brutal, sadistic subjugation and violence their ancestors suffered was insignificant and that the perpetrator of these crimes is to be esteemed. What is to be said for leaders of a city with such diversity to say the marginalized should suffer further marginalization to appease the descendants of their oppressors?

What is to be said is that that society, those leaders, are oppressive. But you don't have to be oppressive. You can be inclusive. You can be just. You can be part of the solution. Removing Columbus Day will not solve all the effects of racism and oppression, but it is a step forward. Take this step with us. It matters. These steps forward matter.

We have an opportunity *right now* in this current climate where racial justice is finally getting some of the attention it deserves. The actions by companies and elected officials to support racial equity is long overdue, but it is an indispensable step forward in opposing the

oppression of Black people, educating the nation, and reuniting Black children with a sense of pride and hope. The same is true for opposing the oppression of indigenous people. We know the profound difference that reclaiming the truth has on oppressed people, and together we have the power to reclaim this truth in Cook County.

When you are considering making this change, remember, it matters. Remember, indigenous people matter. Remember, the truth matters.

From: [Ryan O'Donnell](#)
To: [Bridget Gainer; District 10](#)
Cc: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Subject: Support File #21-0565 Now!
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 7:15:35 AM

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Cook County Commissioner Gainer,

I am a resident of the 10th District, and you are my representative. Why have you ignored all of my emails? What is holding you back from supporting the effort for Cook County to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565)? I and many thousands of constituents of yours call on you to uphold your commitment to racial equity, as you demonstrated with your vote for Juneteenth!

Cook County and Cook County Forest Preserve had lands occupied by indigenous people before colonizers arrived. The 65,000 Native residents of Cook County today aren't asking that everyone leave, but they are asking for recognition. They are a part of the fabric of our country, state, and county. We need to do a better job of learning from them.

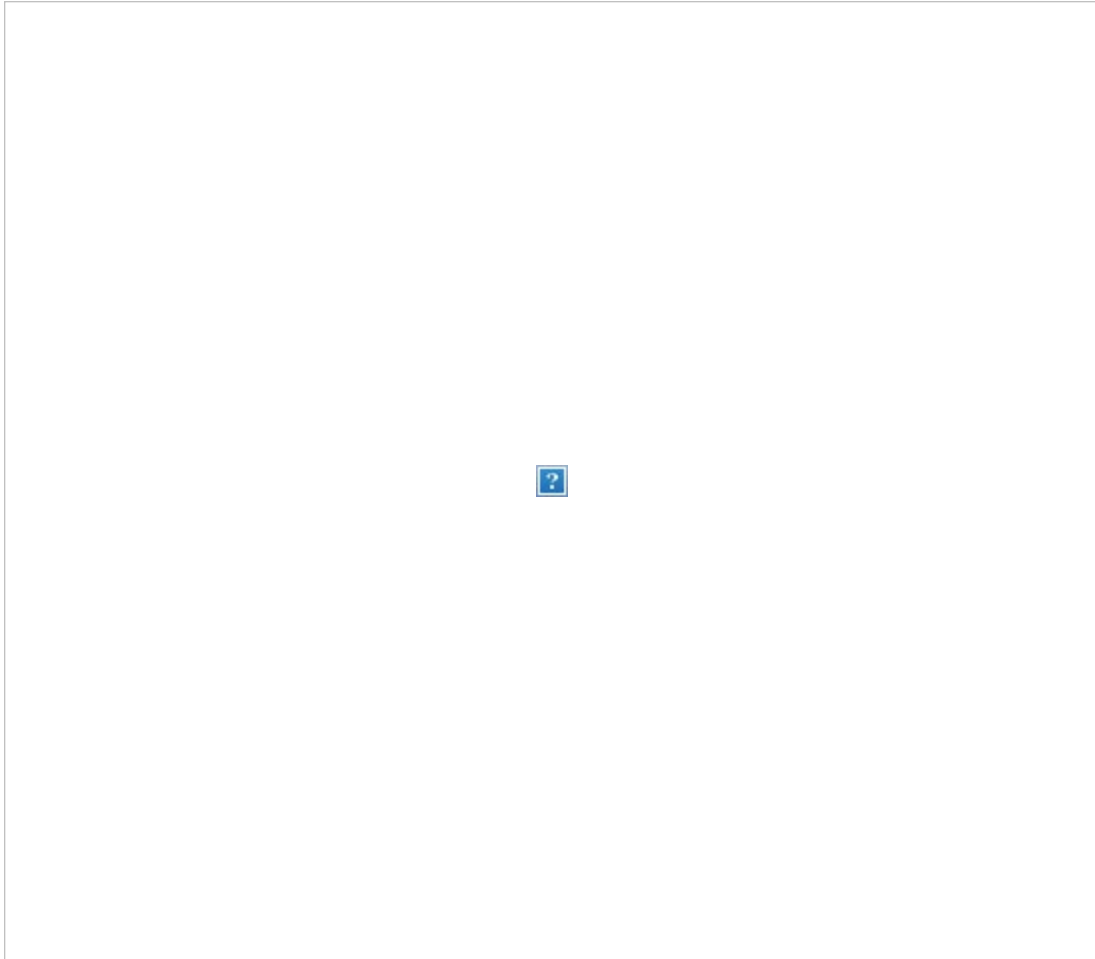
Italian is not a race; Italian is a nationality. I have not heard a single Italian person take issue with Columbus Day, which "honors" a murderer/rapist. But even if one did, this is not Italy; this is the United States. This is Illinois; a place to which indigenous people are native, not Italians. Keeping Columbus Day is like making a holiday in Italy after a terrorist from the United States. Getting rid of Columbus Day is non-negotiable. It must go. However, we aren't saying Americans can't lobby for a holiday that celebrates Italian immigrants.

[Colorado changed it to Mother Cabrini Day.](#)

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565. Your constituents will be watching the Board proceedings, and we will remember how you vote when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you,

Ryan O'Donnell



From: [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#); [Clinee Hedspeth \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: #2 to be read aloud into public record
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 8:49:34 AM

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From: **Andrea Carlson** <Andrea@mikinaak.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 17, 2021 at 9:20 AM
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and #21-0597
To: <cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov>, <Dennis.Deer@cookcountyil.gov>, <bill.lowry@cookcountyil.gov>, <stanley.moore2@cookcountyil.gov>, <deborah.sims@cookcountyil.gov>, <donna.miller@cookcountyil.gov>, <luis.arroyojr@cookcountyil.gov>, <cookcty9@aol.com>, <district10@cookcountyil.gov>, <john.daley@cookcountyil.gov>, <lsuffredin@aol.com>, <sean.morrison@cookcountyil.gov>, <brandon.johnson@cookcountyil.gov>, <alma.anaya@cookcountyil.gov>, <kevin.morrison@cookcountyil.gov>, <Scott.Britton@cookcountyil.gov>, <frank.aguilar@cookcountyil.gov>, <bridget.deggen@cookcountyil.gov>, <ipd4cps@gmail.com>

Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am an Ojibwe woman and an artist who lives in Chicago's Loop. Columbus Day is a celebration of white supremacy and the genocide of fellow Indigenous people. I support, not only erasing this annual harm to my community through the celebration of that murderer, but to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565). Because the general population in Chicago can't tell you whose stolen land they occupy, I also support the heartfelt reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597).

Join me, a person who loves Indigenous people, in saying NO to ongoing Columbus triumphalism, saying NO to the continued erasure of Indigenous people's lives, and say YES to a celebration of Indigenous people's accomplishments, saying "We see you" to Italian-Americans who don't want to be forever associated with the death of Indigenous people.

Support #21-0565 and #21-0597 please!

Miigwech,
Andrea Carlson

--

andrea s. carlson

www.mikinaak.com

From: [Sarah E. Dennis](#)
To: [CookCounty Board \(Secretary to the Board\)](#)
Cc: [Clinee Hedspeth \(Board of Commissioners\)](#)
Subject: #2 (or #3) Fwd: to be read aloud Italian-American Marie
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 8:51:10 AM

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Sorry! I meant for Marie to be 2nd and Andrea 3rd...but either way is actually, ok, lol!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marie Winnick <mlwlanguage@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 25, 2021 at 12:24 PM
Subject: SUPPORT File #21-0565 and File #21-0597
To: <cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov>, <Dennis.Deer@cookcountyil.gov>, <bill.lowry@cookcountyil.gov>, <stanley.moore2@cookcountyil.gov>, <deborah.sims@cookcountyil.gov>, <donna.miller@cookcountyil.gov>, <luis.arroyojr@cookcountyil.gov>, <cookcty9@aol.com>, <district10@cookcountyil.gov>, <john.daley@cookcountyil.gov>, <lsuffredin@aol.com>, <sean.morrison@cookcountyil.gov>, <brandon.johnson@cookcountyil.gov>, <alma.anaya@cookcountyil.gov>, <kevin.morrison@cookcountyil.gov>, <Scott.Britton@cookcountyil.gov>, <frank.aguilar@cookcountyil.gov>, <bridget.degnen@cookcountyil.gov>, Sarah E. Dennis <ipd4cps@gmail.com>

Cook County Commissioners & Board Secretary,

I am a Cook County resident, also a second-generation American by way of Sicily, and I am strongly in support of changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day (File #21-0565) and the reading of a Land Acknowledgement at monthly Board meetings (File #21-0597), both referred to committees at the Dec 2020 Board Meeting.

While I was growing up, Columbus was almost like a patron saint in my family, probably as much as Santa Lucia, San Giuseppe and Santa Agatha. We never even imagined what his voyages did to the ancestors of our fellow Native citizens, though. We just knew how the image of the warrior/sailor who allegedly had begun the laying of the foundation for America was a powerful source of hope for success in America for my grandparents due to the fact that he was Italian, and the fact that they were dirt poor and treated like garbage simply for being Italian immigrants. This is true for just about every American family with ancestors who came from Italy in the 20th century.

After my grandparents got us into the middle class through hard work and brains, in addition to some policies like the GI Bill that favored descendants of Europeans, Columbus's image gave us extra validation that we were meant to succeed all along. The problem with this is that the image of him that we were brought up with is nothing like his true story. His true story behind the myth goes far beyond the fact that our fellow Native citizens today are still feeling the catastrophic effects of what he did, and what the U.S. government later continued, but that's a topic for another conversation.

The main point of this letter is that Italians deserve a holiday for our heritage, but we can think of something much better to center it around than Christopher Columbus. Our holiday needs to come after the second Monday in October, not before it, and we need to celebrate Indigenous People's Day on that day instead with the 65,000 Native Americans who live in Chicago, who work in every trade and profession under the sun, many who have fought in the U.S. military, and who come from many of the 574 federally recognized tribes across our country.

Good citizenship requires listening carefully to our fellow citizens. They deserve this 100 percent.

PLEASE SUPPORT Resolutions #21-0565 and #21-0597. We will be watching Board meetings this week, and in future months, and we will remember how you vote on these when it comes time for your re-election.

Thank you very much!

Marie L. Winnick
Spanish and Italian > English
Translations and Transcriptions
Chicago, IL, USA
Phone +1 (773) 470-9917
marie@mlwlanguage.com
mlwlanguage@gmail.com(secondary)
www.mlwlanguage.com

President Preckwinkle and Cook County Commissioners:

As a Professor of Education who thinks A LOT about children/youth in schools, I'd like to share some the results of the survey of families and staff of the Chicago Public Schools to get feedback on the impact of their making the name change from Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day in February of 2020.

When asked what emotion words they FELT when CPS made this change they replied:

"Ecstatic, excited, relieved, optimistic, validated, hopeful, happy, proud, thankful/grateful, surprised it hadn't happened much sooner, inspired, thrilled, vindicated, and empowered."

Don't you want this for students and families/teachers/staff in all of Cook County??

94% of Survey respondents were very happy with CPS's decision.

Some of the comments were as follows:

"As someone with 50% indigenous DNA, it felt so gratifying to know schools will finally recognize the peoples that Columbus unjustly killed. This is an important step in dismantling White Supremacy in our culture."

"So happy for the marginalized people in this world but it could have been done earlier."

When asked about the effect the holiday name change has had on their child/students since CPS made the change to Indigenous Peoples' Day, people wrote:

"The name of the holiday matches with the history she has and will continue to learn, about indigenous people's struggles and resilience."

"It has given clarity and an honest celebration of America and the people who were here before us."

"I think it helps my children recognize that how history is written and by whom, matters."

"It has made them curious about the Native Americans of Illinois and civil rights issues."

"My students recognize the struggle Indigenous people have faced and continue to face today."

"My child sees the justice in this because she knows that Columbus was not a just person."

"My kindergartener will be more exposed to the contributions of first Nations people that was missing from my school textbooks."

"It has reinforced our family's belief that there needs to be greater efforts to bring light to the history and current conditions of Indigenous People."

"I think they feel proud and happy that Indigenous people are being recognized."

“We still had and have to be critical of all learning materials because it is still informed by patriarchal, capitalistic, white supremacist cultures and norms.”

“It’s acknowledging the individuals who were here first and not a colonizer. It’s been a positive effect.”

“It’s easier to teach the subject in the younger grades in a diverse school knowing we’re not championing a terrible person.”

98% of respondents said they think Cook County changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day would be: “AMAZING!/SO EXCITING!”

When prompted to complete the sentence: “When CPS made the holiday name change from Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day in Feb of 2020...I thought...

The majority of respondents said things like, “Finally!!! It’s about time. What took so long? I hope the city, county, state and country follow suit.”

One parent reflected that the name change has, “increased our trust in CPS making steps in the right direction towards authentic equitable education.”

Don’t you want to do the same for all of Cook County and the Cook County Forest Preserves? PLEASE stand on the side of racial equity by passing #21-0565 and File #21-0597 as soon as possible!

With gratitude and in solidarity,

Dr. Sarah E. Dennis

Adjunct Professor of Education at UIC (formerly at NYU, Roosevelt University and Loyola University)