



United Confederation of Taíno People

• Borikén (Puerto Rico) • Kiskeia (Dominican Republic) • Barbados
• Bimini (United States) • St. Thomas • Kuba • Guadeloupe

UCTP Governing Board

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October 12, 2019

To the City of New Haven,

Taigüei d'ituno kena d'atiaono (Good day my sisters and my brothers):

On behalf of the United Confederation of Taíno People, it is my pleasure to share this message on behalf of the Governing Board. The United Confederation of Taíno People (UCTP), is an Indigenous Peoples Representative Organization, which promotes the self-determination of Taíno and other Caribbean Indigenous Peoples and the recognition and protection of their human rights, culture, traditions, and sacred lands. The UCTP also affirm and safeguard indigenous Taíno and other Caribbean cultural heritage and spiritual traditions, as well as promote indigenous spiritual, cultural, educational, health, economic, and social development. The Taíno peoples have an particular distinction in the history of the Americas as our ancestors were the very first peoples to encounter Christopher Columbus. Our ancestors were also the first Indigenous Peoples of the Western Hemisphere to be Indians and the first to suffer under the brutal oppression and colonization under Columbus and his contemporaries.

The UCTP, therefore, wholeheartedly supports the decision of New Haven to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day and commend all those who contributed to this historic decision, which helps to honorably raise the visibility of Indigenous Peoples, not only in New Haven and Connecticut, but all over the world. For too long Indigenous People have remained invisible to the mainstream American, public despite the fact that we remain and strive to thrive in a world that has been historically hostile to us for 527 years.

In closing, the UCTP considers the decision to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day in New Haven a moral decision, that seeks to full the promise of human rights for all. This is an honorable step toward understanding, tolerance, and conciliation.

The UCTP is proud to be witness to this important day in history and we express not only our gratitude, but our desire to be a part of the process moving forward. Nabori Guaka(We are at your service).

Seneko kakona (Abundant blessings),
Roberto Múkaro Agüeibaná Borrero
Roberto Múkaro Agüeibaná Borrero,
President, UCTP

CC: UCTP Governing Board of Directors