

**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, Indigenous People's Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing number of cities and towns in the United States have recognized the second Monday of October as "Indigenous People's Day, re-imagining Columbus Day as an opportunity to celebrate indigenous heritage and resiliency; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont recognizes the historic, cultural, and contemporary significance of the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that later became known as the Americas, including Vermont, and values the many contributions of these peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont recognizes that it was founded and is built upon lands first inhabited by the Indigenous Peoples of this region - the Abenaki and their ancestors and allies - and acknowledges and honors these members of the community, both past and present;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Peter Shumlin, as Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2016 as

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY**

in Vermont, and on this day traditionally observed as Columbus Day encourage all Vermonters to recognize the sacrifice and contributions of the First Peoples of this land.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 6th day of October, A.D. 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin  
Governor