

Sacramento County Replaces Columbus Day



In Sacramento County, Columbus Day was replaced as a county holiday in April 2023 in favor of Indigenous Peoples Day. The Italian community is challenging the action by the County and has been in contact with County officials. The Italian Cultural Society has made proposals to correct this mistake by the county government so both holidays are respected.

Congress has declared Columbus Day to be the only national holiday in October. Indigenous People's Day is not a legal national holiday.

Unfortunately. The county issued a Press release to the public and carried by the local media stating that “Columbus Day is not a national holiday.” This has left the public and even Italian Americans confused about the status of Columbus Day as a national holiday. The Italian Cultural Society is requesting that this false and misleading Press Release be corrected, but the harm has been done and it will be difficult to repair the false impression the lie has caused.

Abolishing Columbus Day in the County was engineered by the new Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Staff in the County in collusion with native Americans and done under false pretenses.

Neither the public nor the Italian community were notified that Columbus Day was on the County Board of Supervisors meeting agenda for erasure. Nor was it. It was not mentioned at all on the public agenda. The decision to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day was made behind closed doors and neither the public nor the Italian community had a voice in the decision or knowledge of it.

Some County Supervisors were led to believe it was just a ceremonial recognition of native Americans, not meant to replace Columbus Day as a county holiday. Others were led to believe Indigenous Peoples Day was a legal national holiday as a justification for their recognition of the Day.



The Resolution to approve Indigenous People’s Day did not mention that Columbus Day would be replaced. It did not mention Columbus Day at all. Otherwise, the Italian community would have been there to challenge such an action.

The first mention about Columbus Day at all in this mean- spirited ambush was in the Press Release issued by the County Information Office which gratuitously included the statement that “Columbus Day is not a national Holiday.” The information officer is also part of the DEI staff.

County staff chose to use the Resolution “**to administratively supplant**” Columbus Day without the Resolution either mentioning Columbus Day as a county holiday or calling for its replacement.

The Society has investigated the actions of DEI staff and believe their action was racially motivated, discriminated against Italian Americans and designed to influence the vote of the County supervisors with false information.

As such it is subject to challenge as a violation of the Equal protection Clause of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution which prohibits diversity as a justification for discrimination under the new Supreme Court decision.

Italian Americans are a recognized ethnic group under the 14th Amendment, and we believe the removal of Columbus Day was a violation of our civil rights. The action by the county was less than 2 months before the Supreme Court decision outlawing racially motivated actions and policies.

It also appears from our investigation that the Board of Supervisors was misled by staff.



The action by the County cancelling the Columbus Day Holiday was divisive and has divided the Sacramento community. We believe there is room in Sacramento County for both Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples Day to be recognized.

Currently, Sacramento County recognizes every national holiday as a county holiday, and that has included Columbus Day until this year. The only holiday in the county not a national holiday is Indigenous Peoples Day. Also known as **the 'Day of Indigenous Resistance.'**

It is unfortunate that the Italian community was the victim of the rise in anti-Italian and anti-white racial sentiment now at work in our county government.

We expected better from our County Government. On behalf of the 65,000 Italian Americans in the Sacramento area, we demand better treatment.

Columbus Day is an Italian American **national** Holiday celebrated nationwide by Italian American communities. It is an integral part of our Identity and heritage which is being taken away.

It is disappointing that the celebration of Columbus Day in Sacramento has been marred by politicized cancel culture politics.

We cannot let it be replaced as it cannot be replaced!

Our goal is to restore our Holiday and our standing in American society.

We are the underdog here!

We will let you know if we need a louder voice to restore our Holiday.