

2007 Annual Report



STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor
Brenda Donald, Secretary
E. Keith Colston, Executive Director

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MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR AND LT. GOVERNOR



Martin O'Malley
Governor



Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

Dear Friends:

We send our best wishes to the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs and the American Indian tribes that reside within the state. We present the 2007 Annual Report of the Governor's Office and Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. The diversity of our State is our greatest strength. As we strive to make government work for our families and communities, the Governor's Office and Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, continues to play an active role in helping to hearten and grow the awareness of the vast contributions of the American Indian tribes.

The Indigenous Tribes of Maryland have a historic and unique connection in the state, and their contributions in environmental, social, educational and the arts have allowed a history to be shared with all.

We commend the staff and commissioners of the Governor's Office and Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs for their outstanding work in 2007 on behalf of the American Indian community. With the publication of this Annual Report, we offer our warmest greetings and best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

**MESSAGE FROM BRENDA DONALD, SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**



Brenda Donald
Secretary

Dear Friends:

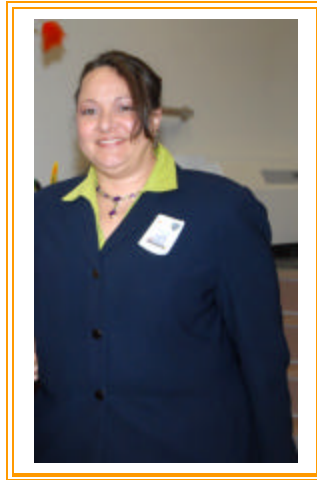
I am pleased to present the 2007 Annual Report of the Governor's Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. This report provides a summary of the Commission's activities during the past year, as well as demographics and other valuable information regarding the American Indian community in the State of Maryland.

The Maryland Department of Human Resources is committed to aggressively pursuing opportunities to assist people in economic need, provide prevention services, and protect vulnerable children and adults. We will continue to work closely with the Governor's Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs as we address the needs and issues facing the American Indian community in the State of Maryland.

I congratulate the staff and members of the Governor's Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs for their leadership and dedication to the American Indian community. I trust you will find this Annual Report useful.

Sincerely,

Brenda Donald
Secretary



Auriel A. Fenwick
Chair/Piscataway Conoy Tribe

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the 2007 Annual Report for the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. The report is a reflection of the accomplishments, challenges and activities of the Commission during the year.

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs is committed to helping the American Indian groups. We will continue to work closely with State agencies and the American Indian groups to ensure that the needs of the American Indian groups are addressed.

The Commission wishes to express its gratitude to Governor Martin O'Malley, to Department of Human Resources Secretary Brenda Donald and other members of his administration for their continued support as we carry forward the vision of the Commission.

Sincerely,

Auriel A. Fenwick
Chair

COMMISSIONERS

Name	Heritage/Tribe	County	Term
Virginia Busby	No Tribe	Harford County	7/1/06 thru 7/1/09
Auriel A. Fenwick, Chair	Piscataway Conoy Tribe	Prince George's County	7/1/06 thru 7/1/09
Kathryn E. Robbins Fitzhugh	American Indian Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians	Dorchester County	7/1/05 thru 7/1/08
David Cullen Holland	Accohannock	Somerset County	7/1/07 thru 7/1/10
Wanda Lee	Lumbee Indian Tribe	Baltimore County	7/1/06 thru 7/1/09
Cornelius Allen Red Deer	Deer Clan	Baltimore City	7/1/05 thru 7/1/08
Guy Granville Wells	Cherokee	Caroline County	7/1/07 thru 7/1/10
Thomas W. Windsor II Vice Chair	Piscataway Conoy Tribe	Prince George's County	7/1/05 thru 7/1/08

STAFF

E. Keith Colston Executive Director	Tuscarora/Lumbee Tribes	Baltimore City
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HISTORY AND MISSION

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs was created by the General Assembly in 1976 to represent and serve the state's American Indian community.

As the official statewide agency for American Indians, the Commission initiates and supports activities that affect American Indians in Maryland and furthers the understanding of American Indian history and culture.

By providing a forum for communication, the Commission encourages cooperation and the exchange of ideas among American Indians in the state. The Commission also provides a vital liaison between Maryland's American Indians and the state and federal governments.

In 2005 the Maryland General Assembly transferred by legislation (House Bill 1562, Chapter 440 of Maryland State Laws 2005) the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs from the Department of Housing and Community Development to the Department of Human Resources.

The Commission is directed by an Executive Director who supervises the Commission's programs and activities, with an office located at the Department of Human Resources.

MISSION

To serve the interests of communities of American Indian groups in Maryland.

Promote awareness and a better understanding of both historical and contemporary American Indian contributions to life in Maryland by:

- Assisting in the protection of American Indian burial and other culturally significant sites.
- Organizing and maintaining a database of resources specific to American Indian history and culture in Maryland.
- Publishing information and giving presentations on the culture and accomplishments of American Indian groups in Maryland.
- Serving as a statewide clearinghouse for information.

Assist state, local and private agencies responsible for addressing the educational, social and economic needs of American Indian communities in Maryland with activities such as:

- Identifying unmet social and economic needs and recommending specific actions to meet those needs.
- Identifying and supporting physical and mental health programs for American Indians.
- Supporting government Indian education programs serving American Indian youth in Maryland.
- Making recommendations to encourage and promote economic development in Maryland Indian communities.

Provide support in the process of obtaining Recognition of State and/or Federal Indian Status.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2007, the Governor's Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs undertook the idea of unity to increase the voice of the American Indian community. The strategic plan was to utilize the diversity of each community and focus on the common strengths and at the same time the obstacles that were faced by each. A key component that allowed the progress to take place was the positive outreach to local, state and private entities that were willing to network and create long lasting partnerships. The accomplishments are a testimony to willingness to work together as ONE Maryland.

Change of Leadership

The Governor's Office and MCIA followed suit with the State of Maryland by introducing a new Executive Director to handle the day to day operations and administrative duties of the Commission. E. Keith Colston who is of the Tuscarora and Lumbee tribes began his tenure on January 31, 2007. Mr. Colston, with the aid of department staff helped to organize behind the scenes as well as be at the forefront of various events throughout the year. Keith Colston's ideology has always remained constant that the American Indian community must take a proactive stance and reach out to help resolve many issues that plague its members. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Aging, Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, Department of Planning, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Maryland State Department of Education, Governor's Office on Community Initiatives – as well as federal and local entities combined their

resources to achieve the goals set forth in the strategic plan.

400 Years and Counting

The uniqueness of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs is the historic connections to the State of Maryland. A visual account of this fact came to life during the Patuxent Encounter Series through the joint efforts of the Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, the Governor's Office and Commission. A thoughtful and specific plan to bring the John Smith 400 Year Project to life in conjunction with the Friends of Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail, allowed another partnership to come forth. The lecture series encompassed Tribal Chiefs and traditional American Indian speakers to teach and share the rich history of the Indigenous groups of Maryland. The efforts and diligent work came to a climatic event on August 4th & 5th, 2007 in St. Leonard, Maryland with the landing of the ship's crew and retracing of the steps of Indigenous peoples of Maryland.

Repatriation

One of the panel discussions that was a part of the Patuxent Encounter series dealt with Repatriation. The Commission partnered and aided by having commissioners, American Indian community members and staff attend the event. This invoked an opportunity for individuals to gain the facts to interpret the law involving NAGRA and the remains of American Indians and artifacts. The Department of Planning, Department of Human Resources and the Commission met to discuss and implement a policy to resolve the many of the issues concerning Repatriation in the State of Maryland and the American Indian

communities. A joint task force was developed that consist of members from the Commission and the Maryland Historical Trust to effectively deal with Repatriation. This would be another historic event for the Commission working with the Department of Planning as one government.

Health Disparities of American Indians

Another strategic partnership was developed with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Health Disparities for American Indians range from cancer to diabetes, mental abuse to substance abuse. The Commission became involved with the Minority Outreach Technical Assistance (MOTA) funded by the Cigarette Restitution Fund delegated by DMHH. To impact American Indian communities in a respectful and progressive manner, the first of two “Health Fair Pow-wows” were planned and became role models for future events. Holy Cross Hospital partnered and shared resources to make the events successful. The event gave the Commission the chance to promote cultural healing as well as physical healing.

American Indian Heritage Month with Governor O’Malley

The Governor’s Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs strived to increase awareness of the important roles that Maryland’s Indigenous communities have played. November of 2007 set the stage for an impressive 32 engagement outreach effort that was held in recognition of American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland. The official kick-off took place at the Department of Human Resources with Rico Newman as the guest speaker. Stacy Rodgers, Chief of Staff for DHR opened

with a heart-felt welcoming speech. The activities ranged from lectures, panel discussions to dance presentations and luncheons with foreign dignitaries. A highlight of the year came on November 28th with Governor Martin O’Malley. Governor O’Malley took time to sit and discuss specific issues during a luncheon at the Governor’s house. The conversation between Governor O’Malley and tribal leaders of the Indigenous tribal groups dealt with obstacles confronting American Indian communities. Governor O’Malley presented a proclamation on behalf of American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland as well as citations to individuals. MCI A ended the 2007 with a celebration finale at DHR with House Majority Whip Delegate Talmadge Branch serving as guest speaker. Brenda Donald, Secretary for DHR gave a wonderful opening speech and spoke highly of the contributions of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs will continue to promote awareness and better understanding of both historical and contemporary American Indian contributions and issues as we move forward.

Conclusion

The Governor’s Office and the Commission will continue to uphold the tradition of service, outreach, and the development of new partnerships and strengthening existing partnerships and to continue to promote awareness and better understanding of both historical and contemporary American Indian contributions and issues as we move forward towards the future.

KEY PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Bringing Unity to the American Indian Population in Maryland

Several events were held throughout the year utilizing the talents and unique tribal customs to showcase the diversity of our Indigenous Groups of the State of Maryland. Here are just a few representing our Commissioners and Tribal Leaders.



Commissioner David Holland



Chief Rudy Hall Accohannock Indian Tribe



Keith Colston



Commissioner Guy Wells

Creation of New Logo for Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

A logo created to represent the Indigenous Groups of Maryland with designs that are over 5,000 years old that were found at an archeological site. The colors are significant with American Indians in a cultural and traditional aspect. The symbol also represents the positive changes the Commission has taken to improve the lives of the American Indian community.



First Annual MCIA American Indian Health Fair Pow-Wow

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs held the event on June 24th, 2007 in Montgomery County at the Holy Cross facility. Health lectures, screenings, American Indian foods and celebration of life thru dancing took place.



Keith Colston - Emcee



Ancial Chavis – Head Man Dancer



Northern Boys – Host Drum

American Indian Heritage Month Kick-Off

The Governor's Office and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs celebrated the month of November as "American Indian Heritage Month" with a celebration kick-off that took place on November 1st, 2007 at the Department of Human Resources. Keeping with American Indian beliefs that all of life is a circle, the Commission ended the month with a "Celebration Finale" at DHR.



Brenda Donald, Secretary, Department of Human Resources



Stacy Rodgers – Chief of Staff, Department of Human Resources
Auriel Fenwick – Chair, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs



Delegate Talmadge Branch – House Majority Whip, Guest Speaker
Keith Colston – Executive Director, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs



Reverend John Heath – Executive Director , Community Services Administration



Native America's People Dance Troupe with Dignitaries

Luncheon with Governor O'Malley and American Indian Tribal Leaders

A highlight of the year came for many American Indian tribal leaders when Governor O'Malley took time to meet on November 28th, 2007 at the Governor's House, in Annapolis.



Governor Martin O'Malley and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Commissioners



Governor Martin O'Malley and the Tribal Chiefs



Governor Martin O'Malley with Delegates, MCIA Staff and MCIA Chair



Governor Martin O'Malley "breaking bread" symbolizing Unity with Indigenous Groups of Maryland



Delegate Talmadge Branch
House Majority Whip



Governor Martin O'Malley with
Rico Newman – Traditional
Piscataway Speaker



Governor Martin O'Malley with
Keith Colston – Executive Director
MCIA

INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN MARYLAND, VIRGINIA & WASHINGTON DC (THESE ARE NOT INDIAN TRIBES)

The following is a list of individuals, organizations and agencies that not only demonstrate an interest in and knowledge of American Indian history and culture, but also work actively toward promoting and preserving that history and culture. They have proven to be invaluable resources and have contributed to a wide range of educational outreach efforts, and the commission would like to list them here as potential resources for Maryland's American Indian communities, students, teachers and all others who may visit this site.

? American Indian Cultural Center Brandy Wine, Maryland

The American Indian Cultural Center is an educational non-profit which sponsors powwows, socials and other educational activities.

? American Indian Health Website

Americanindianhealth.nlm.nih.gov
The National Library of Medicine, a part of the National Institutes of Health, announces a new website to address the health concerns of the 4 million Americans who claim American Indian or Alaska Native ancestry.

? American Indian Heritage Foundation

6051 Arlington Boulevard
Falls Church, Virginia
703-237-7500
202-INDIANS (463-4267)
The American Heritage Foundation operates the Miss Indian USA Pageant, funds Native American Indian charitable activities which promote the culture, beliefs and rights of Native American Indians.

? American Indian Inter-Tribal Cultural Organization, Inc.

Rockville, Maryland
301-869-9381
The American Indian Inter-Tribal Cultural Organization is an educational non-profit which sponsors powwows, socials and other educational activities.

? American Indian Society of Washington, DC

P.O. Box 6431
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-6431
The American Indian Society of Washington DC meets the first Wednesday of the month in Alexandria, Virginia at the St. Clements Church, 1930 hours. They sponsor one powwow at the American Indian Cultural Center in Brandywine, Maryland each year, and support fellowship for Native American Indians living in the Nation's Capitol area.

? The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM)

www.marylandarcheology.org
The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM) is a statewide organization of lay and professional archeologists devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology. The goals of ASM are:

- ? Discovery, investigation and conservation of Maryland's archeological resources
- ? Proper recording of archeological sites
- ? Respect for the fragile and non-renewable nature of archeological sites
- ? Creation of bond between vocational and professional archeologists
- ? Development of opportunities for working with professional archeologists through directed fieldwork, analysis and reporting

? Public dissemination of information about Maryland's buried heritage

? Publication of the results of all excavations undertaken by the Society

? **The Baltimore American Indian Center**

113 South Broadway
Baltimore, Maryland 21231
410-675-3535

The Baltimore American Indian Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt charity providing social and economical services to American Indians living in Maryland. Services include home buying and rental assistance, JPTA-job placement and training assistance, U.S. Indian Health Service substance abuse counseling, cultural classes and activities such as powwows and socials. The BAIC holds one national powwow each year, on the fourth weekend in August and various activities during November. For more information contact the BAIC.

? **Honor the Circle: The Native American Indian Student Association**

Community College of Baltimore County –
Catonsville
800 South Rolling Road
Catonsville, Maryland 21228
410-455-4322 or 410-455-4951

The student association serves and supports Native American Indian students, faculty and staff from tribes all over the US, Canada and Alaska who attend or are employed by Catonsville with course registration, assistance with financial aid forms, college paperwork, employment practices/problems, and social interaction with other Native people. Honor the Circle also co-sponsors the powwows with the Baltimore American Indian Center.

? **The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs**

311 West Saratoga Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21201
410-767-7631

1-800-332-6347, ext. 7631

410-333-3980 (Fax)

410-767-7025

kcolston@dhr.state.md.us

www.mdamericanindian.org

The nine people Commission is an official State body, whose members are appointed by Maryland's Governor and are approved by the Maryland State Senate. Commissioners are appointed for a three year term and the majority of Commissioners must be American Indian, with three seats specifically reserved for persons from Maryland Indian tribes. The Commission addresses issues affecting state recognition, education, cultural preservation, and assists the Governor relating to issues facing American Indians.

? **Native America's People (NAP), LLC**

1235 Anglesea Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21224
napinmd@yahoo.com

? **Native Indian Sacred Earth Society**

11400 Cedarville Road
Brandywine, Maryland
301-888-1198

An American Indian Society, call for further information.

? **Native American Rights Fund**

1712 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-785-4166
202-822-0068 (Fax)

www.narf.org

A charitable fund for promoting, litigating and supporting Native American Indian rights throughout the United States and Canada.

MARYLAND INDIGENOUS TRIBES

? Accohannock Indian Tribe, Inc.

Chief Rudy Laughing Otter Hall
P.O. Box 404
Marion, Maryland 21838
410-623-2660
accohannock@dmv.com

? Assateague Peoples Tribe

Chief Larry Medicine Cat Smack
P.O. Box 63
Frankford, Delaware 19945
410-749-9980
Mancat732@aol.com

? Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians

Tribal Chair Natalie Proctor
MD Indian heritage Society
16816 Country Lane
Waldorf, Maryland 20601
P.O. box 5
Brandywine, Maryland 20613
301-782-2224
piscatawayindians@yahoo.com
www.piscatawayindians.org

? Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Inc.

Chief Sewell E. Winterhawk Fitzhugh
2363 Elliot Island Road
Vienna, Maryland 21869
410-376-3889
chiefwhawk@hotmail.com

? Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-Tribes, Inc.

Tribal Chair Ms. Mervin Savoy
P.O. Box 1484
La Plata, Maryland 20646
301-392-0900
301-932-2899 (Fax)
Msavoy9836@aol.com

? Piscataway Indian Nation, Inc.

Chief William Red Wing Tayac
P.O. Box 312
Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
8065 Zachary road
Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
301-932-0808
Redwing60@aol.com
www.piscatawaynation.org

? Pocomoke Indian Tribe, Inc.

Chief John End of Trail Howard
88 Sommers Cove Apartments
Crisfield, Maryland 21817

? Youghiogeny River Band of Shawnee Indians, Inc.

Chief Joseph Neale
6110 Melvern Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
301-530-5281



Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Phone: (410) 767-7631
Toll Free: 1-800-332-6347, ext. 7631
Fax: (410) 333-3980
TTY: (410) 767-7025
Email: kcolston@dhr.state.md.us
Website: www.mdamericanindian.org