

The Council Chambers
City Hall
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

A Proclamation

- Whereas:** Portsmouth lies on the homelands of the Abenaki people, who have lived in the place now called New Hampshire for more than 12,000 years – since before Tribal memory; and
- Whereas:** The Abenaki people have ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this area and have stewarded these lands and celebrated seasonal gatherings with all Wabanaki in this place through the generations; and
- Whereas:** In 2023, as Portsmouth celebrates its 400th anniversary of settlement, we look to collaborations together with AIM N’Dakinna Chapter, The ThunderBear Family and Strawberry Banke Museum as an Official Partner of Portsmouth NH 400 who are working to ensure that Abenaki history — before, throughout and beyond the colonial period to today — is not overshadowed by the history of European arrival in the region; and
- Whereas:** This modern powwow, an Indigenous tradition of intertribal gathering and celebration centered around the dance circle, with the Black Thunder Singers as Host Drum along with invited drums Walking Bear & Turning Eagle; and
- Whereas:** There are no spectators at a powwow. People of all backgrounds are welcome, and everyone is considered a participant, even if they just lend their presence. Everyone has a place in the circle of people; and
- Whereas:** The Abenaki, as “People of the Dawnland” remain, opening the door to the first light on the continent.

Now, therefore, I, Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of the City of Portsmouth, on behalf of the members of the City Council and the citizens of Portsmouth, do hereby proclaim August 12-13, 2023 as days to honor the

Abenaki and Wabanaki Peoples

And call upon our community to participate in this intertribal celebration here at the Piscataqua Powow and to learn more about Native American culture and heritage while recognizing the presence of tribal communities on the Piscataqua since time immemorial, now, and in the future.



Given with my hand and the
Seal of the City of Portsmouth,
on this 12th day of August 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deaglan McEachern".

Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of Portsmouth