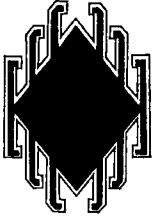




CAHTO TRIBE

LAYTONVILLE RANCHERIA
P.O. Box 1239 • Laytonville, CA 95454
(707) 984-6197



August 20, 2019



Mendocino County
Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Rd., Room 1010
Ukiah, CA 95482



Dear BOS:



We, the Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria have been here in Mendocino County all of our lives. We have lived through mass genocide, discrimination and slavery. We have had our homes and our land taken. We have been stripped of our culture and our dignity. We are still here. Today we are community members, workers, our children attend schools here, and this is still our home. Above all we have a love of our land, our mother earth. We have fought many battles, we have won, and we have lost. I regret that I cannot attend today's meeting. This is a big day for all of us, native and non-native. We are in a time of change. Statues that were erected to glorify the false truth of our history are being torn down. To witness a formal public apology on national media by Governor Brown to Native People was not just long overdue, but necessary and very moving.



Today, we have a chance at righting one of the many wrongs and just our ability to acknowledge, accept and take steps in the right direction is phenomenal. Despite our labels, "tribes", "races", "nationalities", "minorities", we are all Humans and should be referred to as "People" of the United States. We are a proud People, living a history of lies and shame. We have an opportunity to move forward and we are hoping this happens. We are asking you, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors to do the right thing with this opportunity. Recognize the second Monday in October as "Indigenous Peoples' Day".



Thank you,

Mary J. Norris, Chairwoman
Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria

