

**Northeastern Jurisdiction
Native American Ministries Committee**



Executive Committee:

Pat Parent, Abenaki/Penobscot
Chairperson
New England

Bethany Printup-Davis, Tuscarora
Vice Chairperson,
Upper New York

Ellesa High, Lower Eastern Ohio Mekoce
Shawnee
Secretary
West Virginia

Kae Wilbert, Cherokee
Treasurer
Upper New York

Todd Warfield, Non-Native
Communications Chairperson
New England

RagghiRain, Eastern Cherokee
Advocacy Chairperson
Peninsula/Delaware

Sherry Wack, Non-Native
Advocacy Secretary
Eastern Pennsylvania

Cynthia Kent, Southern Ute
Nominating Chairperson, Greater New
Jersey

NEJNAMC Executive Committee/Chair Report, 2022

Our executive committee started the year with two new members. Todd Warfield came onboard to take over as our communications committee chair/website manager when our long-time information chair, Rev. Dr. Suzanne Dushesne, had to step back for medical reasons. Jennifer Kerby very kindly stepped forward at our 2021 annual meeting to become our secretary when Ellesa High had to step down after a very challenging time. We have been so blessed to have these two very capable people in the work with us.

As chair of the executive committee and NEJNAMC, I want to thank all our executives for their hard work and commitment. Bethany Printup-Davis is our vice-chair, and she has added her creative input to our planning. Kae Wilbert is our very able treasurer. She is a trusted and diligent worker. Ragghi Rain is a completely dedicated chair of our advocacy committee. Sherri Wack is her capable secretary and assistant.

In addition, thanks are in order for all those working in their CoNAMs to support Indigenous people in their annual conferences. You are really such an important part of this work.

This year your executive committee has spent a lot of time planning what was to be our first face-to-face meeting since COVID spread throughout the world. Cynthia Mosley, until recently the chair of the Greater New Jersey CoNAM, has worked tirelessly to get her committee and her community ready to host this event. It would take too long to tell all the details of the work done. However, it became clear to us that we had too few registered to make a face-to-face work. To be good stewards of our funds, we reluctantly voted to go virtual again this year.

Ragghi Rain and Sherri Wack kept our committee informed of opportunities to support Native communities and causes.

We gave our support to the Native American International Caucus as they urged the United Methodist Church to fulfill their vows to stand with Indigenous people, specifically regarding the issue of the victims of residential schools and the lasting effect that trauma has had on Native cultures. We reached out to our Northeastern Jurisdictional CoNAMs to spread the word about September 30 (as Orange Day) in support of both those children who survived the residential school and those who never came home.

We continue to work on the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Starting on July 18th, 2022, we held the first of our discussion groups on our Plan of Action, inviting all CoNAM chairs and members interested in sharing ideas and challenges in fulfilling the goals of our POA. All who attended expressed how helpful they found this meeting. Our next discussion is scheduled for January 28, 2023, from 6:30-8 PM. We will be covering goals 3 and 4 at that time.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Parent, chair, NEJNAMC