



Part and parcel of ending celebrating genocide is removing monuments to the subjugation and genocide of Indigenous Peoples. While Tampa has a statue of Columbus it has no statue to Indigenous heroes from Aripheka, Osceola, Micanopy, Wildcat, Techumseh or Hatuey. Nor is a statue in Tampa to the heroes of Rosewood such as Sylvester Carrier-even though many Rosewood massacre survivors fled to the bay area. So it's clear these statues are not about history but about celebrating and commemorating the genocide and subjugation of Native peoples. Therefore, the Statue of Columbus must go. No other nation celebrates its genocide, attempted or otherwise of another people. There is no statue or monument to the Third Reich in Germany no monument to Pol Pott or the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, nothing glorifying the genocide by the Hutu in Rwanda-yet Columbus statues abound. The time has come to celebrate humanity and the Original Peoples of Turtle Island not our genocide and subjugation

The FIA and Florida AIM prefer the dialogue of cooperation to the rhetoric of confrontation. However, after thirty years of politely, patiently, and respectfully asking for the removal of a statue celebrating genocide. As you are aware statues to Columbus have been removed by the people throughout the America's as their patience was exhausted. One way, or another the statue of Columbus must and will be removed. We again, in the spirit of cooperation and dialogue call upon the City of Tampa to do the right thing.

Sincerely,



Robert Rosa  
Chairman



Sheridan Murphy  
Executive Director

XC: American Indian Movement National Office  
Red Nation