

“The former Committee on Indian Relations is now renamed the Council on Indigenous Relations, based on unanimous action in June 2025.

Over the past year, CIR has:

- \* paid \$836 for Penobscot Tribe campsites at Baxter State Park for the Annual K100 celebration at Katahdin, as we have done for many years.
- \* prepared a Prayer for the People for Indigenous Peoples Day that was widely circulated within the Diocese and nationally.
- \* supported at the Maine Legislature bills that the Wabanaki Alliance made a priority, including bills exempting the four Maine tribes from eminent domain taking of tribal land, opposing State recognition of the Kineo Band of Maliseets and strengthening Wabanaki education in Maine public schools.
- \* supporting the “Welcome Walk” from Indian Island to the State House, beginning on Earth Day.
- \* made a \$250 donation in the memory of the late Butch Philips, longtime friend of CIR and CIR member, to Team Penobscot following Butch’s death.

The CIR membership started reading a book about Indian Boarding Schools called *Medicine River* by Mary Annette Pember concerning her mother’s experiences and subsequently and discussed it at the annual CIR retreat on September 27, 2025 at Christ Church in Gardiner.

CIR’s account with the Diocese has a current balance of \$4,212.