



**Permanent  
Commission**  
**RACIAL, INDIGENOUS  
& TRIBAL POPULATIONS**

## Fighting Indians: A film screening and conversation

Greetings!

Join us for the next session in the Place Justice Event series — a free virtual screening of the documentary "Fighting Indians," followed by a conversation with filmmakers Mark Cooley and Derek Ellis and Passamaquoddy language-keeper Dwayne Tomah.

Place Justice is a statewide truth-seeking and historical recovery initiative of the [Permanent Commission](#) on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations that seeks to engage Wabanaki and Maine communities in examining a wide range of commemorative practices to better understand and respond to the ways in which racialized and Indigenous populations are represented in or absent from the narratives inscribed on our natural and built environment.

The [Place Justice Event Series](#) will feature free, virtual and in-person panel discussions and film screenings to engage the public in considering some often complex and contentious issues. Whose stories are being told and whose suppressed? Whose legacies are being forwarded, and at whose expense?

**Register to Attend**

## Fighting Indians: A Film Screening and Conversation

February 21st, 5:00PM-7:00PM  
Attend live via Zoom

On May 16th, 2019, The State of Maine made history by passing LD 944 An Act to Ban Native American Mascots in All Public Schools, the first legislation of its kind in the country. For Maine's tribal nations, the landmark legislation marked an end to a decades-long struggle to educate the public on the harm of appropriating Native American mascots.

Fighting Indians chronicles the last and most contentious holdout in that struggle, the homogeneously white Skowhegan High School, known for decades as "The Home of the Indians." This is the story of a small New England community forced to reckon with its identity, its sordid history, and future relationship with its Indigenous neighbors. It is the story of a small town divided against the backdrop of a nation divided, where the "mascot debate" exposes centuries-old abuses while asking if reconciliation is possible.

Following the screening, attendees will have the opportunity to engage in a conversation about the film with filmmakers Mark Cooley and Derek Ellis and Passamaquoddy language-keeper Dwayne Tomah.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Learn more about the [Permanent Commission](#), the [Place Justice Project](#), and the full [event series](#).

With Sincere Gratitude,

The Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations



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