

**Media Advisory**  
May 9, 2022

Contact/Spokesperson: **Ken Wolkin**, HalftownMustGo  
Phone: **585-478-8147** Email: [kewolkin@gmail.com](mailto:kewolkin@gmail.com)

**GAYOGHÓ:NQ' PEOPLE AND ALLIES USE TREATY-INSPIRED UMBRELLA MOSAIC TO  
CALL ON INTERIOR, BIDEN TO MEET WITH THE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND HEED  
REMOVAL OF U.S.-BACKED DICTATOR**

WASHINGTON, DC – On Monday, May 16, Gayogghó:nq' (Cayuga Nation) people and allies will creatively pressure the Biden administration to meet with the Gayogghó:nq' Council of Chiefs. This trip takes place one year after the Council of Chiefs wrote a letter calling for a nation-to-nation meeting with the Biden Administration. The meeting the Council is calling for would focus on the overdue revocation of D.O.I.'s recognition of Clint Halftown and his council as representatives of the Cayuga Nation. Given the failure of the U.S. to respond while Halftown's violence has intensified, attendees will take the message, writ large, to D.C. Demonstrators will use painted umbrellas, held in a formation referencing the 409-year-old Two Row Wampum, to amplify the letter. These efforts precede a looming deadline for the D.O.I. to respond to a Land-into-Trust application submitted by Halftown's Council.

The Haudenosaunee Confederacy, of which the Gayogghó:nq' are a member nation, recognizes Chiefs and Clan Mothers as the government of the Gayogghó:nq'. Gayogghó:nq' governance removed Halftown from a temporary representative position he held in the mid-2000s, through processes in accordance with the Great Law of Peace (the Haudenosaunee constitution). But Halftown, who Gayogghó:nq' citizens have described as a dictator, refuses to step down. Since then he has attempted to consolidate his own power, while the U.S. has wrongfully continued to legitimize him as the Cayuga Nation's "Federal Representative" to the U.S. In 2020, Halftown ordered his hired police to force Gayogghó:nq' citizens—zip-tied and held at gunpoint—to watch the destruction of their community spaces including a daycare, community gardens, and a school house that was used to teach language and culture. Gayogghó:nq' citizens continue to face harassment and violence from Halftown's police, and fear of being forcibly removed from their homes. Demonstrators are calling for accountability from Biden and his appointees, including the first Indigenous Secretary of the Interior. Current officials have the opportunity to correct their predecessors' wrongdoings and honor Gayogghó:nq' self-determination.

WHAT: March with treaty-inspired umbrella mosaic displaying message from Gayogghó:nq' Council of Chiefs requesting meeting with Biden to discuss U.S. heeding removal of U.S.-backed dictator

WHO: Gayogghó:nq' (Cayuga Nation) people and allies

WHEN: Monday, May 16 2022, 11 am - 1 pm

WHERE: 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240 to White House (LaFayette Sq.)

CONTACT: KEN WOLKIN; 585-478-8147; [kewolkin@gmail.com](mailto:kewolkin@gmail.com)

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*The HalftownMustGo campaign is organized by people of the U.S. living on Gayogghó:nq' land, working in relationships of care with Gayogghó:nq' citizens and governance. We take collective action to prompt President Biden and his administration to meet with the Council of Chiefs and heed the Gayogghó:nq' removal of Clint Halftown. Visit [HalftownMustGo.org](https://HalftownMustGo.org).*