



The City of Lowell
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Henri B. Marchand
Director
Office of Cultural Affairs and Special Events

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*
FROM: Henri Marchand, Director
DATE: April 14, 2020
RE: Update to C. Nuon - Req. Req. Provide An Update Regarding The Bicentennial Planning Effort Of The City

The Cultural Affairs and Special Events office has convened a committee with representation by various historic and cultural groups to develop a concept for Bicentennial events that would lead up to the 2026 anniversary of the City's incorporation as a town.

The committee has also looked at ways that the Bicentennial roll-up can be used to not only celebrate milestones in Lowell's development over the last two centuries but to target and direct energy towards a larger vision and an ambitious goal for what Lowell can become over the next five to two-hundred years.

There is also consensus to incorporate the early history of farming and Native American communities that called this area home prior to the industrial era. At present there is a wealth of ideas and suggestions that will be considered and distilled into the vision and concept with a target of submitting this to the Administration and Council this spring.

On the ground level, member Dick Howe has secured a couple of url web addresses that can be used for a Lowell 200 web page to centralize Bicentennial updates, plans, historic milestones and other information specific to Lowell's history over the last 200+ years.

Currently the committee has representatives from the National Park, Historic Board, Tsongas Industrial History Center, The Lowell Plan, Middlesex Community College, Greater Merrimack Valley CVB, Lowell Historical Society and Greater Lowell Community Foundation. We will reach out to add representatives of the Native American community and groups whose historical interests include pre-industrial farming communities.

With time on our side, we look forward to developing an exciting and unique concept for celebrating Lowell's Bicentennial that will serve as a roadmap to 2026 and beyond.

Please let me know if you would like further information at this time.