



Historic exchange returns wampum belt to Onondaga Nation

by [Daniel Scharfenberger](#)

Posted: 06.12.2012 at 12:34 PM

[save](#)

[send](#)

[print](#)

Read more: [Local Onondaga Nation Wampum Belt](#), [Onondaga Nation Wampum Belt](#), [Syracuse Wampum Belt Exchange](#), [Replica Wampum Belt](#)

SYRACUSE -- The Onondaga Nation had an historic wampum belt returned to them.

It happened Tuesday morning at the Onondaga Historical Association.

The original belt was exchanged for a replica that was made by a Nation Faithkeeper.

It finished a series of returns to the nation, which included ancestral bones for proper burial.

Wampum belts were very important to the Haudenosaunee.

They were used to make treaties and record historic events.

For the Onondaga Nation, it's a first step in trying to recover treasured items from their history.

Tadadaho Sidney Hill is a spiritual leader for the nation. Hill says, "We see some of our belts being auctioned on the internet, people just don't understand that they are our sacred objects. Instead they are treated as objects."

Onondaga Nation leaders hope this will encourage people to return sacred artifacts back to their people.

