



# Land Acknowledgement

“It is appropriate to provide a land acknowledgement at the beginning of an event or gathering. Those delivering the acknowledgement are encouraged to form deeper connections and grow their knowledge of the original people of the land. To avoid land acknowledgements becoming rote or repetitive and losing significance, acknowledgements should come from a personal place – a solid understanding and appreciation of the land, the language and the people.”

– Indigenous Ally Toolkit

When doing land acknowledgments the following things are important for consideration: Asking if anyone in the room is from the local *kwáan*(s) or people of lands on which the acknowledgement is being given. Stating the intended purpose of the gathering and asking for permission to host the meeting. Naming who’s land you are on. This acknowledgment should include both the local *kwáan*(s) who has been there since time immemorial as well as those Indigenous groups displaced due to colonization. Naming what happened on that land.

[Example particular to Southeast region]

We reside on the unceded territories of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian and acknowledge these Peoples have been stewards of this land since time immemorial and we are grateful for that stewardship and incredible care.

We recognize the series of unjust actions that attempted to remove them from their land, which includes forced relocations and the burning of villages. We honor the relationships that exist between Lingít Peoples, their lands, their ancestors, and future generations.

We aspire to work toward healing and liberation, recognizing our paths are intertwined in the complex histories of colonization in Alaska. We acknowledge that we arrived here by listening to the peoples & elders & lessons from the past and these stories carry us as we weave a healthier world for future generations.

Ongoing recommendations...

\*Create relationships with Indigenous Peoples\*Learn the histories of the land and speak to the erasure of those stories\*Take action! There is no end to the learning process AND paralleling the learning with action is critical to support Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination\*Review and use the Haa Tóoch Lichéesh Preparing for the Work document.