

Sample Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Land Acknowledgements



Land acknowledgements offer a commitment to understanding local history and Native homelands, as well as the treaties, tribal status, and the governance of an area. There is no single correct way to acknowledge indigenous lands and territories. As such, land acknowledgements should be carefully planned and customized by situation. For example, they can be read aloud at gatherings or meetings, posted in meeting spaces, shared online, and included in printed materials. These sample statements are examples for the Alutiiq homeland which can serve as inspiration for your own land acknowledgement:

- We are gathered on the traditional homeland of the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people.
- (NAME HERE) acknowledge(s) that we are gathered in the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq homeland. We thank and acknowledge the ten tribes of the Kodiak Alutiiq Region. The heritage and culture of the Alutiiq people continue to enrich our communities.
- Where we gather today is in the ancient homeland and traditional territory of the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people. The name Kodiak is based on the Alutiiq word Qik’rtaq, meaning Island. I/We recognize the complex history and rich culture of our Native community, and ask you to join me/us in honoring the families and tribal members still connected to this land.
- I/We would like to acknowledge that the land we live, work, learn, and gather on is the original homeland of the Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people. We acknowledge the painful history of colonization and genocide in our area, and the resilience of the Alutiiq families who make up an important part of our community today. I/we believe it is important to state this land acknowledgement because (insert personal comment here). (Example for the last sentence: “...because I grew up here and never learned about the true history of this place. I think it is important for us to learn that history and learn about modern Alutiiq culture too.”)

Learn more about and acknowledgements at: <http://landacknowledgements.org/>