

AASB Resolution Submission Form

Section (Click the drop down arrow to select the section) : Governance

Resolution Number (staff generated) : 1.13

Title: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Proposed Resolution, Amendment or Comment: (please write your new resolution, an amendment to an existing resolution or a comment concerning a resolution in this text box. Rationale for a new or amended resolution is on the next page.)

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

AASB honors and respects the Indigenous peoples of Alaska upon whose customary land all Alaskans live, work, play, and learn and encourage activities and practices that acknowledge and recognize the past and present stewardship of these lands.

AASB supports the following:

1. Having a Land Acknowledgment spoken, for all to hear, on a regular basis, including but not limited to its official meetings, conferences, celebrations, and gatherings.
2. Working with local Tribes to identify appropriate wording for a Land Acknowledgment.
3. Encouraging member School Boards to add a Land Acknowledgment before official meetings, conferences, celebrations, and gatherings, and to invite a tribal leader when available to welcome the event.

Rationale :

“A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement recognizing the Indigenous people of a place. It is a public gesture of appreciation for the past and present Indigenous stewardship of the lands that we now occupy. Land Acknowledgment opens a space with gratefulness and respect for the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspective of Indigenous peoples. It is an actionable statement that marks our collective movement towards decolonization and equity.” Anchorage Museum

A. Almost 20% of Alaska’s population identifies as American Indian or Alaska Native, by far the highest of any state.

B. A Land Acknowledgment opens a space with gratefulness and respect for the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspective of Indigenous peoples. It is an actionable statement that marks our collective movement towards decolonization and equity.

C. Alaska Native Tribes and their descendants have lived and subsisted on Alaska’s lands and waters for thousands of years.

D. These lands and waters have been cared for through traditions passed from generation to generation.

Proposed by : Margo Bellamy

Date Submitted (M/D/YY) : June 24, 2021

