

Pat Pitney

President

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UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

RE: In celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 10, 2022

Dear UA Community,

Today we celebrate and honor the Indigenous peoples of Alaska. Their stories serve as examples of innovation, resilience and perseverance to us all. We also acknowledge the Alaska Native nations upon whose ancestral lands our universities, campuses and research sites are located.

The university is proud to partner with Alaska's Indigenous people to celebrate their rich culture, heritage, language, arts and businesses and how that shapes our state.

Although Indigenous Peoples' Day is observed on this day, we must strive every day to create effective change. We do this by expanding opportunities for learning Alaska Native languages, solidifying land acknowledgements across the system, redefining what Alaska Native success looks like, and providing a more welcoming and nurturing space for Alaska Native students, faculty, Elders, staff and community members.

We must not forget the past and significant hardships that Indigenous people have endured. Our challenge is to work every day to advance effective change so our tomorrow is more inclusive and thoroughly interdependent.

We stand in solidarity with Alaska's Native peoples in celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Sincerely,

Pat Pitney
UA President