ANCHORAGEIS DENAINA ELNENA

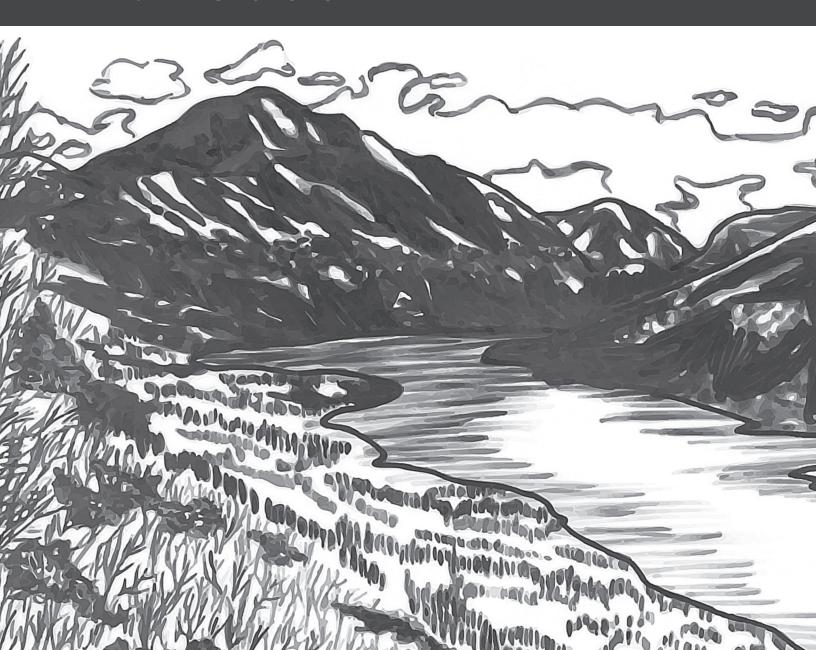


For thousands of years, the Dena'ina people have cared for this place now known as Anchorage. Their sustainable and symbiotic relationships with the animals, waters and land has made Anchorage what it is today. These relationships are embedded in the Dena'ina language.



INDLU BENA

PLURAL OBJECTS LAKE



As a step toward reconciliation, we acknowledge Indigenous stewardship and histories.

Land Acknowledgement is about opening a space with gratefulness towards Indigenous people. It is also about personal work and self-examination.



ŁI TA'A GHINI

THAT GLACIER WATER



When considering our relationship to Anchorage, we must also consider our relationship to Indigenous peoples.

What knowledge do I have of Indigenous histories? What ongoing actions am I taking to recognize present Indigenous experience?



HUTEN ASCENDING TRAIL

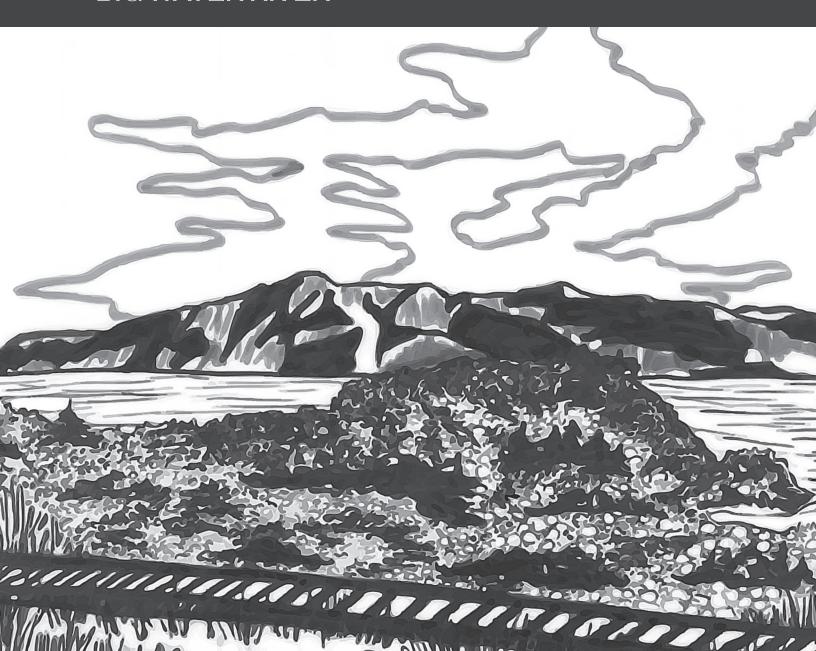


Just as it is our responsibility to understand modern governance of a place, it is also our responsibility to understand the Indigenous people of a place.



TIKAHTNU

BIG WATER RIVER

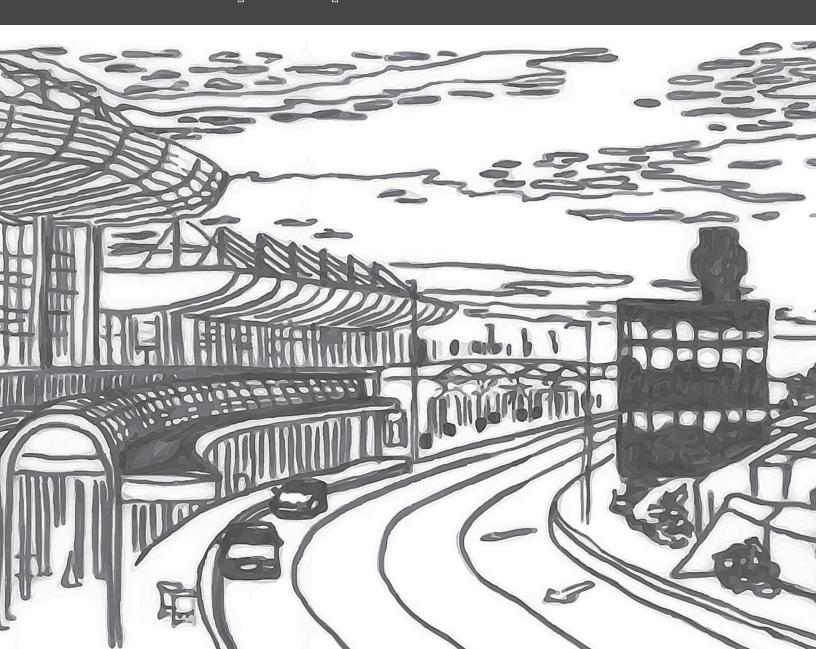


The work is ours to be done, because everywhere in Alaska there is, and always will be, Indigenous land.



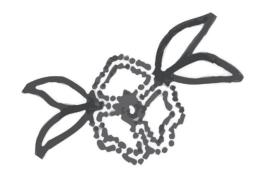
NIŁKIDAL'Y

THE ONES [LAKES] THAT ARE JOINED TOGETHER



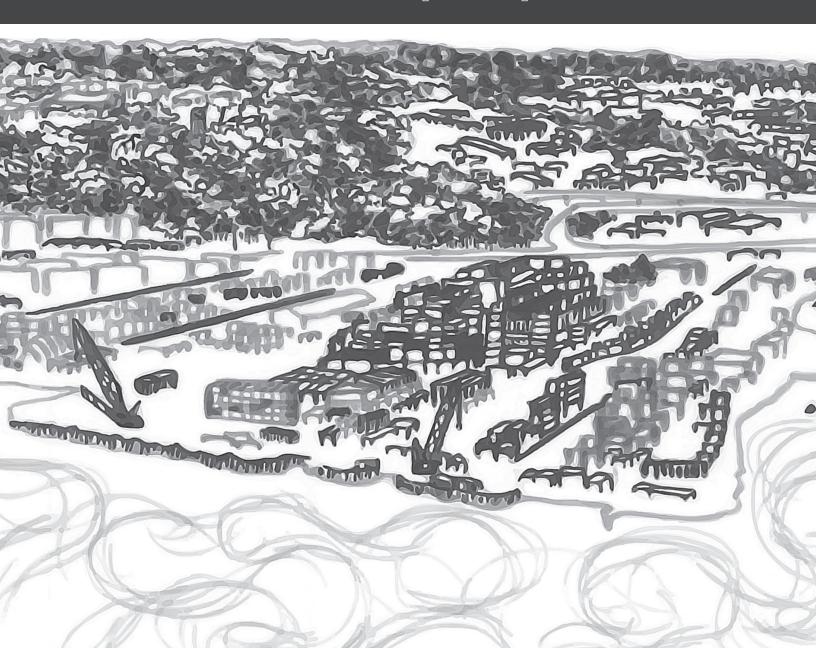
When writing your own Land Acknowledgement, consider the work you need to do.

Learn about the Indigenous people of the place you now occupy. Do the work to understand their governance and sovereignty. Reach out respectfully and commit to ongoing actions of reconciliation. Finally, within your Land Acknowledgement, state your reasoning for embracing this movement.



DGHEYEY KAQ'

MOUTH OF NEEDLE FISH [CREEK]



In times of great change, we are all learning. This zine, artwork, and content will likely change as well.

Your Land Acknowledgement should be part of your continual learning of the histories and present experiences of Indigenous peoples.

It is important during this process that we openly accept correction without defensiveness.



NUCH'ISHTUNT

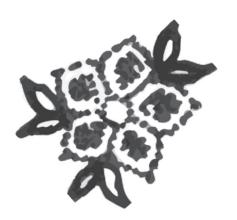
WIND PROTECTED



Land Acknowledgement is about recognizing and thanking Indigenous people for their sustainable care and way of life in a place.

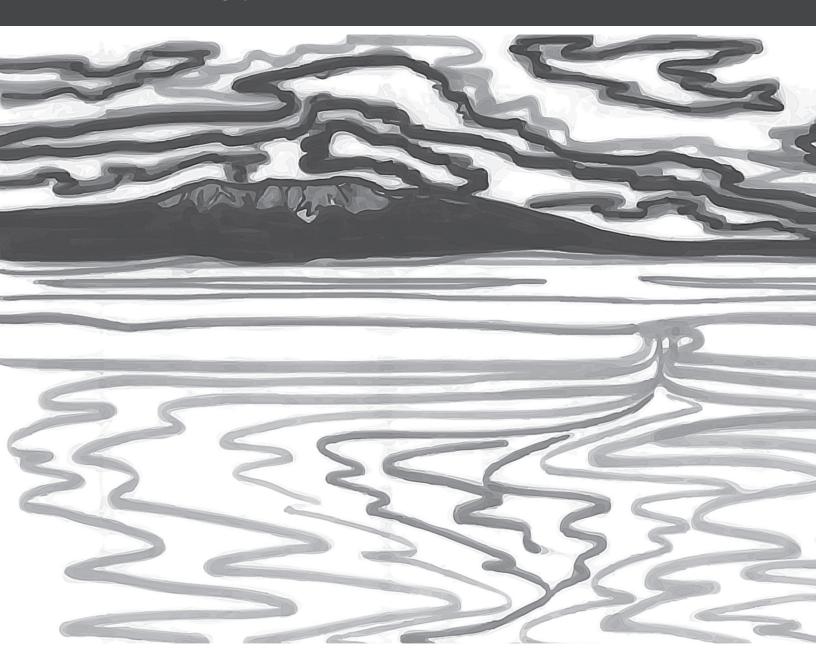
Anchorage is, and always will be, Dena'ina elnena, Dena'ina homeland.

China'an. Thank you.



DGEHLISHLA

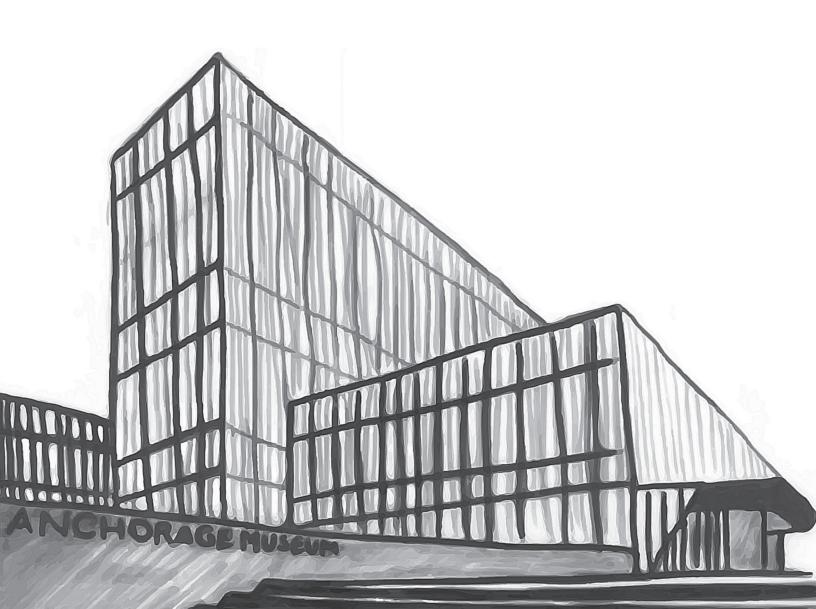
LITTLE MOUNTAIN



NOTES OF GRATITUDE

Draft your own Land Acknowledgement or add your own reflections on recognition of land, language and Indigenous peoples.





Anchorage is Dena'ina elnena. Dena'ina homeland is Anchorage.

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Artwork and content created by Melissa Shaginoff in collaboration and with the Native Village of Eklutna and the Anchorage Museum

Additional support provided by:



