

**Indigenous Land Acknowledgement
Wayland Human Rights, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
Committee Report Under Article 27**

“Today, as we begin, we would like to acknowledge the following Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional homelands we live, work and gather today: the Massachusett, the Nipmuc, the Wampanoag, and the Pawtucket. We acknowledge their ancestors, particularly Karto of the Massachusett tribe, who was steward of much of the land now encompassing Sudbury and Wayland when European settlers arrived to colonize this place in 1638. We seek to understand, acknowledge, and remember the painful, ongoing history of war, genocide, and forced removal of Indigenous peoples by European settlers. And we offer a living celebration of the Indigenous communities who are not just part of the past, but who continue to live and make new history here today. May we all commit to deepening our relationships with Indigenous communities and to being their allies in working for justice.”

This land acknowledgment is read aloud before every meeting of the Wayland Human Rights, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (HRDEIC). It was originally created for the panel presentation, *The Public History of King Philip's War*, which took place in the Wayland Free Public Library and is available for viewing.*

Land acknowledgments are important for non-Indigenous people because they draw attention to the history of the land we reside on, help us understand our place in that history, and sensitize us to the forces of colonialism and oppression today. A land acknowledgment is a starting point for learning, reflection and action. Below are some resources to help you get started or continue your journey.

Learning

- A Guide to Indigenous Land Acknowledgment: <https://nativegov.org/news/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>
- Honor Native Land: A Guide and Call to Acknowledgment: <https://usdac.us/nativeland>
- Native Land Digital: <https://native-land.ca>
- Mass Center for Native American Awareness: <https://www.mcnaa.org>
- North American Indian Center of Boston: <http://www.naicob.org>
- United American Indians of New England: <http://www.uaine.org>
- Cothutikut Mattakeesett Massachuset Tribe: <https://www.mattakeesett.com/history>
- Tribal Government of the Nipmuc Nation: <https://www.nipmucnation.org>
- Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe: <https://mashpeewampanoagtribe-nsn.gov>

* *The Public History of King Philip's War*, Wayland Free Public Library, October 4, 2021:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbugEfHE4jM>

→ See other side

Reflection

- **21-Day Racial Equity Indigenous Challenge**

<https://www.debbyirving.com/21-day-indigenous-challenge/#challenge-tabs-0>

Curated by Eddie Moore, Jr., Debby Irving, Marguerite Penick-Parks, and Claudia A. Fox Tree (Arawak), Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness (MCNAA) board member

- **21-Day National Native American Heritage Equity Habit Building Challenge**

<https://www.americanbar.org/groups/diversity/resources/celebrating-heritage-months/celebrating-native-american-heritage-month/21-day-native-american-heritage-equity-challenge/>

American Bar Association

Action

- Support the MA Indigenous Legislative Agenda: <http://mainindigenousagenda.org>
- Support Indigenous Peoples Day: <http://www.indigenouspeoplesdayma.org>
- Support Indigenous organizations by donating your time or money.
- Support returning land to Indigenous Americans: <https://resourcegeneration.org/land-reparations-indigenous-solidarity-action-guide/>

Wayland Human Rights, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Web: <https://www.wayland.ma.us/human-rights-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-committee>

Email: HRDEImembers@wayland.ma.us

Wayland Annual Town Meeting 2023

