
Declaration on the Safeguarding of Indigenous Ancestral Burial Grounds as Sacred Sites and Cultural Landscapes

ENDORSEMENTS

Dec. 10, 2014 - Dec. 10, 2015

ORGANIZATIONS

Ahousaht First Nation, Maaqtusiis, British Columbia — The Hawiith (Hereditary Chiefs): Maquinna, Tyee Hawilth, A-in-chut, Tlakishsweah

American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. — Edward Liebow, Executive Director

Archaeological Legacy Institute, Eugene, Oregon — Richard M. (Rick) Pettigrew, Ph.D., RPA, President and Executive Director

Assembly of First Nations BC Region, Kamloops, British Columbia — Maureen Grant, Senior Policy Advisor

BC Association of Professional Archaeologists, North Vancouver, British Columbia — Ginelle Taylor (President), Derek O'Neill (Vice-President), Kim Christenson (Secretary), Melissa Cutting (Treasurer), Sarah Smith (First Director), and Jeff Wilson (Second Director)

Canadian Archaeological Association — Lisa Rankin, President, St. John's, Newfoundland

The David Suzuki Foundation, Vancouver, British Columbia — Peter Robinson, CEO

First Nations Leadership Council, Vancouver and Kamloops, British Columbia — Maureen Grant, Senior Policy Advisor, Assembly of First Nations BC Region

First Nations Summit Society, Vancouver, British Columbia — Colin Braker, Communications Coordinator

First Peoples Worldwide, Fredericksburg, Virginia — Rebecca Adamson, President and Founder

International Society of Ethnobiology, Bristol, Vermont — Alain Cuerrier, President

“The Declaration represents a fair and thoughtful perspective that addresses important local and global IP issues of both immediate and long-term significance. Every such instrument, whether local, regional or international that gives recognition to these and related issues is a step forward.”

International Society of Ethnobiology Board of Directors and Council of Elders

Kleanza Consulting Ltd., Vancouver, British Columbia — Jennifer Lewis, Vice-President, Archaeologist and Amanda Marshall, President, Archaeologist

Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan — William James Johnson, Chairman

POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, Victoria, British Columbia — Oliver Brandes (MSc, LLB) and Kelly Bannister (PhD), Co-Directors

Salt Spring Islanders for Justice and Reconciliation, Salt Spring Island, British Columbia — Phil Vernon, Chair

Skowkale First Nation, Chilliwack, British Columbia — Skowkale Council (Jeffrey Point, Sam Archie, Rita Sepass, Dustin Hall, Chief Willy Hall)

Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C. — Jeffrey H. Altschul, PhD, RPA, President

Society of Africanist Archaeologists — Scott MacEachern, President, Brunswick, Maine

Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation, Savona, British Columbia — Chief Ron Ignace (Skeetchestn Indian Band), Chief Fred Seymour (Tk'emlups te Secwepemc) and the Joint Council of the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation, via Leonard Jackson, Executive Director, Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation

Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Vancouver, British Columbia — President Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Vice-President Chief Bob Chamberlin and Secretary-Treasurer Chief Judy Wilson

Westbank First Nation Title and Rights Office, Kelowna, British Columbia — Nancy Bonneau, MA, Title and Rights Researcher, Archaeology Supervisor, Westbank First Nation

World Archaeological Congress — WAC Council, via Akira Matsuda, WAC Executive Secretary

“We endorse the Declaration and all motions that promote equitable treatment of all people, and their ownership over their pasts, presents, and future.”

Kleanza Consulting Ltd.

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“Memorialization and funerary treatment, including burial of the dead, constitutes a universal and exclusively human characteristic and need. It is an expression of humanity equivalent to the use of fire, language, tools, food sharing, and bipedal locomotion. It is Homo sapiens’ distinct realization of human dignity.”

Michael L. Blakey

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“The indigenous understanding that some things are beyond monetary valuation because they are sacred is a great gift in these times when we are on a rampage to exploit the planet. Thank you for reminding us of what really matters with this Declaration. I am honoured and grateful to support it.”

David Suzuki

