



DECLARATION

WE THE MUSQUEAM, TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, AND SQUAMISH NATIONS HAVE LIVED THE MEMORIES OF OUR GATHERINGS AND CELEBRATIONS UPON THIS LAND SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL. IT IS OUR INTENTION THROUGH OUR TEACHINGS AND TRADITIONS TO CELEBRATE TOGETHER AS ONE FAMILY TO RENEW OUR ANCIENT CONNECTIONS.

WE WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR ANCESTORS TO PROTECT AND SUSTAIN THE LAND THAT IS OUR LEGACY. WE WALK THIS LAND IN OUR TRADITIONS AND OUR STRENGTH, ACROSS OUR TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES THAT TOGETHER STRETCH FROM MOUNTAIN PEAK TO RIVER DELTA. WE HAVE PROTECTED OUR HOME SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL AND WILL STAND TOGETHER UNITED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

WE ARE NOT INVISIBLE ON OUR OWN LANDS BUT ARE A THRIVING VIBRANT PEOPLE THAT ARE CONNECTED TO THE LAND THROUGH OUR SPIRITUAL, CULTURAL, AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE.

WE ARE

TSLEIL-WAUTUTH

SQUAMISH

MUSQUEAM

The three Nations of Musqueam, Tsleil-waututh, and Squamish encompass vast traditional territories that taken together include the City of Vancouver downtown core. Our Nations, as part of the Coast Salish families, are each connected through ancestral names, tradition, culture, and spirit, just as we are connected to this land that has been our home since time immemorial. It is through these connections that we celebrate who we are as family. It is our coming together united in times of celebration and times of sorrow that we call on our traditional teachings to guide us.

Our Nations have never ceded our lands and it is through the strength of our Ancestors that we unite to continue in their footsteps to create a legacy for future generations. We look to the past to guide our future recognizing the respect and unity that comes from our teachings.

It is with one voice that we awaken the names, village sites, and language of our three Nations upon this land. We share a history that is not forgotten and it is through the strength of knowing who we are and where we come from that we reinvigorate our connections. Each Nation has built on the strength of who they are and together we call on the traditions that have seen us through the changes that have been imposed upon our traditional territories. Our connection to the land is strong, coming from our spirit and traditions and we can never be separated from this connection.