



ID: 285  
DATE: 2021-07-27 21:46:55  
FROM: [REDACTED]  
TO: [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: Fwd: Land Acknowledgement  
MAILBOX: /Volumes/DISK\_IMG/FOIA\_Request\_March\_2024\_Email--[REDACTED]-c\_uhJh.mbox

We begin by acknowledging that we meet on traditional tribal lands. The Illinois Education Association honors America's First people and all elders, past, present and emerging and we are called on to learn and share what we learn about the tribal history, culture, and contributions that have been suppressed in telling the story of America

Today, I wish to acknowledge that here in Frankfort, Illinois; I am standing on the intersection of traditional Peoria, Kaskaskia, Kickapoo, Miami, Potawatomi, and Sioux Land.

For the purpose of this acknowledgement, I would like to lift up the systemic racism suffered by our Potawatomi brothers and sisters.

The 1833 Treaty of Chicago established the conditions for the removal of the Potawatomi from the Great Lakes area. When Michigan became a state in 1837, more pressure was put on the Potawatomi to move west. The hazardous trip killed one out of every ten people of the approximately 500 Potawatomi involved. As news of the terrible trip spread, some bands, consisting of small groups of families, fled to northern Michigan and Canada. Some also tried to hide in the forests and swamps of southwestern Michigan. The U.S. government sent soldiers to round up the Potawatomi they could find and move them at gunpoint to reservations in the west. This forced removal is now called the Potawatomi Trail of Death, similar to the more familiar Cherokee Trail of Tears.

In recent days we learned that more than 751 people bodies of native men women and children were discovered at the site of the former Marieval Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan Canada. In what can only be categorized as a genocide. This is a bleak reminder that the native people across the globe have endured trauma that spans 100's of year.

We ask that you take a moment of silence and acknowledge the First People of Illinois – We honor America's First People and all elders, past, present and emerging.

> Begin forwarded message:

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> From: [REDACTED]

> Subject: Land Acknowledgement

> Date: July 19, 2021 at 1:59:40 PM CDT

> To: [REDACTED]

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