



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 113
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ATU Local 113 Land Acknowledgement

We honour the Anishinaabeg, and all peoples of First Nations descent, including the Métis, Inuit, and the diverse Indigenous Peoples across the continent. From the beginning of time, they have long established unique worldviews, traditions, and ways of living. They have lived in harmony with Mother Earth, acknowledging the sustenance it provides us all, through its gifts of food and shelter.

We honour the Anishinaabeg and other Indigenous tradespeople and transit professionals who work among us at ATU Local 113 and the TTC. And beyond our workplace, we celebrate the many significant contributions of Indigenous Peoples on this continent, and the world - in every walk of life. We have much to learn about them, and from them.

Since First Contact with the Settlers, many treaties were made - and were not honored. The process of colonization resulted in many infringements that affected the lifestyle and way of life of Indigenous Peoples.

Some of the greatest impacts that Indigenous Peoples have experienced include: The creation of Indian Reserves. The Indian Act. The Residential School Systems. The Sixties Scoop or the apprehension of Indigenous children. The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. A biased and inequitable Crown-based legal system. Systemic Racism. Environmental Racism.

Through these legal and social instruments, the Crown and Settlers were able to implement and enforce cultural, social, and economic genocide of Indigenous Peoples.

Yet, through their resilient spirit, Indigenous Peoples keep their rich traditions, religious beliefs, and languages alive as they rebuild their communities for future generations to thrive. Many have moved into large cities, like Toronto; obtained technical and administrative skills, and contribute greatly to the organizations they work for, like the TTC, and to the cities they live in.

ATU Local 113 acknowledges that we are meeting in Tkaranto, or Toronto, which is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit. We also acknowledge that this traditional territory includes many nations: The Mississauga Anishinaabeg of the Credit, the Chippewa, Odawa, Ojibwe, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat Peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples.

About this statement:

As part of ATU 113's effort to reflect on our relations with Indigenous Peoples, this statement was created in consultation with Indigenous Members of the ATU Local 113 who participated in the Indigenous History Month 2021, with guidance from an Indigenous Spiritual Elder. This is a living document and can be updated as needs are identified by members.

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