

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

"Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished." Chief Seattle 1854

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is within the ancestral territory of the suq<sup>w</sup>abš "People of Clear Salt Water" (Suquamish People). Expert fisherman, canoe builders and basket weavers, the suq<sup>w</sup>abš live in harmony with the lands and waterways along Washington's Central Salish Sea as they have for thousands of years. Here, the suq<sup>w</sup>abš live and protect the land and waters of their ancestors for future generations as promised by the Point Elliot Treaty of 1855.

