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2023 RES-303  
CREATING A LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR DANE COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND  
DESIGNATING PLACEMENT OF THE LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT ON COUNTY BOARD  
AGENDAS

The Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes that every community owes its existence and vitality to numerous generations who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. We acknowledge that some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hopes of a better life, and some were brought here against their will.

We recognize that truth and acknowledgement are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of culture, heritage, and difference.

Wisconsin is home to 11 federally-recognized Native American sovereign nations. We acknowledge these First Nations Indigenous communities who have stewarded this land through many generations, recognize their contributions and the resilience of their people, and pay respect to their elders past and present.

While land acknowledgement represents only one small part of supporting Indigenous communities, we commit to taking this step toward correcting the stories and practices that have misappropriated and erased the history and culture of Indigenous People and hope this action will inspire others to stand with us in solidarity with Indigenous People.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the following land acknowledgement to be placed directly below the existing equity questions at the top of all meeting agendas of the Dane County Board of Supervisors and all other County Board committees included in Chapter 7 of the Dane County Ordinances—County Board Rules:

“This meeting is being conducted on land now known and recognized as Dane County, Wisconsin. We acknowledge that this land is at the same time the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary land of the Ho-Chunk, Sauk and Kickapoo nations.”