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October 9, 2023

Dear UA Community,

Today, we commemorate and honor the rich histories and cultures of Alaska's Indigenous peoples. Their histories and stories continue to inspire us with their unwavering innovation, resilience, and perseverance. We also acknowledge that our universities, campuses, and research sites stand on the ancestral lands of the Alaska Native nations.

The University of Alaska System takes immense pride in our collaborative partnership with Alaska's Indigenous peoples. We celebrate the richness of their cultures, heritage, language, arts, and businesses, which all contribute to shaping the vibrant tapestry of our state. As president, I personally am very grateful for the partnerships and unique, individual relationships our universities have with Alaska Native people across the state. They allow us to truly empower success, and support opportunities for Indigenous people everywhere.

While Indigenous Peoples' Day is a special occasion on our calendar, our pledge is to strive for