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UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

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Dear UA Community –

On Oct. 8 we celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day, which honors the cultures and contributions of Alaska Native people, and acknowledges how Indigenous knowledge has enhanced, and will continue to influence, the educational opportunities provided across the UA system.

On every campus, events will recognize the diversity and the distinct Indigenous traditions that help make us one Alaska. I hope that as you participate in these celebrations you remember the ridge called Troth Yeddha’, where the cornerstone for our university was first laid. This ridge served as a place for the Dene (Athabascan) residents of Interior Alaska to gather at inspiring place. For more than 100 years, the university has been engaged in multiple initiatives to honor that rich tradition and educate Native students. It is our commitment to continue to do so.

As we celebrate this special day, let us renew our commitment to the future of Alaska’s Native people and work together to turn that commitment into opportunity.

Best Regards,

Jim Johnsen

President, University of Alaska