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Reconciliation Commitment

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, PoCo Heritage acknowledges that

1. Harm has been inflicted on Indigenous communities in many ways including by heritage organizations.
2. The Indigenous peoples of Canada are the knowledge-keepers of their own history, heritage, and culture.
3. Indigenous peoples have a right to protect, preserve, and share their heritage according to their own principles.¹

In light of these guiding principles, PoCo Heritage commits to work to

1. Establish and maintain mutually respectful, responsible and welcoming relationships with Indigenous peoples.
2. Gain more knowledge and cultural awareness about, with, and from Indigenous peoples
3. Involve Indigenous communities whose culture and stories may be included in programs or displays
 - a. From the planning stages to the final product
 - b. In a meaningful, humble, respectful, and culturally sensitive way
 - c. With Indigenous partners taking decision-making roles and not only acting as consultants
4. Ensure objects related to the material culture of any First Nation community are not collected or displayed without the consent and meaningful involvement of the community being represented.
5. Put right any pre-existing displays, programs, collections, policies, and procedures that do not follow the above principles.
6. Preserve to the best of our ability and hold in trust any pre-existing collections of First Nations cultural material until such time that these can be repatriated.
7. Repatriate First Nations cultural objects according to the guidelines of the *Repatriation Policy and Procedure* and respond to requests in a sensitive and timely manner.

¹ See [The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People \(UNDRIP\)](#), Article 32