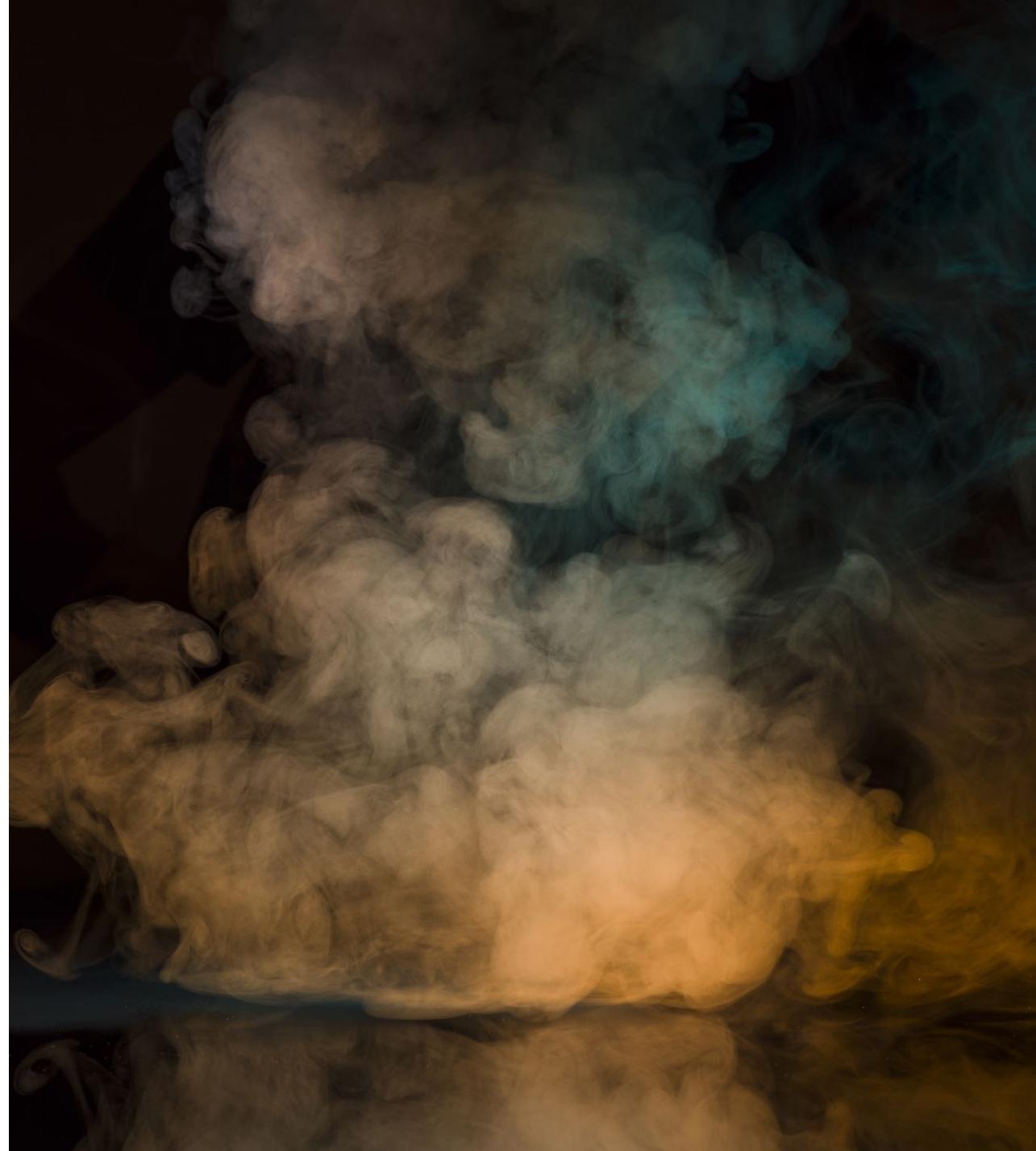


Changing Legacies:
First Light Learning Journey
for Board Members

Reading List



A note on readings

As you prepare for each *Changing Legacies* session, please set aside an hour to review the readings, podcasts, maps, and other resources in this document. We'll update course participants with materials two weeks before each session.

Each session includes a foundational set of resources, which should require no more than an hour to explore. We also offer a “deep dive” for each session if you have more time and interest to delve further into this topics.

These resources are all publicly available. Please reach out to ellie@firstlightmaine.org with any questions or issues around accessing resources.

Session 1: Setting Intention, Coming Together

Getting oriented to place

- [Wabanaki Today](#) - Arc GIS Map created by the Abbe Museum

Getting oriented to people

- [Wabanaki History](#) – Introduction to federally-recognized tribes from the Wabanaki Alliance
- [Wabanaki Commission Nil yut ktahkomiq nik](#) – Mission statement of the Wabanaki Commission
- [Invitation to Collective Action](#) – Overview and intentions of organizations working together as First Light

Challenging old narratives

- [This Land is Whose Land](#) – “If this is your first encounter with concepts like Native sovereignty, aboriginal title, and federal recognition, this article is for you...” by Mali Obomsawin

Session 1: Deep Dive

Deeper dive into the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act, through the lens of Passamaquoddy history and presence in this land

- [Unsettled](#) – a 32-part series on by journalist Colin Woodard, published in the Portland Press Herald

How do Maine students learn (or not) about Wabanaki history and presence?

- [The Wabanaki Studies Law: 21 Years After Implementation](#) – a 2022 report from the Abbe Museum, ACLU of Maine, Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission, and Wabanaki Alliance outlining patchy implementation

Challenging old narratives (Holiday Edition)

- [The Real Thanksgiving Story](#) – History reassessed, an excerpt by Roxane Dunbar-Ortiz and Dino Gilia-Whitaker

Session 2: Healing Begins with Truth – Training Day with Wabanaki REACH

Heather Augustine and Barbara Kates from Wabanaki REACH shared these materials for participants to read in advance of *Pt 1. Healing begins with truth* and *Pt 2. Truth opens opportunities and responsibilities in our organizations*.

- [Land Back and the Passamaquoddy Tribe](#)- Dawnland Signals episode featuring hosts Maria Girouard and Esther Anne, and guests Donald Soctomah and Dale Mitchell.
- [Shifting to a Culture of Decolonization in Conservation Communities](#)– Post by Erica Buswell on Wabanaki REACH blog

Session 2: Deep Dive

[Beyond the Mandate: Continuing the Conversation - Report of the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth & Reconciliation Commission](#) - Wabanaki REACH began as the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission, tasked with uncovering the histories and experiences of Wabanaki youth with the state child welfare system, unearthing the truth to build towards healing. This is the expanded report from the Commission.

[This Land podcast, Season 2](#) - How do lawsuits around child adoption relate to Native sovereignty and the potential future use of Tribal lands and waters? Learn about how an ongoing dispute to the Indian Child Welfare Act, currently being heard in the Supreme Court, has implications for sovereignty, culture, oil & gas extraction, and more.



Session 3: A New Lens on Conservation

Increasing Wabanaki access to land goes hand-in-hand with conservation

- [Returning land to tribes is a step towards justice and sustainability, say Wabanaki, environmental activists](#)
– 2020 Maine Beacon article featuring quotes from many First Light collaborators

Even when returning land, conservation can still limit Indigenous decision-making around land

- [Let Native people decide regarding their traditional lands](#) –Peggy Berryhill digs into recent cases of land return, pointing out the persistence of conservation culture

Are there different ways to work in cross-cultural conservation?

- [Kihtahkomikumon](#)– 20-minute film from Sunlight Media Collective, depicting the return of Kuwesuwi Monihq and offering another way to work and think about land return



Session 3: Deep Dive

What are some dominant traits of conservation culture?

- [Becoming aware of cultural norms often seen in highly effective, white-led conservation organizations](#) – adapted from organizational culture work by Tema Okun

What have groups and individuals who work in cross-cultural conservation learned?

- [How to be an ally of Indigenous-led conservation](#) – core principles from conservation collaborations between First Nations and Canada
- [Essential Lessons](#) – reflections from Peter Forbes on First Light learnings

