

## RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS' "GOOD TROUBLE"

Intentionally amplifying collective Light (this is not boasting), informing "our" circle(s), sensing unity among Friends' communities, fueling the fires within, and ultimately responding to Spiritually dis\*stilled voices of Light

### **VOLUNTARY LAND TAXES** (including North Pacific Yearly Meeting)

**Background information**, sited on a prairies region webpage by [Native Governance Center](https://nativegov.org/voluntary-land-taxes/) - <https://nativegov.org/voluntary-land-taxes/>:

"Voluntary land taxes are growing in popularity on the West Coast: learn about what they are and how they can benefit Native communities.

"Voluntary land taxes function similarly to paying rent or a home mortgage. Our rent and mortgage payments give us access to living space; voluntary land taxes recognize our access to stolen Indigenous land. Each month (or on a set time interval), land tax participants pay an amount that goes directly to Native nations and/or organizations in their area. Some land tax programs are run by non-Indigenous residents working in partnership with Native nations and organizations; others are operated by Native-led nonprofits working toward Indigenous land return. Land taxes are not required and are entirely voluntary: it's up to program participants to determine how much and how often they'd like to contribute.

"Do any voluntary land tax programs exist in Mni Sota Makoce, North Dakota, or South Dakota? We're not currently aware of any programs in our area. If you find out about a land tax program in our region or decide to create one, tell us about it!"

**Shuumi Land Tax** (San Francisco East Bay area, Berkeley MM and Strawberry Creek MM areas) <https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/shuumi-land-tax/>

"The Shuumi Land Tax directly supports Sogorea Te's work of repatriation, returning Indigenous land to Indigenous people, establishing a cemetery to reinter stolen Ohlone ancestral remains and building urban gardens, community centers, and ceremonial spaces so current and future generations of Indigenous people can thrive in the Bay Area. Shuumi means gift in the Ohlone language Chochenyo."

See also:

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/dec/31/native-american-land-taxes-reparations>

**Wiyot Honor Tax (Far northern California)** (Humboldt MM is in this area)

<http://www.honortax.org/>

"The Honor Tax is a way of recognizing and respecting the sovereignty of Native Nations, and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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"This is a "tax" out of respect for Native Sovereignty - rather than a gift or donation. We all live on traditional Native homelands. If you do not live in Wiyot territory you can initiate an Honor Tax in your community!

"The Honor Tax was not in any way initiated by the Wiyot Nation, although they have formally agreed via their Tribal Council to accept the Honor Tax. The Honor Tax was initiated by individuals, organizations and businesses who want to actively recognize the sovereignty of the Wiyot tribe and their right to their traditional land.

"The Honor Tax is a voluntary annual tax paid directly to the Wiyot Nation by people who are on their traditional territories. The amount is decided by the individual."

### **Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program (North-Central Sierra Nevada area, epicenter of Gold Rush genocide - Grass Valley MM is in this area)**

<https://chirpca.org/ancestral-homelands>

"The Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program is a community generated initiative to support and uplift the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe, the original peoples of this land, through their tribally guided 501(c)(3) nonprofit CHIRP (California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project). Our goal is to raise visibility and awareness so all who work or live here can come together to honor the past and grow the future.

"Your voluntary monthly contribution recognizes the sovereignty of the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan and acknowledges their historic relationship with this land, their ancestral homelands.

"Payments can be structured as a percentage of monthly income or a flat monthly contribution."

**Sidenote:** California is also home to The Seventh Generation Fund -

<https://7genfund.org/> "Dedicated to Indigenous Peoples' self-determination and the sovereignty of Native nations."

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