



September 18, 2026

The Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce **unequivocally condemns the remarks directed toward Ketchikan Indian Community during this week's Planning Commission meeting.**

Racism, racial discrimination, and rhetoric that diminishes any individual, business, organization, or government because of race, ethnicity, culture, or identity have no place in Ketchikan.

Our community can and should have vigorous conversations about development, zoning, taxation, public policy, economic priorities, and the future of Ketchikan. We will not always agree, and those disagreements can be passionate.

But race should never be used to diminish, discredit, or delegitimize another person, organization, or community.

The Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce stands with our member, **Ketchikan Indian Community**, just as we stand with **ALL of our members**. At the same time, this principle extends far beyond Chamber membership. **Every person in our community deserves to be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness.**

Our mission is to advocate and educate on behalf of our members while promoting a healthy business climate that recognizes both Ketchikan's quality of life and its economic potential.

A healthy business climate depends on people feeling respected, welcomed, and able to participate fully in the economic and civic life of Ketchikan. Our vision is one of a strong and diversified economy, stable year-round employment, sustainable development, and a quality of life that attracts people, businesses, and investment to our community.

That vision must include everyone.

Our members include businesses, tribal organizations, nonprofits, governments, entrepreneurs, employers, and community partners who invest their time, resources, and energy into making Ketchikan stronger. No person should ever have to question whether they belong in the economic, civic, cultural, or community life of Ketchikan because of their race, ethnicity, culture, religion, gender, background, or identity.

Ketchikan's strength comes from the people, cultures, businesses, organizations, and perspectives that make up this community. Respecting diversity is not only consistent with our values; it is essential to the healthy business climate and quality of life our Chamber exists to promote.

Your Chamber's commitment is clear:

We support our members and community. We support those working to better Ketchikan. We support a community where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. And we reject racism and discrimination in any form.

Whether every person in our community deserves dignity, respect, and the opportunity to belong should never be one of them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Shaw", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Trevor Shaw

President

Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce