

## **AFKA's Truth and Reconciliation Commitment**

*Listening deeply. Walking gently. Standing in relationship.*

### **Walking Forward with Intention**

Reconciliation is a relationship built on truth, grounded in respect, and sustained through meaningful action. At AFKA, we are committed to honoring this relationship as we would the rhythm of a drumbeat..... steady, intentional, and guided by Indigenous voices, teachings, and leadership. It calls us to listen deeply, act with purpose, and move forward in harmony with those we stand beside.

#### **1. Honouring Indigenous Leadership and Ways of Knowing**

We will listen and learn from Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers, caregivers, youth, and community leaders. We commit to listening before we speak, learning before we act, and ensuring that Indigenous ways of knowing are valued and respected in every part of our work.

#### **2. Uplifting Culture, Language, and Identity**

We understand that for Indigenous children, culture is a birthright. We will support caregivers in creating safe spaces for children to stay connected to who they are, where they come from, and the Nations that hold them with love.

#### **3. Acknowledging Harm and Committing to Change**

We will name the harms caused by colonial systems and work to ensure that AFKA does not contribute to them. We support the implementation of the Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

#### **4. Walking in Relationship and Reciprocity**

We will build relationships based on trust, humility, and shared responsibility. We will honour protocol, offer gifts where appropriate, and hold space for Indigenous ways of gathering and sharing.

#### **5. Creating Space for Healing and Voice**

We will lift the voices of Indigenous caregivers and youth, and ensure their stories are heard, for insight and action. We will create spaces where truth can be spoken safely, and where grief, strength, and hope are all welcomed.

**With Gratitude and Responsibility**

We offer this commitment in a spirit of humility, knowing that reconciliation is not a destination, but a path. We understand that we will make mistakes, but we will not turn away from the work.

To the Indigenous children, families, and communities we serve and walk alongside: we are here to listen, to learn, and to change. We are honoured to walk this path with you, in good relationship, and in hope.

**Miyo-wîcêhtowin – Walking together in good relations.**