

T'Sou-ke Nation

Smart Energy Group



Providing Environmental Education to Southern Vancouver Island Since 10,000 BCE

LOGO EXPLANATION BY ARTIST MARK GAUTI

The Great Blue Heron has been a T'Sou-ke symbol for being a guardian or watchmen for a very long time. Before European contact great Blue herons had a much larger populations and often shared habitat with Coast Salish people due to village locations being close to rivers and streams where the herons fish. In the past war between different Pacific Northwest Coast tribes was common and herons would act as an alarm system and start flying and squawking if a war canoe or anything else was approaching the village. This is what makes the great blue heron the perfect symbol for a T'Sou-ke environmental education group.

The human face within the heron represents the T'Sou-ke Nation's connection to the surrounding environment and the ancient stories of when animals could take human form. The globe in the logo represents TSEG goals on raising awareness on global issues such as climate change.

In the present the species of great blue herons in T'Sou-ke territory are considered a species of special concern under the species at risk act which means that they are close to being endangered. The biggest threat to Blue Herons is human activity, so now the one who protected our villages for so long needs protection.