

Land Acknowledgment

We begin this gathering by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

Explanation

A Land acknowledgement is a customary practice of Indigenous Peoples. It is a sign of respect and reciprocity when entering, gathering and utilizing another's space and place. Indigenous Peoples continue this practice amongst their Nations. Today the practice is beginning to be understood and utilized to renew, respect, reconcile and reciprocate Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations. The practice also serves as a reminder of pre and post-European contact histories, treaty relations and obligations, as well as providing information for newcomers, now entering Indigenous territories. Today acknowledgements are used in opening announcements in schools, events, gatherings and meetings; that specifically recognize the Nations who hold treaty, right and title in the territory.