



Policy Type:	Foundation	Policy Number:	FN-05
Policy Title:	Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	Initial Policy Approval:	Feb 2019
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		Date of Next Review:	Oct 2024

The Lanark Highlands Public Library understands the need to recognize and embrace the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with Ontario’s Indigenous population, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

Section 1: Declaration

With this understanding, the Lanark Highlands Public Library acknowledges the First Peoples on whose traditional territories we live and work. We believe that acknowledging territory shows recognition of and respect for Indigenous Peoples, both in the past and the present. We believe that the territorial acknowledgements are not simply a *pro forma* statement made before a meeting; but a vital *part* of the business. We believe that recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations and are key to reconciliation.

The Lanark Highlands Public Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration at the beginning of all meetings held at the library.

“We, the Lanark Highlands Public Library, would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People.”