

# Personal Land Acknowledgements

Mini Guide



## What is a land acknowledgment?

A land acknowledgment demonstrates awareness of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit presence and land rights. It can subtly address colonial history – or speak the truth **LOUDLY**, and represent a small yet respectful step toward reconciliation.

## What does it do?

Sincere land acknowledgments foster positive relationships, trust, and respect by recognizing Indigenous territories, reminding us of our treaty obligations.

## **Considerations:**

If you miss the mark on a land acknowledgment it can feel scripted, rather than personal. An institutional requirement rather than an institutional reflection can make it feel tokenistic, and not meaningful or thoughtful.

## How long should it be?

A brief acknowledgment may be appropriate for some situations, but sometimes it is appropriate to add more intention and detail to them.

## **Guiding questions for writing:**

1. What territory do you currently live, learn, and work on?
2. What is your relationship to this territory? How did you come to be here?
3. Do you come from another territory that you would like to acknowledge?

4. How does this acknowledgment relate to the work that you are doing or hope to do?
5. What intentions do you have to disrupt and dismantle colonialism?
6. Where are you at on your journey?
7. What commitments to reconciliation have you made personally and professionally?

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