

Trent Lakes Public Library



Policy Type:	Foundational	Policy Number:	FN-05
Policy Title:	Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	Initial Policy Approval Date:	12-April-2019
		Last Review/Revision Date:	
		Year of Next Review:	2024

The Trent Lakes 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 Trent Lakes 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 is 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 Trent Lakes Public Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration at the beginning of all meetings held at the library.

We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Mississauga adjacent to Haudenosaunee Territory and in the territory covered by the Williams Treaty. Each day we greet and honour the original inhabitants of the land.

Section 2: Collection

The Trent Lakes Public Library will provide collections relating to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including books, audio and video materials. Our collection will include titles by and about First Nation communities, and will include titles presented in the First Nation Communities Read program.

Section 3: Services

The Trent Lakes Public Library will provide welcoming spaces and library services to Indigenous peoples, and share elements of First Nations culture with non-Indigenous persons.