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| Section: | | Foundation | | Section # : | FN |
| Topic: | | Truth and Reconciliation: Position Statement and Land Acknowledgement | | Sub-Section # : | FN-06 |

Position Statement

The Selwyn Public Library embraces the need for relationship building, inclusion and diversity. In light of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, we are committed to embarking on a journey of reconciliation by providing inclusive spaces and resources to promote sharing of information, ideas, culture and stories. As a repository of knowledge and natural gathering place, both in person and virtually, the Library plays an important role in facilitating awareness and public education on the history and ongoing impacts of colonialism on this land, and the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples, nations, and cultures in the face of colonial violence.

Our journey of reconciliation will be guided by the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#) and the [CFLA/FCAB Truth and Reconciliation Report and Recommendations](#).

Land Acknowledgment

Recognizing the land we stand on is an Indigenous protocol that has been practiced for many centuries. Researching and creating a land acknowledgment, to be shared before events, meetings, or gatherings, is an act of decolonization, gratitude and respect that recognizes the traditional territory of the Indigenous people who called the land home before the arrival of settlers and who are currently hosts to the gathering space.

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 acknowledgement is not simply a *pro forma* statement made before a meeting; but a vital part of the business.

The Selwyn Public Library is a gathering place where community comes together; to educate, to share stories, to explore new ideas and to consider fresh perspectives. It is through this unique position in our community that we support and promote truth and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

The Library, and we as individuals, have a deep desire to bring about change in our community and move forward together as diverse and inclusive peoples. Following consultation with Curve Lake First Nations, we have adopted the following Land Acknowledgement:

“We respectfully acknowledge that Selwyn Public Library is located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations.

Selwyn Public Library respectfully acknowledges that the Williams Treaties First Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters in perpetuity, and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come.

We are all Treaty people.”

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| History: | | | |
| Date of Original Board Motion: | December 14, 2021 | Motion # | 2022.008 |
| Date of Amendments: (if any) | | | |
| Date of Next Review: | | | |
| Attachments: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFLA Position Statement • Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action Link below • CFLA/FCAB Truth and Reconciliation Report and Recommendations Link below | | |
| https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls to Action English2.pdf https://cfla-fcab.ca/en/indigenous/trc_report/ | | | |