Indigenization, Decolonization or (Re)conciliation





Tips for Creating Meaningful Statements

Ask yourself, why?

What is my motivation for writing a land acknowledgement.

The Métis Homeland includes parts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C, Ontario, and N.W.T.

Use correct language.

Don't hide past realities. Remember that Indigenous people are still here and are thriving.

The First Nations whose traditional meeting grounds are in Saskatchewan are the Oceti Sakowin, Nahkawé, nêhiyawak and Denesûliné Nations. There are more than 630 First Nation communities in Canada. They represent 50 Nations and 50 language groups.

What is my end goal?

What actions do I hope listeners will take after hearing my words.

The Inuit Nunangat is made up of four regions; Inuvialuit, Nunavik, Nunatsiavut, and Nunavut.

Acknowledge the gifts.

Land acknowledgements can recognize and affirm Indigenous communities.

Relationships.

Make time to know the people of the land you are acknowledging.

"The buildings of USask are built on the footprints of Indigenous Ancestors." - Bob Badger, October 2022

What is my action plan?

How will I move forward with action statements made in my acknowledgement.

"The road we travel is equal in importance to the destination we seek. There are no shortcuts. When it comes to truth and reconciliation, we are forced to go the distance." - Senator Murray Sinclair, September 2019

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There are many historical Métis communities across the province of Saskatchewan. Some close to USask include, Prairie Ronde, Lac aux Canards and Batoche.

Recognize diversity.

Understand the land and people are as diverse as everyone in the room where you are speaking.

"A land acknowledgement should be an obligation." - Hayden King, October 2021

In the end, remember

Beginning the journey to engage in (re)conciliation is better than standing still. Move forward at your own pace.

The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning

