



Carleton Place Public Library

Policy Type:	Foundational	Policy Number:	FN-04
Policy Title:	Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	Initial Policy Approval Date:	September 2019
		Last Review/Revision Date:	September 2022
		Year of Next Review:	2026

The Carleton Place 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 Carleton Place 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 Carleton Place 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 unceded, unsurrendered territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg People. We are meeting on land that has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning. We are grateful to the generations of people who have been, and continue to be, stewards of this place."

Section 2: Collection

The Carleton Place 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, Metis, and Inuit communities, and will include titles presented in the First Nation Communities Read program.

Section 3: Services

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