



Canadian Primary Care Research Network
Réseau canadien de recherche en soins primaires

About the CPRN

The Canadian Primary Care Research Network (CPCRN) is an established interdisciplinary network of people who collaborate on generating solution-focused innovations in primary health care delivery. Our membership (researchers, clinicians, patients and policymakers) is Pan-Canadian, located on indigenous lands and territories.

Land Acknowledgement Resources

We would like to encourage members to continue sharing Land Acknowledgements at meetings and gatherings and offer this document as a resource to support their journey towards crafting more personalized statements.

We are grateful for the guidance and teachings of our Indigenous scholars but know we should not rely on them to help express our journey towards reconciliation. Each and everyone of us should commit to doing the work necessary to truly bring it about.

Land Acknowledgements should be ever evolving. We must take the time to learn the history, reflect on our own identities and path, give thanks for the land upon which we live and work as it continues to change, and ensure that actions back our words.

Reflective Questions to Ask Yourself:

- Who are the Indigenous people to whom this land belongs? What is their Nation and Native Nation affiliation? If need be, check with the group on how they like to be referenced, as language is personal.
- What is the history of the land and what are its related Treaties? Consider if the land is “ceded” or “unceded”. (Unceded means that the land was never legally ceded, or given up to the Crown, through a treaty or other agreement.)
- What are the names of some prominent Indigenous people who currently live in your community or are doing work in your field of interest?
- What Native-led organizations and nonprofits operate in your area and are there activities or initiatives you might highlight or take part in to help their cause?

From Land Acknowledgment to Action

- We are committed to giving Land Acknowledgements with purpose and humility to further reconciliation, but we aim to take action locally as well.
- We commit to using appropriate language to show respect and will ask questions when we are not sure.
- We will continually assess whether the CPRN is committing cultural appropriation in any way and seek to redress this.
- We commit to using the CPRN platform to seek out and amplify Indigenous voices and lived experience in healthcare.



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- We commit to regularly assessing and updating our Land Acknowledgements to ensure that they include action items that serve to support Indigenous communities.

Evolving to Create Meaningful Land Acknowledgements

Consider this indigenous circular framework from the Wabishki Bizhiko Skaanj (wah-bish-kih biish-ih-goo skaa-nch) Learning Pathway developed in partnership with the [Can-SOLVE CKD Network](#): Look, Listen, Learn and Lead, when creating a Land Acknowledgement.

- **In Looking** – we make a commitment to embrace vulnerability and possible discomfort in delivering a meaningful Land Acknowledgement and in so doing reflect upon our own identity to achieve cultural growth and competency.
- **In Listening** – we look at the history and understand the laws that were passed to bear witness to the dispossession of land and the disregard for The Great Binding Law (the law that connects us to Mother Earth and to each other and emphasizes living in harmony with the land and all peoples, always leading with kindness and respect).
- **In Learning** – we widen the lens of our understanding and commit to listening to voices we have not heard before to better appreciate tradition, including how the health of the land affects the health of its people.
- **In Leading** – we express gratitude for the land which allows us to thrive and think upon additional actions we can commit to going forward to support Indigenous communities.

| Resources | |
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| What is a Land Acknowledgement? | An Introduction to Land Acknowledgement |
| Why go beyond a Land Acknowledgement? | Article by Arts Midwest |
| Tool to Situate Yourself | Native Land Digital |
| Guide to Land Acknowledgements | City of Toronto |
| Guide to Acknowledging First Peoples & Traditional Territory (by Province) | Canadian Association of University Teachers |
| Alberta Teachers' Association - Walking Together Project | Indigenous Education and Walking Together |
| UBC Guide | Campus Environments / Land Acknowledgements |
| Sample Land Acknowledgement in French | Fondation Béati (Social Justice Foundation in QC) |
| Read more about Truth & Reconciliation | National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation |
| Land Acknowledgement Video Learning Series (4 part series) | Can-SOLVE CKD Network |
| The Great Binding Law | Turtle Lodge: International Centre for Indigenous Education and Wellness |