



A GUIDE TO ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

BASIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Humber Polytechnic is located within the traditional and treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Known as Adoobiigok, the “Place of the Alders” in Michi Saagiig language, the region is uniquely situated along Humber River watershed, which historically provided an integral connection for Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat peoples between the Ontario Lakeshore and the Lake Simcoe/ Georgian Bay regions. Now home to people of numerous nations, Adoobiigok continues to provide a vital source of interconnection for all.

RATIONALE

Beneath the contemporary surface of any territory are histories of belonging that have been erased, overlooked, contested and forgotten. Acknowledgement provides a simple, yet powerful way of recognizing histories that reach beyond colonization and the establishment of the Canadian state. Additionally, they increase awareness about the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and traditional territories, including practices and spiritualities that continue to develop in relationship with place today.

BEST PRACTICES

Acknowledgement - and the relationship development required to do it with integrity - should be an invitation to deeper analysis, relationship, and action. For, there's danger in acknowledgements that are delivered flatly as a set of obligatory words to be rushed through. Rather, acknowledgements should be personalized, grounded in authentic reflection, presence, and awareness of the territories, peoples, and histories we are naming. They should build relationships centred in action, so that we ask ourselves: How can I move from acknowledgements into relationship? What can I do to ensure that my work represents a commitment to Indigenous voices, stories, and perspectives, now and in the future?



HUMBER

Indigenous Education and Engagement

humber.ca/indigenous