

A GUIDE TO ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

RATIONALE

As the journey towards reconciliation at the university continues, and we strive to fulfill the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) calls to action, it is important that we continue to build relationships and engage in ongoing education.

Reconciliation and allyship is a continuous process and one that we all need to engage in fully. With this in mind, we must take every appropriate opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territory on which the university resides. Acknowledging the traditional territory is one way to express our respect, gratitude and appreciation for the Indigenous people who have inhabited and continue to live on the land we have been welcomed to share. It is recognition of their presence both in the past and the present. Recognition helps to create a welcome and safe environment for Indigenous students, their families and community members.

BEST PRACTICES

The only people who should welcome others to the territory are the First Nations people who are traditionally from that territory. All others would acknowledge the territory.

The host is the person who would typically acknowledge the territory.

The acknowledgment or welcome is usually the first item on the agenda.

WHEN SHOULD YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY?

Ambassador events

Course syllabi

Email signature
(including official emails to all students)

First day of classes

Graduations/convocation

Job postings

Newsletters

Orientation

Staff meetings and professional development sessions

UOIT website

Workshops

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT



EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY

Additional Resources:

Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation website: