



Acknowledging Traditional Territory

- Acknowledging territory is a way of honouring and showing respect for a group of people who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial.
- The only people who would *Welcome* to the Territory are the First Nations people who are traditionally/originally from that territory. The majority of school district personnel likely would *Acknowledge* Territory.
- Acknowledging territory is performed at any important function such as a school assembly, awards night, graduation, a celebration including Aboriginal communities etc. It can also be performed before an important meeting or presentation.
- The host is the person who would acknowledge territory, you would usually not ask a guest to acknowledge territory as it is not his/her function/event. It is not necessary to have an Aboriginal person acknowledge territory.
- Acknowledgement/Welcome is usually the first item on the agenda. (If you forget, just quickly acknowledge then, and don't worry about it!)
- For larger events it is always respectful to have a member of the local First Nation, preferably an Elder, perform a welcome, if possible. This would require an honorarium to be given to this person, to acknowledge his or her knowledge and respect within the community.
- Seek out the name of the traditional territory you will be on, if you are travelling to speak and work with people.



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Welcome everyone and thank you for being here. I would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the _____ First Nation.

The introduction is flexible, please introduce and welcome people as you naturally would, the important part in this protocol is the second sentence. Even this though can be worded in such a way as to be most natural for you.

****Important message:**

- To begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the _____ First Nation.
- Acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the _____ People.



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Stz'uminus	Snuneymuxw	Snaw Naw As
Davis Road	DAC/NDSS	Seaview
Ladysmith Primary	Cedar Secondary	Dover
Ladysmith Intermediate	John Barsby	McGirr
Ladysmith Secondary	Wellington	Pleasant Valley*
North Oyster	Woodlands	
	Learning Alternatives	
	Bayview	
	Brechin	
	Chase River	
	Cilaire	
	Cinnabar Valley	
	Coal Tyee	
	Departure Bay	
	Fairview	
	Forest Park	
	Frank J Ney	
	Gabriola	
	Georgia Ave.	
	Hammond Bay	
	Mt. View	
	NCI	
	Park Ave.	
	Pauline Haarer	
	Pleasant Valley*	
	Quarterway	
	Randerson Ridge	
	Rock City	
	Rutherford	
	South Wellington	
	Uplands Park	
	Woodbank Primary	

* Cross Boundary