

Land Acknowledgement

(ASBA PD - Corrine Sperling, Chief Officer, Professional Learning & Events)

What - What is a Land Acknowledgment? Land Acknowledgement signifies that we are gathering in respect; it signifies the different Indigenous people who have lived this land; it provides context through connection to land and kinship connection to land as caretakers of the land (not who owns it) ; it is about relationship with nature.

Who - Who should deliver Land Acknowledgements? To be provided by the host who is 'authentically' involved in the meeting; if done in the context of prayer, involve a Knowledge Keeper or Elder; as a commitment to each other and the learning from each other that will occur.

When - When should Land Acknowledgement occur? At the beginning of the gathering/meeting, giving it special meaning and significance to the gathering; becomes a natural part of the meeting; introduced in such a way that reflects this.

Lasting

Impact - There is no right or wrong way other than to state that we are all guests of this land; no one owns but all have responsibility to honour the treaties and agreements; all valuing the commitment to our creator.

Advancing

Reconciliation - the use of a Land Acknowledgement is a very respectful and honouring approach; may wish to include Indigenous names, places to further emphasize that culture and relationships are interrelated; being mindful that hearts and minds are one.
