

Land Acknowledgement Protocol Coquitlam Office

Coquitlam office land acknowledgement

“We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that our office operates on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the kwikwə́ləm (Kwikwetlem) First Nation. ”

- Kwikwetlem: (kwee-kwuh-tlum)

What is a Land Acknowledgement?

Land acknowledgements are formal statements that honour the longstanding connection Indigenous Peoples have with their ancestral lands. They are a step towards Truth and Reconciliation, recognizing the rich history and contributions of Indigenous communities who have cared for these lands since time immemorial.

Purpose of Land Acknowledgements

- Pay respect to Indigenous communities who have lived and worked on this land.
- Recognize the unique relationship each person has with the land.
- Broaden perspectives to include the land's deep history and the privilege of living on it.

Important Things To Know

- Land acknowledgements must be shared at the start of meetings, events, or gatherings by the host.
- For virtual meetings:
 - As a host, acknowledge the land you are personally on.
 - Recognize that attendees may be on different territories.
 - When possible, invite participants to share their land acknowledgements.

Understanding Indigenous Terminology:

- **Indigenous:** a broad term encompassing First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.
- **First Nations:** refers to Indigenous peoples in Canada who are neither Métis nor Inuit.
- **Aboriginal:** refers to the original inhabitants of Canada, including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. Avoid using "Aboriginal" as a noun (e.g., "Aboriginals").