

RESPECT & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PURPOSE

West Perth Public Library recognizes and embraces the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with Ontario's Indigenous population, as outlined in the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Reports*.

The Library acknowledges the First Peoples on whose traditional territories we live and work. We believe that acknowledging territory shows recognition of and respect for Indigenous Peoples, both in the past and the present. Recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations and are key to reconciliation.

RESPONSIBILITY

In accordance with the Municipality of West Perth Land Acknowledgement Policy, West Perth Public Library adopts the following statement:

West Perth Public Library is situated on treaty land of the Anishinaabeg. We recognize the injustices perpetrated against First Nations people.

We acknowledge the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, Walpole Island First Nation and Aamjiwnaang First Nation, whose ancestors entered "The Huron Tract Treaty" (Treaty Number 29) in 1827 with the Crown. It is their traditional territory where we reside.

We also recognize the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee-Delaware Nation and Delaware Nation at Moraviantown with whom we share the river system together.

West Perth Public Library commits to the process of reconciliation for a better future for us all.

The Library will provide resources relating to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including its collections, programs and/or services. Our collections will contain titles by and about First Nation communities, such as those presented in the 'First Nation Communities Read' program.

The Library will provide welcoming spaces and library resources to Indigenous peoples, and share elements of First Nations culture with non-Indigenous persons.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Collections*.

West Perth Public Library Policy. *Intellectual Freedom*.

Municipality of West Perth. *West Perth Land Acknowledgement Policy*.

Government of Ontario. *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

Government of Canada. [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Reports](#).

POLICY TYPE: Operational

POLICY NUMBER: OP-19

DATE ADOPTED: March 2019

LAST REVIEWED: February 2025

NEXT REVIEW: February 2029