

Land Acknowledgement Statement Policy

1. UWOFA shall use, as its land acknowledgement statement, the following language modelled on the statement adopted by the University Senate:

The campus of the University of Western Ontario is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to this land and place. This land is also connected to the Sombra and London Township Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. The First Nations communities of our local area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region, there are eleven First Nations communities and a growing Indigenous urban population.

UWOFA values the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (also known as North America).

UWOFA considers that acknowledging territory shows recognition and respect for Indigenous peoples' unique rights, which is an essential step toward establishing healthy reciprocal relations necessary to achieving equity and reconciliation. We invite you to consider what this acknowledgement means to you on a personal level.

2. It shall be acceptable, as an alternative to the statement in clause 1, to use the following statement:

The campus of the University of Western Ontario is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to this land and place. This land is also connected to the Sombra and London Township Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

UWOFA considers that acknowledging territory shows recognition and respect for Indigenous peoples' unique rights, which is an essential step toward establishing healthy reciprocal relations necessary to achieving equity and reconciliation.

3. The statement shall be read at the start of all meetings of Members and all of UWOFA's formal public events.
4. In the discretion of the chair of the meeting, the statement may be read at the start of a meeting of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee or any other UWOFA committee.
5. The statement shall be read at any meeting when it is formally included in the agenda as approved for that meeting.
6. The statement is not intended as a script but rather as guidance. Readers are encouraged to bring their personal story or meaning to the words.

Approved:
Board of Directors – January 21, 2020