

Creating Your Own Land Acknowledgement

Land acknowledgements are an important part of the Treaty relationship between Indigenous nations and settlers. In order to fulfill some of the Treaty obligations needed for a healthy relationship, settler-focused organizations have begun the practice of land acknowledgements before an event begins. However, these land acknowledgements tend to be the exact same from organization to organization or at least follow a similar format. The lack of variety often leads to those in the audience tuning out the land acknowledgement before it has even begun.

In this assignment, your job is to create a land acknowledgement that is much more meaningful than just the basic format.

Requirements

Part 1

The land acknowledgement needs to be well researched and speak to present day issues and information in a fair way. Information is not anecdotal evidence, stereotypes, myths, or opinions.

You and your group will create a land acknowledgement that does the following:

- States the Treaty territory that we are in and acknowledges the Indigenous groups that the land belongs to.
- Acknowledges the history of colonialism in Treaty 4 territory.
- Acknowledges the current issues of colonialism in Treaty 4 territory.
- Places you and your group members in the context of colonialism and the Treaty relationship.
 - o Where do you fit in the current context of colonialism?
 - o Where do you fit in the Treaty Relationship?
 - o What roles and responsibilities do you have in the Treaty relationship?
- State what you and your group members will do to strengthen the Treaty relationship.

Part 2

You and your group will create a visual representation to go along with your land acknowledgement, which you will be presenting to the rest of the class. This visual representation can be a video/short film, a PowerPoint presentation, a poster, or any other representation that you and your group can come up with.

Your visual representation/presentation:

- Must have most or all of these to enhance the meaning of the land acknowledgement:
 - Treaty symbols
 - Indigenous languages and Concepts {ex. Cree}
 - Pictures
 - And other visuals you can think of
- Must have a references page/section in MLA format.
- Should be around 5 minutes long, have a logical and coherent structure, flow well from one topic to another, and transition smoothly between speakers.

Items you Must Hand In/Present Checklist

- A Written Version of your Land Acknowledgement (all on one page)
- A Visual Component for your Land Acknowledgement with MLA References Page/Section
- Your Completed Group Contract and Group Evaluation Sheet

Rubric

Outcomes:

CC 20.1 Create a range of visual, multimedia, oral, and written texts to explore:

- identity (e.g., Relationships with Family and Others);
- social responsibility (e.g., Evolving Roles and Responsibilities); and
- social action (agency) (e.g., The Past and the Present).

CC 20.3 Speak to present ideas and information appropriately in informal (including discussions and collaborative work) and formal (including an interview, a dramatic reading, and introducing and thanking a speaker) situations.

Concerns		Proficiency		Exceptional
Student has inconsistently demonstrated the criteria for achieving this learning area.		Student has consistently demonstrated the criteria for achieving this learning area.		Student has shown their understanding of this learning area in novel situations or at a level of thinking beyond what is expected by the defined criteria.
1	2	3	4	5
		Criteria: Land Acknowledgement connects group members' identity and social responsibility to Treaty relationships. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where do you fit in the current context of colonialism? - Where do you fit in the Treaty Relationship? - What roles and responsibilities do you have in the Treaty relationship? 		
1	2	3	4	5
		Criteria: The land acknowledgement is well researched and speaks to present		

		<p>day issues and information in an appropriate way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information is presented in a fair way. - Information is not anecdotal evidence, stereotypes, myths, or opinions. 		
1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Criteria: Groups use Treaty symbols, languages (Cree), pictures, and other visuals to enhance the meaning of the land acknowledgement.</p>		
1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Criteria: The presentation has a logical and coherent structure, flows well from one topic to another, and transitions smoothly between speakers.</p>		
1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Criteria: All group members participate in the creation and participation of the presentation/project, are respectful to each other, and do a proportionate amount of work.</p>		

Group Work Contract

Group Member (Name & Signature)	What are they doing for the presentation/project?

Group Member (Name & Mark out of 5)	Did this group member participate in the creation and presentation of the presentation/project, act respectfully toward other group members, and do a proportionate amount of work?