



INDIGENOUS

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**LAND  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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HOCKEY INDIGENOUS



# THE PURPOSE

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Indigenous land acknowledgment in hockey serves as a meaningful gesture of respect and recognition towards the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, acknowledging their enduring relationship with their traditional territories.

By incorporating such acknowledgments into hockey events, not only raises awareness among fans and participants about the historical and ongoing presence of Indigenous peoples but also fosters a culture of inclusivity and reconciliation within the sport.

This relationship underscores the importance of respecting and understanding the cultural significance of the land on which these games are played, thereby encouraging a deeper connection and responsibility towards these territories. Ultimately, Indigenous land acknowledgment in hockey helps to bridge gaps between communities, promoting a more unified and culturally sensitive approach to the sport of hockey. It helps amplify the voices of Indigenous communities.

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# THE TEMPLATE

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The **[Your Organization/Team/Arena]** would like to begin by acknowledging that we are gathered here today on the traditional lands of the **[Name of Indigenous People(s)]**, specifically the **[specific tribe or nation, if applicable]**. We pay our respects to the **[Name of Indigenous People(s)]'** past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

We recognize the significant role that the **[Name of Indigenous People(s)]** have sustained and continue to play in shaping and strengthening our community, our nation, and our relationship with Mother Earth and one another. As we meet/gather/celebrate/commemorate, let us reflect on the ways we can actively participate in reconciliation and support the Inherit rights, traditions, and cultures of Indigenous Peoples.

We are grateful for the opportunity to work, live, and play on these lands, and we commit ourselves to learning, understanding, and honoring the traditions and cultures of the **[Name of Indigenous People(s)]**.

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# COMMITMENTS



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The importance of advancing diversity and inclusion by removing barriers and developing a positive impact in your community and organization.

- 1. Education and Awareness:** Commit to educating staff, stakeholders, and the community about the history and cultures of the local Indigenous peoples, the significance of the land, and the importance of land acknowledgments. This could involve workshops, seminars, and collaborative learning opportunities.
- 2. Ongoing Dialogue with Indigenous Communities:** Establish and maintain respectful relationships with local Indigenous communities. Engage in ongoing dialogue to understand their perspectives and needs, ensuring that acknowledgments are not only accurate but also reflective of the sentiments of these communities.
- 3. Integration into Organizational Practices:** Make land acknowledgments a consistent part of organizational practices, including events, meetings, and official communications. This regular recognition should not be a mere formality but a genuine expression of respect and understanding.
- 4. Reflection and Action on Reconciliation:** Engage in actions that contribute to reconciliation, including addressing inequalities and injustices faced by Indigenous peoples. Reflect on how your organization's practices can better align with the principles of equity, respect, and partnership.
- 5. Promote Inclusivity and Representation:** Strive for inclusivity and representation of Indigenous peoples in decision-making processes, particularly in matters that affect their communities and lands. This could involve advisory committees or hiring practices that prioritize Indigenous perspectives.

By focusing on these key points, organizations and individuals can ensure that their Indigenous Land Acknowledgment practices are not only respectful and informed but also contribute to the broader goals of understanding, reconciliation, and justice.