

The Lake of Bays Township Public Library (the Library) understands the need to recognize and embrace the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with Ontario's Indigenous population, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

Section 1: Declaration

With this understanding, 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. We believe that the territorial acknowledgements is not simply a *pro forma* statement made before a meeting; but a vital *part* of the business. We believe that recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations and are key to reconciliation.

The Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration on all meeting agendas.

'We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, which is acknowledged by Indigenous peoples as unceded. We acknowledge that the Indigenous peoples have been stewards of this land since time immemorial and as such we treat the land, its plants, animals, stories and people with honour and respect. Today, this land is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we acknowledge the shared opportunity to live and work within this beautiful territory. As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must also be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.'

Section 2: Collection

The Library will provide collections relating to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including books, audio and video materials. Our collection will include titles by and about First Nation communities, and will include titles presented in the First Nation Communities Read program. Our teen and adult materials will also include First Nations and Metis graphic novels, and a selection of DVDs on history, culture and native issues.

Section 3: Services

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

Approved: June 25, 2018

Signature of the Chairperson

