

Community-Developed

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Land Acknowledgement

Notes:

Please revise this Land Acknowledgement to your own setting. It is intended to be posted on websites, social media, in bulletins and for use in worship services.

With this land acknowledgement we wanted to accomplish several things:

- *acknowledge that an injustice has been done and needs to be made right*
- *place our faith in Christ at the centre of our reconciling work*
- *foster a spirit of awareness, respect and dignity for indigenous people, and all people.*

You may also notice that we did not use the name of 'Canada,' preferring instead to 'these lands'. We did this out of respect to many indigenous nations who do not see themselves as Canadian.

"We acknowledge that the land on which we live, work, worship, and prosper is the traditional territory of _____ (local indigenous nations). This territory is covered by _____ (local treaties/agreements).

Our ancestors and we came to this land seeking to escape oppression and economic deprivation and found in Canada a place to thrive and prosper in peace and security. And we have come to realize that we have prospered by policies and practices that have marginalized and devastated those who first inhabited this place.

As followers of Jesus 'the love of Christ urges us on' to pursue justice for our indigenous neighbours and friends. "In Christ Jesus God has reconciled us to himself, giving us the ministry of reconciliation", and there is no greater need or work for reconciliation than with those who first inhabited these lands. (2 Corinthians 5:14,18)

With this acknowledgement we commit ourselves to work for justice for the indigenous peoples of these lands, moving forward in a manner that fosters respect, dignity, and equality.