



Acknowledging Traditional Territory

- Acknowledging territory is a way of honouring and showing respect for a group of people who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial.
- The only people who would *Welcome* to the Territory are the First Nations people who are traditionally/originally from that territory. The majority of school district personnel likely would *Acknowledge* Territory.
- Acknowledging territory is performed at any important function such as a school assembly, awards night, graduation, a celebration including Aboriginal communities etc. It can also be performed before an important meeting or presentation.
- The host is the person who would acknowledge territory, you would usually not ask a guest to acknowledge territory as it is not his/her function/event. It is not necessary to have an Aboriginal person acknowledge territory.
- Acknowledgement/Welcome is usually the first item on the agenda. (If you forget, just quickly acknowledge then, and don't worry about it!)
- For larger events it is always respectful to have a member of the local First Nation, preferably an Elder, perform a welcome, if possible. This would require an honorarium to be given to this person, to acknowledge his or her knowledge and respect within the community.
- Seek out the name of the traditional territory you will be on, if you are travelling to speak and work with people.