



Kenora Public Library Board

POLICY

SECTION: Foundation	NO: FOU-03
TITLE: Respect and Acknowledgment Declaration	DATE: March 23, 2022
	Next Review Date: March 23, 2026

The Kenora Public Library understands the need to recognize and embrace the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with the Indigenous population, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

Declaration

With this understanding, the Kenora Public 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 are 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 Kenora Public Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration at the beginning of all meetings held at the library.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Kenora Public Library acknowledges that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Metis of Treaty #3. The Kenora Public Library recognizes the importance of a strong relationship with Treaty #3 partners based on recognition of rights, respect, and co-operation. The library acknowledges the rich culture of Indigenous people and the subsequent injustices faced historically and today, and strives to be a safe resource for all people to learn, read, listen, and reflect, while respectfully and thoughtfully moving forward with collective healing and true reconciliation.

Collection

The Kenora Public 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.

Services

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

History			
Approval Date:	March 23, 2022	Approved by:	Maureen Wasacase
Amendment Date:		Approved by:	
Amendment Date:		Approved by:	
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