

# **PERSONALIZING YOUR LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT: BUILDING FROM THE MEDICINE WHEEL**

Talking Circle Workshop led by Bonnie Jane Maracle  
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## **GUIDELINES**

- The person giving the acknowledgement should be the host or the presenter themselves.
- Include a formal thank you to the host nation (if known) whenever making a presentation or holding a meeting, whether or not Indigenous individuals are part of the meeting or gathering.
- It should be rooted in whose land (or space) you are honoured to stand on and should guide how you move forward in both conversation and actions.
- A land acknowledgement is not something you "just do" before an event. Rather it is a reflection process in which you build mindfulness and intention.

More information on Land Acknowledgements @ [lspirg.org/knowtheland/](https://lspirg.org/knowtheland/)

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

You may have questions about “permission” to personalize a land acknowledgment, or logistics:

- Appropriation?
- Do I have a right to?
- Is it respectful?
- Is it okay to be context-specific?
- Can I do something short/small?

Contemplate these simple encouragements, knowing that land acknowledgments are to be:

- Personal: our personal connection to the land
- Mutable/adaptable
- Relevant to context, space
- Simple: "an *acknowledgment*"

## RESOURCES & FURTHER ENGAGEMENT

A brief list of some linked resources to begin your discovery and design of your own personalized land acknowledgments:

- Video: [Baroness Von Sketch Spoof \(Educational\)](#)  
(or, if you're typing it out: [www.tinyurl.com/landacknowledgment-ish](http://www.tinyurl.com/landacknowledgment-ish) )
- Video: [Awakenings — We Were Always Here — Acknowledgment \(A film by Jonathan Elliott, 2020\) - YouTube](#)
- U of T "official" land acknowledgment:  
<https://indigenous.utoronto.ca/about/landacknowledgement/>
- Interactive map of indigenous lands: [www.native-land.ca](http://www.native-land.ca)
- *Teaching by the Medicine Wheel: An Anishinaabe framework for Indigenous education*, by Nicole Bell, <https://www.edcan.ca/articles/teaching-by-the-medicinewheel/>