



## IPIC Guidelines on Land Acknowledgements

Acknowledging territory shows recognition of and respect for Indigenous Peoples. It is recognition of their presence both in the past and the present. Recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations which are key to reconciliation. Land acknowledgements are a small part of building strong relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Meaning that this should also be said within a larger context including ongoing work with Nations to build an understanding and working towards reconciliation. It is important to reach out to communities and create a respectful dialogue to understand what is appropriate.

IPIC is committed to integrating equity, diversity and inclusion best practices into its governance. As such, IPIC encourages the use of land acknowledgements at the opening of the following events:

- Annual Conference
- Annual General Meeting
- Webinars
- Courses

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At the Annual Conference, a land acknowledgement should be offered during the opening session and, if in person, should be specific to the location of the event. If the conference is virtual, the acknowledgement should be specific to the President's location as they will be delivering the remarks.

Example from 2018 Annual Conference in Vancouver:

*We would like to begin by acknowledging and respecting that the land on which we gather is the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place. We begin with this statement to show our commitment to reconciliation and moving forward in partnership with Indigenous Peoples while recognizing the colonial past of Canada.*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), a land acknowledgement should be offered during the opening session and, if in person, should be specific to the location of the event. If the AGM is virtual, the acknowledgement should be specific to the outgoing President's location as they will be delivering the remarks.

Example from 2020 AGM:

*Good Afternoon and welcome to IPIC's 94th Annual General Meeting. Though we are meeting virtually today, I would like to begin by acknowledging that the FASKEN office in Montreal is located on unceded*



*Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation, also known as the Six Nations Confederacy, is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which I stand today.*

## WEBINARS

Moderators are encouraged to research who the traditional stewards of their region are (and that of their co-presenters) and to personalize their land acknowledgement based on their location. However, IPIC has provided land acknowledgements for use at various events, below. A land acknowledgement should be included in the housekeeping notes at the opening of each event. If the moderator and/or presenters' firm have made specific commitments to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, they are encouraged to include those commitments as part of the acknowledgement.

## COURSES

Instructors should offer a land acknowledgement on the first day of the IPIC course and, if in person, should be specific to the location of the course (PATC Toronto or IPIC/McGill Montreal). If the course is virtual, instructors are encouraged to research who the traditional stewards of their region are (and that of their co-presenters if applicable) and to personalize their land acknowledgement based on their location. However, IPIC has provided land acknowledgements for use at various events, below. A land acknowledgement should be included in the housekeeping notes at the opening of each event. If the instructors' firms have made specific commitments to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, they are encouraged to include those commitments as part of the acknowledgement.

## IPIC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR THE IPIC OFFICE/OTTAWA EVENTS

*This land acknowledgement can be used when events are being broadcast / hosted by IPIC from our office in Ottawa.*

The Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC) office is located in the city of Ottawa, Ontario, on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people.

Turtle Island (North America) is land that has been inhabited by Indigenous People from the beginning of time immemorial. The Indigenous People are the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on Turtle Island. We encourage you to take a moment to recognize the land you reside and work on.

IPIC honours the Algonquin Anishinaabeg and all First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for their important contributions to this land and to the fields of intellectual property, traditional knowledge and cultural expression.



## IPIC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR VIRTUAL/NON-OTTAWA EVENTS

*This land acknowledgement can be used for virtual events and those hosted outside of Ottawa.*

We acknowledge that this [webinar / seminar / course] is being provided and viewed on the traditional territories of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. Turtle Island (North America) is land that has been inhabited by Indigenous People from the beginning of time immemorial. The Indigenous People are the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on Turtle Island. We encourage you to take a moment to recognize the land you reside and work on.

IPIC honours all First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for their important contributions to this land and to the fields of intellectual property, traditional knowledge and cultural expression.

### RESOURCES

<https://native-land.ca/>

<https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory>

<https://www.ictinc.ca/first-nation-protocol-on-traditional-territory>

[https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls\\_to\\_Action\\_English2.pdf](https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf)