



First Nations Land Acknowledgement Policy

Purpose

The purpose of a land acknowledgement is to demonstrate the recognition and respect for Indigenous peoples, both in the past and the present and the contributions they have made to our communities and the nation.

Scope

This policy will provide a Land Acknowledgement for the Township of Southgate and an overview of when Land Acknowledgements should be used relative to Township of Southgate Council meetings.

1. Definitions

- 1.1 **First Nation Peoples** means original inhabitants of the land that is now Canada, and whom were the first to encounter sustained European contact, settlement, and trade.
- 1.2 **Inuit** means a member of an indigenous people from Northern Canada and parts of Greenland and Alaska.
- 1.3 **Metis** means people of mixed European and Indigenous ancestry, and one of the three recognized Aboriginal People in Canada.
- 1.4 **Saugeen Ojibway Nations** means the First Nations People of the Chippewas of Nawash, Unceded First Nation and the Saugeen First Nation.

2. Land Acknowledgement

"As we gather, we recognize and acknowledge the traditional keepers of this land with whom we share today. The Township of Southgate is a part of the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Six Nations of the Grand River, Saugeen Ojibway Nation, Haudenosaunee, and Saugeen Métis. The land that surrounds us is part of who we are as it reflects our histories; may we live in peace and friendship with all its diverse people."

The Land Acknowledgement will be used in the following circumstances:

- Regular scheduled Township of Southgate Council Meetings
- The Inaugural Session of the Township of Southgate Council following an Election

3. Monitoring and Review of the Policy

The Clerk's Department is responsible for the administration, maintenance, and review of this policy.