

Land Acknowledgement

Regional District of Central Okanagan Board Meeting

August 22, 2022

1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4
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Purpose & Summary

- Acknowledging the land is a formal recognition used to express gratitude to the syilx / Okanagan people who reside here, and to honour the syilx / Okanagan people who have lived, worked, and protected this land since time immemorial.
- The Land Acknowledgement must match the actions the RDCO is committed to take with respect to Truth and Reconciliation.
- One consistent message demonstrates RDCO's commitment is organization wide.



Land Acknowledgement



“The RDCO/I acknowledge(s) our/my presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded tm̓x̓wúlaʔx̓w (land) of the syilx / Okanagan people who have resided here since time immemorial. We/I recognize, honour, and respect the syilx / Okanagan lands upon which we live, work, and play.”

What is $tmx^w ulax^w$

Means the land and everything that lives and interacts on it, whereas $tmix^w$ talks about nature. $tmx^w ulax^w$ is an all encompassing word that expresses the intersectionality of land and nature.



Why incorporate nsyilcxən?

Number 14 of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action states:

- We call upon the federal government to enact an Aboriginal Languages Act that incorporates the following principles:
 - Aboriginal language rights are reinforced by the Treaties.
 - The federal government has a responsibility to provide sufficient funds for Aboriginal-language revitalization and preservation.
 - The preservation, revitalization, and strengthening of Aboriginal languages and cultures are best managed by Aboriginal people and communities.
 - Funding for Aboriginal language initiatives must reflect the diversity of Aboriginal languages.

*****Aboriginal languages are a fundamental and valued element of Canadian culture and society, and there is an urgency to preserve them.*****

nsyilcxən greetings

- way' – hello or goodbye
- isk^wist – my name is
- swit ask^wist – what is your name?
- lim ləmt - thank you
- way' ha? tɪ' ? k^w x̣ast? – Hello, how are you?

“way' isk^wist Lisa. swit ask^wist?”

(Hello, my name is Lisa. What is your name?)



tmx^wulax^w pronunciation



Recommendation

THAT the Regional Board receives for information the updated Land Acknowledgement, as outlined in the report dated August 22, 2022 from the Indigenous Advisor.

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