

## **INDIGENOUS TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

### **Background**

The Peace River School Division recognizes that acknowledging the land is an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting..

1. An acknowledgement does not need to occur at every meeting and gathering of PRSD, but should take place when it is meaningful or appropriate to do so.
2. The only people who would provide a 'Welcome' are the people of that land; anyone else, including other Indigenous people, would simply acknowledge the territory.
3. The host or Emcee is the only person who needs to provide the acknowledgement. It is not necessary for any other speaker to do so (although it is appropriate for another Indigenous speaker to do so, should they wish).
4. For larger events, it is respectful to have a member of the First Nation, preferably an elder, provide a welcome.

### **Procedures**

It is recommended that the below noted acknowledgement be utilized for opening a special event or occasion. Kick-Off Day, PRSD Gala, The Hand Games Competition and the Board/Admin. Planning Day would be some of the events where an acknowledgement is appropriate.

\_\_\_\_\_respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we gather is located within the Treaty 8 Territory, a traditional meeting ground and home of the ancestral First People – the Cree and Dene, as well as the Metis. We are grateful for the traditional knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today, and for those who have gone before us. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting.

Adopted/Revised: FEB 2017/MAY 2017/APR 2019

Reference: Website of Treaty Lands in Alberta  
Alberta First Nations Map