



Umbrella Family and Child
Centres of Hamilton

Land Acknowledgement

Umbrella Family and Child Centres of Hamilton are situated on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississaugas. We recognize that our city is home to many Indigenous people and we have a responsibility to learn more and increase our understanding of this land's history, actively cultivating a sense of appreciation, respect, and belonging.

In our work with children, we are dedicated to respecting the land, nurturing a love and appreciation for the earth, and fostering an understanding of those who were the first caretakers and stewards of this land. We commit to fostering an appreciation of nature and a connection to the land in our programs, both indoors and outdoors as well as learning from Indigenous voices as we grow in this work.

Pronunciation Guide:

Erie
“ee-ree”

Neutral
“noo-truhl”

Huron-Wendat
“hyoor + uhn - wawn-DA(t)”

Haudenosaunee
“hoe-den-no-show-nee”

Mississaugas
“mis - i + saw - guhs”

The Development of this Land Acknowledgement

This Land Acknowledgement was developed in consultation with Umbrella Family's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) Committee. The group determined that Umbrella Family's Land Acknowledgement should be one that is **purposeful, meaningful, thoughtful, and reflective** of the work we do with children.

When to Use this Land Acknowledgement

The EDIB committee is committed to utilizing the acknowledgement in a way that is always genuine. Through researching and listening to Indigenous voices, there was concern that land acknowledgements, when used too frequently, become commonplace, minimizing their relevance and importance.

This Land Acknowledgement should be used to start large-scale meetings, Board meetings, and group gatherings where recognizing the impact of a land acknowledgement would be beneficial to the meeting overall. Employees can make the best determination for when to use the Land Acknowledgement but should always do so with intention.

Personal Reflection

“As I give this Land Acknowledgement today, I am reflecting on...”

In researching land acknowledgements, the EDIB Committee reviewed various articles and informative pieces from the Indigenous community. An overarching theme was present – land acknowledgements must be personal and meaningful. To support this endeavour, we encourage anyone reciting the Land Acknowledgement to add a personal reflection or personal commitment.

This can include, but is not limited to:

New learnings about the Indigenous community or the land on which we are situated

Personal journey of truth and reconciliation

Personal commitments aligned with the Land Acknowledgement

Ongoing wonderings that you're committed to learning more about

Resources for Continued Learning

[1. Why do We Acknowledge the Land](#)

[2. First Nation Relationship to the Land](#)

[3. Woodland Cultural Centre](#)

[4. Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation](#)