

# Pembroke Public Library



<b>Policy Type:</b>	Foundational	<b>Policy Number:</b>	FN-05
<b>Policy Title:</b>	Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	<b>Initial Policy Approval Date:</b>	September 20, 2018
<b>Motion #</b>	22:52	<b>Last Review/Revision Date:</b>	June 16, 2022
		<b>Year Of Next Review:</b>	2027

The Pembroke Public Library understands the need to recognize and embrace the principles of Truth and Reconciliation with Ontario's Indigenous population, as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report.

## **Declaration:**

With this understanding, the Pembroke Public Library acknowledges the First Peoples on whose traditional territories we live and work. We believe that acknowledging territory shows recognition of and respect for Indigenous Peoples, both in the past and the present. We believe that the territorial acknowledgements is not simply a *pro forma* statement made before a meeting; but a vital *part* of the business. We believe that recognition and respect are essential elements of establishing healthy, reciprocal relations and are key to reconciliation.

The Pembroke Public Library will use this Declaration of Respect & Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of all meetings held at the Library.

*"We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded and surrendered territory of the Algonquin People."*

## **Collection:**

The Pembroke Public Library will provide collections relating to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including books, audio and video materials.

Our collection will include titles by and about First Nation communities, and will include titles presented in the First Nation Communities Read program.

Our Teen and Adult materials will also include First Nations and Metis graphic novels, and a selection of DVDs on history, culture and native issues.

***Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration (Continued)***

**Services:**

The Pembroke Public Library will provide welcoming spaces and Library services to Indigenous peoples, and share elements of First Nations culture with non-Indigenous persons.