



SLCAS Board Land Acknowledgement



This land acknowledgement was developed by Ryan Bell, Board President in 2019 with input from Sharon Elaine Coyle, Walpole Island First Nation, Board Member and Lynn Rosales, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Board Member.

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Chippewa (*Chip-pa-wah*), Odawa (*oh-daw-wah*), and Potawatomi (*Pa-toh-wah-toh-mee*) nations, known as the Anishnaabeg (*Ah-nish-nah-beg*), and the Delaware known as the Lunapeew (*Lih-nah-pow*). We also acknowledge the earlier Indigenous people that travelled these lands prior to the treaties. It is through their connection with the spirit of the land, water and air that we recognize their unique culture, traditions, values, and sovereignty.

We further acknowledge that as a non-indigenous child welfare agency we have a continuing duty to uphold the values of Truth and Reconciliation, and to continue to work to implement the changes and the promises in the Apology for the role Ontario's non-indigenous agencies played in Residential Schools and the Sixties Scoop. We have to work towards reconciliation and healing, and we have to dismantle colonialism where it exists in child welfare.

It is through this lens that we as a board, and our agency as a whole, must do better for First Nations, Inuit and Métis children and families.