

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge with gratitude that for thousands of years the Coast Salish peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where we now live, work and play. Like our parent organization the Stephen Lewis Foundation, we are committed to the principles of social justice, equality, and solidarity with community-led partners as they face the continued effects of the HIV and AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa. We realize that HIV has also disproportionately affected Canada's Indigenous peoples. Consistent with our values, whenever possible we move beyond land acknowledgements and make efforts to understand, discuss and reconcile past and current injustices.

[The SLF's land acknowledgement](#) expresses our commitment to reconciliation.

For our members who are hosting meetings, there are resources available to help create an authentic acknowledgement:

- From Library and Archives Canada (<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage>): The **acknowledgement** of the Aboriginal **territory** is usually the **first** item on the agenda. In the **acknowledgement**, it is important to recognize that the meeting is taking place on the unceded **territories** of the nation upon whose **land** the meeting is taking place. This means that the **land** was taken from this nation.
- Excellent article explaining how to find out on which First Nations lands a particular address is located: <https://www.yesmagazine.org/issue/decolonize/2018/04/16/this-app-can-tell-you-the-indigenous-history-of-the-land-you-live-on/>. It references a website or app where you can type in your postal code or address and get good information: native-land.ca/.
- Materials assembled by our Education Working Group – sample acknowledgements, pronunciations, maps: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TtWFrg23wRaOkdbCAMGD-5cd5iMe4x_q?usp=sharing