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Policy Title:	Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	Initial Policy Approval Date:	<b>Sep. 17, 2018</b>
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The Mississippi Mills Public Library Board 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.

### **Section 1: Land Acknowledgement**

With this understanding, the Mississippi Mills Public Library Board acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional territories we live and work. We believe that understanding and acknowledging territory shows recognition of and respect for Indigenous Peoples. We believe that the territorial acknowledgements are 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 Mississippi Mills Public Library will use this Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration at the beginning of all meetings:

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

### **Section : Collections}**

The Mississippi Mills Public Library provides collections relevant to Indigenous cultures, languages, and peoples, including books, audio, and video materials. Collections include titles by and about First Nation communities and titles presented in the First Nation Communities READ program.

### **Section 3: Services and Programs**

The Mississippi Mills Public Library provides welcoming services to Indigenous Peoples and shares elements of Indigenous culture with non-Indigenous persons. Library spaces, programs, and services reflect truth and reconciliation efforts and calls to action.

#### **Section 4: Relationships**

Indigenous partners are consulted and invited to participate at the beginning of milestone projects or initiatives to ensure planning and implementation are done “in a good way”.

#### **Related Documents:**

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada – ***Calls to Action***

Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) – ***Truth and Reconciliation Report***

Trillium Public Library ***SC-03 – Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion***

Trillium Public Library ***HR-02 – Hiring and Orientation***

Trillium Public Library ***HR-07 – Workplace Harassment and Discrimination***

Trillium Public Library ***OP-13 – Local History***