Indigenous Land Acknowledgements

Now let’s talk about something you might recognize from music festivals, sporting events, politicians’ speeches or council meetings. Often, at the beginning, the speaker will note the proceedings are taking place on lands that originally belonged to Indigenous people and may acknowledge treaties between First Nations and the Crown. This is known as “Indigenous land acknowledgement”.

One example: Before playing the national anthem, the NHL’s Winnipeg Jets announce they play on Treaty One territory, land traditionally used by the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and the Metis Nation.

QI1. Are you familiar with this practice of Indigenous land acknowledgments?

Yes, familiar with it
Not very familiar but have heard of it
Have not heard of it (until now)

QI2. Have you ever heard an Indigenous land acknowledgement at a public event you attended (or seen this type of thing posted at a public venue)?

Yes
No
Not sure/Can’t remember

[ASK THOSE WHO SAY YES]

QI2A. How often have you heard (or seen) this type of Indigenous land acknowledgement?

Just once or twice
Fewer than ten times
All the time, ten or more

QI2B. Overall, how do you feel when you hear these land acknowledgments?

Like hearing them
Indifferent/Don’t have strong feelings about this
Dislike hearing them

[Ask All]

QI3. Please tell us whether you support or oppose having an Indigenous land acknowledgement made at each of these venues or occasions:

To begin a city council meeting
At a conference taking place at a university
At a sporting event
An assembly at a public school
At a staff meeting where you work
A speech by the Premier of your province
A speech by the Prime Minister

Strongly Support
Support
Oppose
Strongly Oppose
Not sure/Can’t say

Q14. And which would you say is closer to your view:

[ROTATE TOP TWO]

These types of acknowledgments are a valuable part of reconciliation with Indigenous people in Canada
These types of acknowledgements do little to help with reconciliation with Indigenous people in Canada
Not sure/Can’t say